

# THE ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

### MIDLAND DISTRICT BRANCH, OF THE

### DIOCESIAN CHURCH SOCIETY, 1856-7.

At the close of another year in the history of this Society, the Committee proceeds as usual to lay before its members, a statement of its exertions during the year, of the wants of the Church within the field of its operations, of the encouragements which it has received, and of the prospects of usefulness which present themselves. In hastily glancing at these matters, many things will probably appear of a discouraging character, if not as a just cause of self-reproach; while others again may justly be viewed as a subject of congratulation and hope, and as well calculated to revive the fainting heart, and stimulate to uncommon and untiring exertions in future in the cause of Christ.

The lesson which the Church of England in this Province has been very slow to learn, "not to put her trust in Princes," she has at length mastered under the Discipline of severe affliction, and the Teaching of bitter experience. If, however, she, as a church, and her members, as individuals, in the midst of these trials, have also learned first to put their trust in the living God, and next in her scriptural truth and Divine principles, vitally believed and energetically practiced, it is worth to her far more than her rich endowment, infinitely more than the thousands of acres, or the thousands of pounds sterling which she has lost.

The destitution which exists within the sphere of the operations of this Branch, is not only painful to contemplate, but it is actually increasing from year to year. Like an insidious foe it seems gradually approaching our centres of strength. This vast district is already divided into twenty-one Townships, each about ten miles square, comprehending an area of 2,600 square miles. In the rear of these, lies a large territory, now sparsely inhabited, but which, under arrangements already completed, will in a few years be filled with a busy population. Throughout this immense field, Kingston and its suburbs alone excepted, there are only four clergymen of the Church of England. Five of the Townships in the District are thus partially supplied, while 15 out of 21 townships, and all its unsurveyed lands, are now without a single Missionary of the Church of England!

The population in this District amounts at the present time probably to nearly 60,000 souls. At the last census the numbers of the Church of England within its bounds numbered 13,756. From the table No. 7, Appendix, "Shewing the state of religion in general in these United Counties," two facts are evident; first, that the Church of England constitutes one-fourth of the entire population within their limits, and ought, therefore, to have greater vigor and ability for self-support and extension, than any other christian community. The next fact is of a painful and

humiliating character. It is this, that notwithstanding the wealth of the Church in this District, its respectability and intelligence, a very large proportion of the membership of the Church is in a state of spiritual destitution, without churches, without the Services of the Church, without clergymen, in fine, except when brought to them by other denominations, without religious instruction. In the wilderness, amidst the struggles and trials incident to new settlers, when religion would have been to them a blessed consolation, they have been left in almost utter destitution.— Their children in too many instances are growing up without christian baptism; their young people enter in to that “estate which is honorable in all,” without the blessing of their church; their old people die, without the ministrations of religion, and are buried without the voice of prayer.

This destitution exists in the very vicinity of this City. Wolfe Island has a church population of 972 souls, a good Church erected, and a fund of upwards of £200 for building a Parsonage, and yet it remains in a state of spiritual deprivation. The Township of Kingston with 1274 adherents of the Church, with the exception of a few families in and around the Village of Portsmouth, is in the same state of destitution. The thriving Township of Storrington, having within its bounds, 612 members of the Church, suffers the same affliction. Four other Townships in this county, containing upwards of 1000 members, experience the same distressing destitution, while the remaining six Townships in Frontenac, the population of which is unknown, have never yet been visited by a Clergyman at all. Camden with 1187 members, and Sheffield with 384, are now also destitute. In short there is more than one half of the members of the Church of England in the Midland District and fifteen whole Townships especially, almost totally deprived of the services of their professed religion, and indebted for what religious instruction they may occasionally receive, to other Societies than their own. It is not therefore surprising, that from year to year, family after family leaves the church of their fathers, and that a great proportion of those now in some other denominations, were once members—but it must be added—NEGLECTED members of our own Communion. It is a source of deep humiliation before Almighty God, that the Church of England is thus yearly losing ground in this District, and that too while the country is rapidly rising in prosperity, and other denominations are growing stronger and stronger. But this painful condition of things which should lead to sincere repentance for the past, and greater activity for the future must not be wholly ascribed to mere neglect. It has arisen in part from unavoidable circumstances. Death has called away some of our Clergymen and vacancies thus created, remain unfilled. Notwithstanding the strenuous exertions of the Bishop no Clergymen could be sent to these destitute localities, and within a few years five Clergymen have removed to other parts of the Diocese; and although a considerable sum has been annually transmitted from this Branch to the Parent Society, yet this Branch has been left to support its own Missionaries, while the funds of the Diocesan Society, and that portion of it raised in this District in particular, have been generally expended in other parts of the Province.

And although the expenditure of the Parent Society may in all cases have been judicious, yet it has had a prejudicial effect upon the Church here, inasmuch as the moneys raised amongst ourselves and which might have been applied in relief, or in preventing the existing destitution, were for the greater part expended elsewhere.

### MISSIONARIES.

The Committee in March last resolved, if possible, to procure a Missionary to relieve, in some degree, the great destitution in the District. With this object in view correspondence was opened with the Colonial Church and School Society, but neither the proper man, nor the required means were available. Application was also made to the Bishop of Toronto for an experienced Clergyman for this important field of duty. The answer to this application gives encouragement to hope that as soon as the services of a suitable Clergyman can be secured, the Parent Society will unite with this Branch in giving him a liberal support. It may here be remarked that the sub-associations in the country are so oppressed with the sense of the prevailing destitution, that they have resolved to apply the whole of their available funds for the support of one or more travelling missionaries. One missionary might indeed accomplish much good, but it will require the best exertions of many to extend the Kingdom of Jesus crucified throughout this vast field of Spiritual destitution.

### THE DEPOSITORY.

The Depository has continued to furnish a supply of Bibles, Prayer Books, with other Religious Books and Tracts, sufficient to meet all demands. At the commencement of the present year the stock of books of all kinds, was valued at about £47 currency. Books and Tracts to the value of about £50 sterling, selected by the Rev. W. H. Herchmer from the list of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge have been added during the year. A valuable selection of Tracts were also made by Mr. Herchmer to the amount of £5 sterling, from the Bristol Tract Society. Hymn Books of various kinds have also been procured to the value of £6 currency. The stock of Books has therefore been increased by the addition of upwards of £70. The expense of its management, exclusive of per centage on sales, and including all charges on the books received, is less than £4 currency. The Depository has been carefully managed by Mrs. Ferns. The amount of sales since last March has been nearly £30. A large number of Tracts and Religious works have been sold, together with 233 Prayer Books, 33 Bibles, 254 volumes of other books, making a total of 524 volumes in all.

### THE EPISCOPAL ENDOWMENT FUND.

As a Report of the Special Committee appointed to look after this

Fund is added to this, it is unnecessary here to make particular reference to that matter, further than to express the hope that in the Providence of God, all obstacles in the way of obtaining a Bishop may be speedily removed, and that He may send a man after his own heart to rule over us.

### PAROCHIAL BRANCHES.

During the summer and again during the winter, the Parochial Branches in the country were visited by a Deputation. The meetings in the summer with two or three exceptions were failures; but at Bath, Napanee, and Clark's Mills, a fresh impetus was given to the Branches, and good meetings were anticipated in the winter.

### BATH.

The Parochial Branch in this place reports through its Chairman, that little for the purposes of the Church Society had been accomplished; that £25 had been raised in money and in lands towards a sustentation fund; and that £15 above the Annual Subscription for the Incumbent had been collected.

There was collected in this Parish	
For the Mission Fund.....	£1 0 0
Widows' and Orphans' Fund..	0 15 0
Total.....	£1 15 0

Two meetings were held in Bath in the course of the year, and at the meeting in the summer several pounds were subscribed, which probably were applied to Parochial purposes. A meeting was also held at the Village of Odessa, (Mill Creek,) in the same Parish, and a Society organized. Speaking of the spiritual destitution in that Parish the Rector says:—"It is sad indeed! Two additional clergymen would find ample employment therein, though I should be thankful, most thankful, could I see any prospect of procuring the assistance even of one." The Parish contains 956 members of the Church of England.

### FREDERICKSBURGH AND ADOLPHUSTOWN.

This Parish contains two Townships, Fredericksburgh having within it 694 members; and Adolphustown having only 169 adherents of the Church. The Rev. J. A. Muloch has a large and laborious mission. He reports that in both his churches the collections amounting to £4 5 were taken up and transmitted to the Parent Society. Mr. Muloch closes his report in the following words:—"The Church Society languishes here in consequence of the apparent neglect of this part of the Diocese, there being five vacancies in this section within the last two years, none of which have been filled; and until there is a better prospect of something being done for these destitute missions, an appeal to the people on behalf of the Church Society, from whose funds they receive no benefit, will be in vain."

## AMHERST ISLAND.

There is no Report from this Mission. But the sum of £2 5 was collected for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and transmitted to Toronto. There are about 400 members of the Church in this Parish.

## TYENDENAGA.

This Parish contains a prosperous branch. The whole amount raised for the Church society during the year is £33 6 7, of which £15 17 8 should have been sent to this District Branch, but were remitted to Toronto. There are 1640 adherents of the Church in Tyendenaga, and the Missionary the Rev. J. A. Anderson has very arduous duties to perform. It is certainly very much to his credit that the Parochial Branch is so effective and zealous, and that so large an amount has been collected.

## NAPANEE.

There are 1019 members of the Church in this mission. It has two or three different stations, and a small but substantial Church, built by the late Honorable John Cartwright. Two meetings of the Church Society were held here during the year. The Parochial Branch is well organized, and reports a sum raised for various purposes of £15 10 6½.

For General purposes,.....	£1 2 10
“ Theological Students .....	0 7 6
“ Mission Fund,.....	1 7 6
“ Widows' and Orphans' Fund,...	3 2 1½
Collection at Annual Meeting for the Mission Fund,.....	1 11 7
Subscription to Church Society,....	6 14 0
Clergyman's Subscription,.....	1 5 0

Total, .....£15 10 6½

The church has been much improved and the congregation considerably increased in the year. There is every reason to be satisfied with the exertions of the society in this Parish. The whole report is worthy of insertion, but there is only space for a short extract:—“Your Committee have to complain, that considering our great spiritual destitution in this part of the Diocese, that the whole of the Mission Fund should be expended West of Toronto; they think that inasmuch as this part of the Diocese contributes its portion, it should have a share in its appropriations.”

The Townships to which reference has now been made were originally settled by the United Empire Loyalists, who came here after the Revolution, and it is a most mortifying reflection, that having left all, home, friends, lands, relations, every earthly consideration, out of regard for the King and the Church, that their descendants to the third generation should have remained, comparatively speaking, and as far as their own communion is concerned, in a state of spiritual destitution.

## CAMDEN.

This Township contains a church population of 1187, and Sheffield another Township in the same mission, 384 members of our communion. A very interesting meeting was held in this Parish last summer, when a subscription was made, and the greater part paid at the time, of £7 10 for the Church Society. A committee was appointed and a Parochial Branch organized, and it was hoped that in the winter the fair prospects then in view might be fully realized. At that meeting the Rev. Paul Shirley, the Incumbent, presided, and addressed the audience with much animation. But God's ways, however, are not our ways, and our hopes were painfully and unexpectedly disappointed. The Rev. Paul Shirley not long afterwards, while discharging his duty as Superintendent of Schools, and while in the act of examining a class, suddenly dropped down dead. He had labored long and was much beloved in that extensive mission. The Funeral services were performed by the Rev. W. B. Lauder, and his mortal remains committed to the grave, until the great day of God Almighty. The vacancy which was thus created remains as yet unfilled.

## LOBOROUGH AND STORRINGTON.

In these Townships was once a flourishing Society, but the frequent changes of ministers in the mission, and of late the removal of the minister from the mission, have led to the disorganization of the Society, and now nothing is done. There are in this mission, two churches and about 1000 members. This mission is much indebted to the Rev. Mr. Bowers for occasional visits. The Secretary visited Storrington and found a large and attentive congregation. A very active Branch of the Church Society might be formed with a little attention in this place.

## BARRIEFIELD AND PITTSBURGH.

In this mission are two churches and one or two other stations; it contains 1035 members. The duties of the Missionary are very laborious. The Incumbent reports that the Quarterly Collections have been made and transmitted to the Society. A beautiful font at a cost of £26 has been placed in St. Mark's Church. The Missionary has baptised in the year, 55 children, 17 of which were baptised in other Townships. He closes his report with the following very appropriate remark:—"There are at the present time, the Townships of Kingston, Storrington, Loborough, Bedford, Oso, Olden, Kenebec, Sheffield, Camden, Portland, and other settled Townships where the voice of one of our Missionaries is never heard. We

hear of subscriptions being raised to send missionaries to all parts of the heathen world, but here at our very doors and among people of our own origin are hundreds who never hear the sound of the Gospel, *and does not this cry aloud for immediate relief?*"

### P O R T S M O U T H .

The number of members of the Church of England in the Township of Kingston, and beyond the limits of the City, is 1274. These members of the church are scattered over an area of nearly 100 square miles, and with the exception of the congregation at Portsmouth, are wholly deprived of the services of the Church. At Portsmouth is a very active Sub-association which deserves much credit for its exertions this year. The Quarterly collections were duly made in St. John's Church, and transmitted to Toronto. The amount thus raised was £9. Besides this through the exertions of their minister, who has taken much interest in the Church Society in the course of the year, aided by the Sunday School children, it appears that £10 were collected for the Indian Catechist and Teacher among the Oneidas under the Superintendance of the Rev. Mr. Flood.

### S T . P A U L ' S C H U R C H .

There is no report from the Branch connected with the congregation of this Church, for the very satisfactory reason that it has only this year become re-organized, after the scattering caused by the burning of their Church. The new church was opened for Divine Worship on the first Sunday in August, and the Incumbent, the Rev. J. S. Clarke, from that time onward, has had the satisfaction of ministering to a large and attentive audience. But after the great exertions of this congregation in rebuilding their Church, as a considerable debt still remains unpaid, and as their utmost exertions could only meet the current expenses, it was thought impossible this year to do anything for the Church Society. The Parochial Committee have not however, forgotten this important institution, and propose at the Easter Meeting to take steps for an efficient re-organization of the Branch. The present Church, when completed, will be a fine structure, vastly superior in beauty, capacity, and convenience to the Old Church of St. Paul's; and the congregation will long remember that for these improvements they are much indebted to the efforts of their late indefatigable and much lamented Minister the Rev. William Greig.

### S T . J A M E S ' C H U R C H .

There is no report from this Branch. But it is understood that in consequence of the efforts of the congregation to reduce the debts upon the Church, and to make some indispensable repairs, it was considered inadvisable to impose for the present any greater

burdens upon the congregation. The collection for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, amounting to £2 8s., was made, and transmitted to the Parent Society.

### S T. G E O R G E ' S C H U R C H.

This Branch continues still in a flourishing condition. It has supplied for years the only funds available for missionary purposes, and other objects, in this District. To this Branch are we indebted for ability year after year to assist the Missionaries in Barriefield and Portsmouth. The four Quarterly collections have been made in this Parish, and remitted to the Parent Society. The subscriptions for the present year amount to £50 17s 6d. The amount raised in this Branch is as follows :—

Theological Students Fund... ..	£4 2 6
Mission Fund, ... ..	4 1 6
Widows' and Orphans' Fund.....	3 15 0
General Purposes Fund,.....	5 0 0
Parochial Subscriptions,.....	50 17 6
Total,.....	£68 7 6

This sum is smaller than formerly, but this is owing, probably, in part, to the great demands which have been made on this congregation in various ways during the year; and, partly, to the fact that many subscribers are not perfectly satisfied with the application of their subscriptions for so many years to other parts of the Diocese. This Branch has transmitted some hundreds of pounds to the Diocesan Society, and it has had a very discouraging effect that the Parent Society has made no appropriation to relieve the destitution in this District. But as the chief portion of our funds will now be applied for this purpose, and as there is a fair prospect that the Diocesan Society will assist in this good work, it is hoped that perfect unity and confidence will be restored, and that the subscriptions the coming year will exceed those of any former time.

The Committee subjoin a statement of the Society's funds, together with a return, supplied by the Secretary Treasurer of the Parent Society, of the quarterly collections and other moneys received during the year. The Committee have nothing further to add but the fervent prayer that the Great Head of the Church, in supplying us with a Bishop, and our destitute settlements with Clergymen, may be graciously pleased to fulfil His promise, "I WILL GIVE YOU PASTORS ACCORDING TO MINE OWN HEART, WHO SHALL FEED YOU WITH KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING!"—JER. III, 15.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE OKILL STUART,  
Chairman, M. D. B. C. Society.

HANNIBAL MULKINS,  
Secretary, M. D. B. C. Society.



## APPENDIX.

## 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—RECEIPTS.

1856. March 7, Balance in the Treasurer's Hands,.....	£101 12 8
April Hon. J. Macaulay's Subscription,.....	10 0 0
1857. Sales at Depository, 1856,.....	28 15 7
March 14, Subscriptions, 1856, less commission,.....	48 6 8
Total Receipts.....	188 14 11

## DISBURSEMENTS.

1856. March 20, Paid $\frac{1}{2}$ Subscription to the Parent Society,.....	£22 5 0
June 7, Bill on England for Books, .....	61 13 4
1857. March 7, Paid Rev. F. W. Dobbs Missionary at Portsmouth....	20 0 0
" " " E. C. Bower, " Barriefield,....	20 0 0
" Special grant to Rev. J. S. Clarke, Minister St. Paul's	12 10 0
" Paid Mrs. Ferns percentage 1855-56.....	3 14 8
" Expense at Depository, freights, postages, &c.,.....	3 18 5
" Expense of the M. D. B. Church Society, including freights, Deputations, postages, &c.,.....	7 15 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total Disbursements,.....	151 12 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Balance in Treasurer's hands,.....	36 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

£188 10 3.

Audited and approved.

(Signed.)

(Signed.)

T. KIRKPATRICK.

A. H. CAMPBELL.

Auditors.

Kingston, March 17th 1857.

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Statement of money received by the Secretary of the Parent Society, as reported by him to the Secretary of this Branch.

	Mission Fund.	Widows & Orphans'	General purpos	Theolo. Students.	Incumbent's Subscriptions.
St. George's,	£4 2 6	3 15 0	5 0 0		
St James',		2 8 0			1 5 0
St. Mark's, Barrifield,	1 11 3				
St. John's, Portsmouth,	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0		1 5 0
Bath,	1 0 0	0 15 0			
Adolphustown & Fredericksburgh,		1 17 6			
Amherst Island,		2 5 0			
Camden,	0 14 5				
Tyendenaga P. Br. £14 12 8					
St. Paul's, Kingston,					1 5 0
	£9 8 2	14 0 6	8 0 0		£3 15 0
Theological Students,					8 0 0
General Purposes,					14 0 6
Widows and Orphans'					9 8 2
Mission Fund,					14 12 8
Tyendenaga Par. Branch,					
Total remitted to Parent Society,	£49 16 4				

The following Clergymen have paid their yearly Subscriptions to the Parent Society.

The Venerable the Archdeacon,.....	£1	5	0
“ Rev. T. M. Bartlett,.....	1	5	0
“ “ W. H. Herchmer,.....	1	5	0
“ “ H. Mulkins,.....	1	5	0
“ “ J. S. Clarke,.....	1	5	0
“ “ F. W. Dobbs,.....	1	5	0
“ “ R. V. Rogers,.....	1	5	0
“ “ W. B. Lauder,.....	1	5	0

4 Incorporate members in the Midland District Branch.

The Hon. J. Macaulay,.....	£1	5	0
The Venerable the Archdeacon,.....	1	5	0
The Rev. W. H. Herchmer,.....	1	5	0
Thomas Kirkpatrick Esq.,.....	1	5	0

5 COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

The Clergy in the District; Samuel Taylor, Thomas Kirkpatrick, John McPherson, John Durnford. Hon. J. Macaulay, J. Forsyth, J. Watkins, W. Bowen, W. J. Grasset, W. Wilson, J. Crookshanks, Wm. Rudston, J. Hope, R. Sellars, A. Foster, J. Wright, T. Wilson, G. Baxter, Wm. Ferguson. This Committee meets quarterly at 3 p.m. in St. George's School Room, on the the first Wednesday in April, July, October, and January. The Officers are the Venerable the Archdeacon Chairman, Rev. Wm. Herchmer Secretary, Rev. J. A. Muloch Assistant Secretary. Rev. A. Stewart acting in the place of Mr. Herchmer until his return, Mrs. Ferns Depository, Thomas Kirkpatrick and the Rev. H. Mulkins delegates to the Standing Committee at Toronto.

## REPORT

6 OF THE EPISCOPAL ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE.

The Special Committee on the Episcopal Endowment Fund beg leave to report that they have done during the summer and fall all that was in their power to do towards raising that portion of the Endowment of the Kingston Diocese allotted to this District. After much consideration the Committee made an apportionment, the best in their judgment which could be made, to each Parish or Mission in the District. The whole amount thus apportioned was £2275. This apportionment, a copy of which is here subjoined, received the sanction of the Bishop, and was then enclosed to the Incumbent of each Parish or Mission. The Committee are happy to Report that as a general thing, it was the impression that the amount could be raised when needed, or when some general and united movement should be made. The Committee have also to report that the Venerable Society for the Promotion of Christian knowledge, has contributed the large sum of £500 sterling, towards the endowment of this Bishoprick.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. KIRKPATRICK, *Chairman.*  
HANNIBAL MULKINS, *Secretary.*

Kingston, 18th March, 1857.

*Apportionment of the Episcopal Endowment among the Parishes and Missions of the Midland District.*

PARISH OR MISSION.	INCUMBENT.	Ch. of England Population.	Apportionment	REMARKS.	
St. Georges' Church,	The Ven. Archdeacon Stewart,	City and Township	5384	£1150	1.—The sum of £115 is thus apportioned to the City, and Township of Kingston. This sum also includes the apportionment made to those Townships in which there is no minister.
St. Paul's,	The Rev. J. S. Clarke,	In the City,			
St. James',	" R. V. Rogers,			150	
St. John's, Portsmouth,	" F. W. Dobbs,	In the Township,	1274	100	
St. Marks', Pittsburgh,	" E. C. Bower,		1035	125	
Bath, Ernesttown,	" T. C. Harper,		956	125	
Adolphustown & Fredericksburgh,	" J. A. Mulock,		860	125	
Camden,	Vacant,		1187	150	
Napancee, Richmond,	" W. B. Lauder, B. A.		1019	150	
Amherst Island,	" J. Rothwell, A. B.		400	50	
Loborough,	None,		333		
Portland,	None,		408		
Hinchinbrook,	None,		140		
Storrington,	None,		612		
Wolfe Island,	None,		972		
Sheffield,	None,		378		
Barrie,	None,				
Bedford,	None,				
Clarendon,	None,				
Kenebec,	None,				
Oso,	None,	No returns of the Population,			
Palmerston,	None,				
Olden,	None,				
Total,			13,654	£2275	2.—The Returns of the Population are taken from the Census of 1851-2.

This apportionment was made by the Episcopal Endowment Committee, July 2nd 1856.

And approved by the Bishop.

(Signed)

THOMAS WILSON,  
T. ROBISON,  
J. DURNFORD,  
T. KIRKPATRICK, *Chairman*,  
HANNIBAL MULKINS, *Sec'y*,

