

other dioceses are not the class who will suit for pioneer missionary work in a rough country, but young, strong, active men unencumbered, prepared to endure hardship, ardent with the zeal of evangelists. A large number of young men of good education and birth are coming out to this country to learn farming, with a result which is only too well known to most of us. Many such come to me with letters, chiefly the sons of clergymen. It has been suggested to me that such young men would find a more satisfactory vocation in the cultivation of the mission field than the soil, provided of course they were spiritually qualified, and that the premium paid for their so-called apprenticeship to a farmer would be more profitably expended in a course of preparation at a theological college. I am disposed to act upon this suggestion so far as to try its feasibility when an opportunity presents itself.

The only other alternative that seems to lie open to me is to appoint a commissary in England, and seek a supply of suitable men through that channel. It is not to the credit of the Church in Canada that it should be necessary to go out of the country to find men willing to do her home missionary work, when our own universities are filled with men to whom the highest and most honorable of all professions might be expected to be a worthy inducement.

EPISCOPAL ACTS.

During the past year I have held 68 confirmations, the number of candidates being 1,260, viz., 473 male and 787 female; I have delivered 116 sermons and addresses, administered the Holy Communion 30 times, consecrated 2 churches, ordained 5 deacons and 8 priests, baptized 6 infants and 1 adult, and presided over a large number of meetings.

DIOCESAN MISSION FUND.

I invite your careful attention to the annual report of the Mission Board, and the analysis it presents of the income and expenditure of this fund for the year. Dealing only with the funds contributed voluntarily from the diocese, I announced in my last year's address an increase over the previous year of \$2,976.17. This was largely due to the operation of the new scheme of Parochial Missionary Associations; and it might have been apprehended that when the novelty of this new scheme was worn out the results would begin to fall off. I am thankful, however, to be able to report a still further net increase of voluntary contributions to the extent of \$902.66, which, if we leave out of account a special anonymous donation of \$500 included in last year's total, represents a virtual increase of \$1,402.66. The amount actually disbursed out of the office during the years just closed for mission work, exclusive of all expenses, is \$15,357.39, against \$12,533.83 last year. This sum has been divided between the three great departments of the mission field as follows:—

Diocesan.....	\$10,324 16
Domestic, (including Algoma Episcopal stipend, \$1,750.....)	3,316 95
Foreign.....	1,716 28
	\$15,357 39

The increase of grants or donations under their respective heads being:—

Diocesan.....	\$ 647 51
Domestic.....	1,692 87
Foreign.....	483 18
	\$2,823 56

This large increase of expenditure accounts for the reduction of the balance in hand to the small sum of \$169.58.

Some parishes which worked last year on the P.M.A. scheme have dropped off; others have commenced to adopt it. Appended to this address will be found a comparative statement which shows an increase of \$515.61 received. The mission boxes have produced \$337.59 this year, against \$308.34 last year. The further working of the scheme only confirms me in the conviction of the great possibilities latent in it if it were generally and diligently put into execution. Still only a minority of parishes have tried it, and in many cases it is only feebly worked. I must repeat my protest that it is inconsistent and unbecoming for a measure to be adopted by the synod with apparent unanimity and to be ignored or repudiated in practice by the majority of those responsible for it.

GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The report of the Mission Board records the important action taken by the Provincial Synod at its session last year in forming the whole Church of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada into one vast Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, with a board of management on which each diocese is represented by its bishop and two clerical and two lay delegates, un-

der the presidency of the Metropolitan. The VIIth article of the new canon (xix.) provides that "in connection with the Board of Management there shall be in each diocese of the province a corresponding committee or board of missions, to be constituted as such diocese may determine, who shall report all statistics and other information relating to the general purposes for which the society is organized." It will therefore devolve upon you at this session either to appoint a corresponding committee, as above provided, or to commit its functions to the Mission Board of the Diocese.

At a time when it has become too much the custom to level at our Church synods the reproach that they fritter away their time, and expend their learned and dignified labour in the trivial secular task of making canons only to mend, alter, or annul them, the members of the Church will hail with genuine satisfaction a step that will roll away this reproach by constituting our representative assembly a general board of missions as well as a Church legislature, who will henceforth devote one day of their session to the promotion of the highest, most truly spiritual work which Christ has committed to his Church, the cause of universal missions. It is indeed one of the most significant and momentous measures that could mark the history of Christian missions. With the exception of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, whose action in this matter we have followed, I know of no other instance in which a Church has, in its corporate capacity, constituted itself into a missionary organization. The Roman propaganda is hardly a parallel case. After the extraordinary success of the Jesuit missions under Francois Xavier and his followers in the sixteenth century the missionary system of the Roman Church received a more complete development and organization. Gregory XIII. originated the scheme by which a committee of cardinals, under the name of the "Congregatio de propaganda fide," was entrusted with the entire management of the mission under the superintendence of the Pope. Gregory XV., in 1622, gave this committee plenary authority by a bull, and his successor Urban VIII. founded in connection with it the celebrated Propaganda College, with its wondrous and unrivalled missionary library, and thus the Roman Church took its aggressive mission work into its own control, and gave it the sanction of its imprimatur. But this was not going so far, in principle, as the American and Canadian Churches have gone. In the Church of England, missionary work is undertaken and controlled entirely by voluntary associations, though the bishops, giving them the support of their names and for the most part active co-operation, lend them a quasi-ecclesiastical authority. Under our new regulations the Church herself becomes, what she ought to be, the Missionary Society; and now, in Canada, to belong to the Church means to every member—man, woman, or child—to be enrolled on the effective strength of the great army of missionaries of Christ.

The sublime idea thus affirmed cannot be too forcibly presented to our people, and if it is acted up to as well as realized by her individual members, our Church in Canada will become a power that will make itself felt in the evangelization of the world, and will speedily rise to the position of honor, prosperity, and spiritual strength and excellency that becomes the Church of Christ, loyally and lovingly fulfilling His command and enjoying his presence and approval.

With regard to the regulation adopted by the Board of Management, that there shall be annually made, throughout the ecclesiastical province, an appeal and a collection in behalf of foreign missions at Epiphany and domestic missions at Ascension-tide, the question may arise whether any alteration is thereby rendered desirable in the times appointed for the stated diocesan collections for the mission fund. It may be remarked that, this year, while the Epiphany collection amounted to \$592.51, the ordinary January collection still realized \$1,299.15, the total, \$1,891.66, being considerably in excess of the sum usually realized. The produce of the Ascension-tide appeal not being brought into the accounts presented at this synod, the appropriations to the North-West missions appear less than we trust they will be another year.

MISSIONARY SECRETARY.

The appointment of the Rev. W. F. Campbell to this post by the Mission Board is a matter of great personal satisfaction to me, and, I believe, of sincere congratulation to the diocese. I have known Mr. Campbell for many years, and have every confidence in his special fitness for the work he has undertaken, of which, indeed, his acknowledged success in a similar capacity in the Diocese of Huron gives ample evidence. It is a strong corroboration of the wisdom of the choice made by the board that the Board of Management of the D. and F. Missionary Society have selected Mr. Campbell for the general secretary

for Canada. I commend him, in his office, to the cordial reception of my brethren of the clergy and laity.

JEW'S SOCIETY.

The important and interesting work of promoting Christianity among the Jews is steadily advancing in favor among the members of our Church, under the earnest advocacy of the London Society's faithful agent. The Rev. Johnstone Vicars' statement for the year is appended to the Mission Board report.

CHURCHWOMEN'S MISSION AID.

The operations of this useful society, which by ministering to the more personal needs of missionaries and their families, supplying such accessories to the decent performance of Divine worship as the hands of ladies can fashion, and furnishing articles to provide the Sunday school children with Christmas treats, steps in as a welcome auxiliary to the more perfunctory help that is given by the grants of the Mission Board, have been continued throughout the year. The missionaries in our own back country and in the Diocese of Algoma, who are called upon to suffer many privations, appreciate most gratefully the sympathy of their Christian sisters so tenderly and delicately ministered. It is greatly to be wished that in every congregation of the city ladies could be found willing to devote a few hours' time each week, or at least twenty minutes each day, to work for this truly pious object for Christ and His ministers, in conjunction with Mrs. O'Reilly and her devoted associates.

DIOCESAN AND PAROCHIAL STATISTICS.

The returns sent into me through the annual reports to the rural deans are not so complete this year as last; and I have once more to complain both of the tardiness with which these reports come in, and of the imperfect manner in which they are in many cases filled up. I would point out to the clergy that as the same simple questions are asked from year to year, it would be quite easy to be prepared with the information when Easter comes round, and that if the Parochial Register adopted by the synod were provided and kept fully posted it would only be the task of a few minutes to transcribe the totals from it into the schedule.

I append a summary of the statistics derived from the returns received, arranged by rural deaneries.

From the totals there is reason to draw the conclusion that a marked progress has been made in the work of the Church throughout the diocese generally that is highly encouraging.

CHURCHES.

The number of churches has been increased from 180 to 186 by the erection of the following:—In West Simcoe, St. Alban's, Camilla, of brick; cost \$1,500; seating 100, and St. Luke's, Mono, of wood; cost \$500; seating 100. In East Simcoe a frame church at Midhurst, cost \$500; seating 70, and one at Elmvalle, cost \$800; seating 150. In Durham, St. John's, Cambay, of brick, cost \$900; seating 90, and in Northumberland, St. James', Kinmount, of wood; cost \$500; seating 100. In addition to these, two new churches have replaced old ones, St. Philips', Toronto, of brick and stone, costing \$16,000; seating 800, and Trinity church, Aurora, also of brick and stone, cost \$8,000; seating 300. St. Matthias', Toronto, has had a brick addition, costing \$1,500, and giving an increased accommodation of 125; the stone Church of Christ at Cambellford has been enlarged to the extent of 60 additional sittings, at a cost of \$1,500; and a school church has been built in Cobourg of frame, costing \$1,500, and seating 175. There have thus been added during the year to our property, 8 new churches, 2 additions, and a school church, at an aggregate expenditure of \$33,200, and furnishing increased accommodation for 2,070 worshippers.

ATTENDANCE.

The average attendance at each service throughout the diocese is returned as 20,515 against 20,616 last year; but there are no less than 26 blank returns under this head this year against 8 last year.

COMMUNICANTS.

The number of communicants is also very imperfectly returned, the blanks being 22; but the total given is 10,498 against 9,151 given last year, when only 5 failed to report.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, AND BURIALS.

The returns of baptisms, marriages, and burials were almost complete last year. This year there are 6 blanks, notwithstanding a fair increase is exhibited, the numbers being:—Baptisms, 3,240, against 2,946; marriages, 824, against 750; burials, 1,780, against 1,421.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Scarcely any item of the diocesan statistics is of greater interest, as indicating healthy growth and happy promise or the reverse, than that which registers the condition of our Sunday schools. With the same