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APPENDIX D.

THE DIACONATE NEEDED AS A REAL MINISTRY.

An Essay read at the April Meeting of the
Clerical Association of the Home District,
held at the Rev. W. Belt's, Scarborough:
By the Rev. J. Carry, B.D. (Bishop's Col-
lege, Lennoxville.)

Proposed by the Rev. Dr. Beaven seconded
by the Rev. Mr. Grant, and carried,—

"That the Rev. Mr. Carry be requested to
publish his excellent Essay on the Diaconate in
one of the Church papers with a view to awaken
attention among Churchmen to the subject, and
to elicit further discussion of it."

H. B. OSLER, Secretary.

Of the wants of the Provincial Church in
the present day, perhaps the most grievously
felt, and the most clamorously expressed is
the want of those "who labour in the word
and doctrine." This is the burden of many
of our appeals to the Laity, and therefore, I
need not stay to insist upon it as a fact. It
is heartily admitted on all hands, that the
number of the Clergy is out of all proportion
small, compared with the work to be done;
and the more thoughtful among the Clergy and
Laity alike deplore the mournful consequen-
ces. If we go to the *newer settlements* we find
our people often for the first ten years wholly
destitute of Church ministrations; and, as they
are in a large measure emigrants, who are not ac-
quainted with the circumstances of the Church
in this Province, and who expect the same min-
istrations to some extent, that they were accus-
tomed to in the old world, without exertion on
their part; a feeling of indignation not at all
unnatural, as it arises from ignorance, springs
up in their hearts, against what they deem the
unkind and unjust neglect of the Canadian
Church and her authorities. This feeling is
aggravated by seeing the activity, and the
numerous officials among them of various reli-
gious denominations; and perhaps the flame
of discontent is not unfanned by the taunting
reminders of their neglected and isolated con-
dition, made by their neighbours of a different
spiritual household. Thus are great numbers
prepared to become bitter apostates from the
Church. I feel confident that such of my
brethren as have had much experience of coun-
try missions will justify this statement.

But where there is no such bitter origin of
defection, the defection advances none the
less. However revolting it may be to contem-
plate the wretched superstitions of the world,

there is yet one element of comfort in the sur-
vey—and that is, the assurance which they
afford of man's spiritual nature; that he is
allied to God, and that *religion is a necessity*.
It is impossible then, but that our brethren of
the backwoods, destitute of the services they
loved, without the protecting presence of their
Spiritual Mother, should contract new religious
ties, and that out of the very necessity of
their nature, out of the irrepressible craving
of their souls; and particularly when those
cravings would find a real satisfaction in the
many blessed truths, and in the real worship
of what we all most firmly believe to be defect-
ive systems of Christian doctrine, and defect-
ive expressions of Christian worship. When
thus transplanted, the transference of affections,
too, becomes in time complete, and the converts
of necessity are content, or even more. And
in after years, when the Church Missionary
comes in like an intruder, one can hardly hope
—some may not even think it right to wish—
that ties so formed should be broken. Though
such are lost to the Church—except in so far as
all that is true and good is of her—they are
not lost to God. But there is a sadder case.
Those who did not urgently feel their spiritual
necessities (always the greater number) would
stand aloof from the existing worship, and per-
haps make their attachment to the Church the
pretext for doing so, till they were hardened in
religious indifference, and almost hopelessly
dead to spiritual impressions. And this miser-
able residuum left by the canker-worm of ir-
religion affords the chief part of the nucleus of
a future congregation, which from motives
well known, but not by any means of the most
spiritual character, seek the presence of a resi-
dent Clergyman. Alas! what a lavish and too
unprofitable outlay of pains and prayers has
been often made upon such an unpromising
soil, many of my brethren well know. Thus
it is that we not only lose *multitudes* in the
new grounds—many of whom are wholly lost
to God, but we lose *prestige* too; we acquire as
a Church, a reputation for lack of spiritual life
and character, and so it becomes more difficult
to maintain our ground against the many sects,
whom we are in sadness compelled to call hos-
tile. We make the future work also enormously
difficult, by allowing a whole generation to
grow up without any religious training, or
with a sectarian one.

Of the paucity of Clergy in the settled charges
I shall only say—that the work of a pas-
tor cannot in numerous cases be adequately
discharged. The Shepherd of souls cannot
"call his own sheep by name; families can be
visited in some large charges, not oftener than
once or twice a year, and how then can indi-
viduals be trained and guided to perfection?
That tender and solemn charge of our Re-