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The Canadian Ecclesiastical Gazette;

OR

MONTHLY CHURCH REGISTER FOR THE DIOCESES OF QUEBEC, TORONTO, AND MONTREAL.

VOLUME III.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1856.

No. 4.

Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

ADDRESS OF THE LAY COMMITTEE TO THE CHURCHWARDENS OF THE DIFFERENT RURAL MISSIONS IN THE DIOCESE OF QUEBEC, TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE CONGREGATIONS WHOM THEY REPRESENT.

Resolution adopted by the Central Board of the Church Society 10th January 1856.

That the Lay Committee be requested to address a Circular Letter to the Churchwardens and Congregations of the Rural Parishes and Stations, urging upon them the duty of carrying out their part of the condition connected with the gratuity to the Clergy, attaching to such Circular a list of those Parishes which have complied with the condition."

In compliance with the resolution adopted by the Central Board of the Church Society, the Lay Committee, whose particular duty it is to attend to the financial affairs of the Corporation and to the proper support of the Clergy, now proceed to bring under your notice and that of the Congregation which you represent, the duty and necessity of more regular and continued efforts to increase the very scanty incomes of the Rural Clergy than have hitherto been generally made. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the channel through which for so many years the Christian liberality of Churchmen in England has reached us, has some time ago signified its intention not only not to extend, but gradually to diminish until entirely withdrawn, the aid hitherto afforded in providing for the support of our Missionaries, in order to extend assistance to newer and poorer Colonies, and the prospect of increasing funds for the use of the Church through the gradual augmentation of the value of Clergy Reserves has been suddenly terminated by the secularisation of that property, leaving for her only a sum sadly inadequate to her present and still more to her future wants. The members of the Church in this Diocese must therefore prepare themselves for an amount of exertion for the support of the Clergy to which they have hitherto been unaccustomed, and it may reasonably be hoped that instead of repining at the prospects, those who love her will rather be thankful that the time has been delayed, till from the gradual advance of the

country, its inhabitants may be expected cheerfully to acquiesce in the decision which will, within a few years, transfer to others more necessitous that assistance which they have so long enjoyed.

The Central Board of the Society having become convinced that the gradually increasing price of most of the necessaries of life, while it tended to enrich the farmer, unfortunately only added to the already existing privations of the Clergy, by diminishing their means of support in an exactly corresponding degree, resolved in 1854, to pay to each Clergyman in the Rural Districts whose income did not exceed £125 currency the sum of £12 10s. In 1855, after mature consideration, the Board resolved that, in order to excite a self-supporting spirit in the members of the Church, a grant of £10 each should be made to the Clergy so soon as their Congregations had contributed £10, either in money or its equivalent in produce &c., for their use, in addition to any regular payment to which they may have by previous arrangement been entitled. In this manner a much needed addition of £20 per annum would be made to the stipends of the Clergy; and although the Central Board were by no means disposed to consider this an adequate provision, it was looked upon as a commencement, which would be within the means of the poorest mission in the Diocese. From the late period in 1855 at which this measure was decided on, its success has not yet been fairly tested, although a considerable number of Parishes have promptly responded to the call. The period for the completion of the payment on the part of the Congregations has been extended to the 1st May next, and the principal object of this appeal is earnestly to press upon you and the Congregation you represent the duty of providing the small amount required. In some settlements, in consequence of a vacancy in the mission, or of the appointment of the Clergyman towards the end of the year 1855, it will not be necessary to collect the sum required till towards the end of the present year, if the means at the disposal of the Society enable it to make a similar grant for 1856; but it is to be hoped that no settlement will, by abstaining from doing its proper share, prevent its Clergy-

man from receiving the sum which the Society is prepared to pay him for 1855, so soon as his flock have performed their part of the work. The members of the Church Society who reside in this City of Quebec have an especial right to urge upon their Brethren in the country the duty of liberality and self sacrifice, because, while much the greater portion of the income of the Society is raised among them, it is provided by a rule of the Society, adopted at their own instance, that not a farthing of that income can be expended for any purpose within the limits of the city.

The Lay Committee, who are necessarily residents of Quebec, most earnestly and affectionately urge upon you and the Congregation you represent the duty and necessity of providing by subscriptions and regular payments for this special purpose; and for its regular yearly increase if possible. It is as improper as it must be unpleasant for the Clergy to be compelled, as they sometime are, to take any part in the collection of the monies they are to receive. It is as much to the advantage of the laity as their own, that they should be enabled to devote the whole of their time to the sacred duties of their office, and that they should as much as possible be exempted from all anxiety about, or connexion with, pecuniary affairs.

So desirable a state of things might easily be secured by affectionate Congregations, well represented by zealous and efficient Churchwardens. Who can be more interested in the comfortable support and ease of mind of the Clergy with reference to education and prospects of their families, than the laity among whom they minister? If each member of the Church would only carefully examine into the amount which he contributes towards her, however small that may be, he would in the great majority of cases feel humbled at the result. How small a sum paid annually by each family would suffice to provide in each Parish or Mission for a comfortable addition to the limited income of the Clergyman, for the erection of a substantial and decent parsonage, where none now exists; for the building of a Schoolhouse and the support of a competent schoolmaster, without whose previous labours the future instructions of the Clergyman are so much lessened in value and effect. For these

Rev. J. G. D. Mackenzie	1	5	0
" H. Hallen	1	5	0
" J. Smithurst	1	5	0
" F. Sandys	1	5	0
" John Flood	1	5	0
" Alex. Pyno	1	5	0
" Dr. Lewis	1	5	0
" James Smyth	1	5	0
" A. MacNab	1	5	0
" H. Brent.....	1	5	0
W. H. Bottom, Esq.	1	5	0
George Hamilton, Esq.	1	5	0
Fees given by Rev. H. Patton	1	18	9
Moore, special W. & O. F.....	1	5	0
Sarnia	1	5	0
"	1	0	0

The Annual Vestry Meeting of the parish of St. James was held on Monday last, (being Easter Monday), in the Parochial School-house on Church street, at which the accounts for the past year were submitted by the churchwardens.

These exhibit a very flourishing state of financial prosperity. The entire debt on the Cemetery has been finally removed, and that upon the Cathedral is rapidly diminishing. A Committee were appointed to take into consideration the best mode of liquidating the debt still remaining.

The Churchwardens for the past year—Messrs, P. D. Harris, and J. D. Ridout, were reappointed; the former after having 14 years been annually chosen by the Rector, was as a special mark of their approbation, selected this year to represent the congregation. To this indefatigable and intelligent Churchwarden is mainly attributable the present prosperous condition of the finances.

The Hon. Sir J. B. Robinson—the Hon. Mr. Chief Justice Draper, and Clarke Gamble, Esq., were appointed to represent the Vestry at the approaching Synod to be held in this city, on the 1st of May next.

REPORT OF THE MIDLAND DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY, FOR 1855-56.

In reviewing the affairs of the Church in this district for the past year, your committee feel obliged to acknowledge with regret that there is much which might and should be in a more satisfactory condition, yet they are greatly gratified to be able to add that there is much also which cannot fail to inspire the hearts of church people, both with feelings of unfeigned gratitude to Him "from whom cometh every good and perfect gift," and also with great encouragement to press onward with renewed energy and zeal in the all-glorious work of planting and watering the Church of Christ on earth, trusting to God to give the increase.

Your committee cannot direct your attention to the vacant missions in this district without feeling sure that the neglected condition of those members of our own household, who have once enjoyed the privileges of a settled ministry, but whose lonely homes are never approached now by "the beautiful feet of those who preach the gospel of peace," must excite your warmest sympathy and dispose you to readily avail yourselves of any expedient which can be suggested for affording them spiritual relief for the time being, until a more effectual remedy can be provided. Wolfe Island has no missionary; the mission at Sydenham remains vacant, and the stations at Mill Creek, Waterloo, and Storrington, are unvisited. Sad it is to think of the ministrations of the church being thus suspended over so extensive and populous a tract of country. Let us derive comfort, however, from the hope that a remedy is at hand in the contemplated erection of Kingston into an episcopal see. It has almost invariably been found to be the case, that wherever a new diocese is formed, and a new Bishop sent, a great accession to the number of the clergy follows, or springs up around him—new life invigorates the whole body of the church entrusted to his charge—greater liberality is displayed among its members—works of piety and charity are devised and executed with unwonted spirit and zeal. The church, generally, is found to advance with such increased rapidity as would be truly surprising, were we not aware, that from the appointment of the first High Priest in a Jewish Church to the present day, there have always been three orders in the ministry, and that where there is a defect in the organization of any body, a default in the work to be done by it will inevitably ensue. Let us take courage, therefore, from the prospect before us, and admit the cheering hope that when the church in this archdeaconry obtains what she is really pining for, viz., a Bishop resident in her bosom and in the midst of ourselves, her condition will rapidly improve and attain that degree of prosperity which her dutiful and attached children so ardently desire to see her enjoying. Let us, on no account, however, remain at rest in this hope, but endeavor, as best we can, to cope with the difficulties which at present surround us. In furtherance of this recommendation, your committee beg to suggest that some layman, of good repute, and otherwise well qualified for the office, should be employed, at the expense of this branch of the Church Society, to pay regular visits to the vacant missions referred to; read the service of the Church, assemble children on some appointed day, to be baptized by a clergyman; distribute

bibles, prayer-books and tracts, and return to the managing committee a monthly report of all his proceedings. Your committee anticipate that, if the services of a person well suited for such a post could be enlisted, the greatest good would be effected through the instrumentality of such an agent.

Your committee desire to express their sincere sorrow at the loss to this portion of Christ's vineyard of a zealous and faithful laborer, by the removal of the late Rev. Wm. Greig from among us to his heavenly rest, where he will receive his righteous reward. They feel it incumbent upon them, however, to offer the congregation of St. Paul's, in particular, and the members of the church in this town, generally, their hearty congratulations upon the appointment to the vacant incumbency of a steward, of whom, with God's blessing resting upon his labors, they entertain a well assured hope, that, when he is summoned to follow his predecessor into the eternal world, he will be able to render a good account of his stewardship.

Your committee feel sure that you will partake of the great satisfaction which they have derived from the information conveyed to them, that the fabric of St. Paul's church has already been brought to a forward state towards complete restoration, and is expected to be ready for the celebration of divine service early in the course of the ensuing summer. A chancel has been added, with great taste, to the original nave; and off the latter, two side aisles have been formed, and the whole being tiled with blue slate, the general appearance of the edifice bears an ecclesiastical air of peculiar propriety and simple beauty, and the church, when completed, will, in these respects, if not surpass, at least equal, any other in the Province.

The country Associations, whose meetings are chiefly held at villages easily reached from the steamboat wharves along the banks of the Bay of Quinte, have determined for the future to convene their annual meetings in the summer months, in order to afford the town clergy and others resident in distant portions of the district greater facilities for attending their gatherings. Seeing the great encouragement which country missionaries must derive from the practical sympathy and mutual support of one another, and seeing the additional interest which must be infused into the meetings by a good attendance of speakers, your Committee hail this decision with the greatest satisfaction, as they anticipate the most favorable results from it. In consequence of this change no reports have as yet been sent in to the Secretary from the country associations.

With regard to the pecuniary position of

our Branch of the Society, your Committee have to state that, in consequence of the members of the congregation of St. Paul's having contributed so liberally towards the restoration of their church, none of them have been called upon this year for their annual subscriptions. Notwithstanding this, however, we have great pleasure in announcing to you that the sum total of this year's receipts exhibits an increase over that of last year.

The sales at the Depository, from March 1st, 1855, to March 1st, 1856, amount to £40 18s. 8½d. During the past year the sum of £17 15s. 10½d. has been disbursed for books, carriage, commission, &c., leaving a balance of £23 2s. 10d.

The following is an abstract of the income and expenditure of the Society for the past year.

Balance in Treasurer's hands		£50 10 10½
16th March, 1855		
Amount received from the Depository per Rev W Greig, less commission &c.	£16 0 11	
Do. per W David	18 17 2	
Do. (Feb. '56) per d.	1 1 3½	
	38 19 4½	
	50 10 0	
Subscriptions to Church Society		£209 0 2½
Paid expenses of collecting, &c.	£4 5 0	
" Printing Bills	2 0 7½	
" Rowell for Books	13 5 7	
" Carriage of Books	0 12 0	
	£20 3 8½	
Remitted to Parent Society	22 1 3	
Paid Rev. B. Bower, Missionary		
Hartfield	20 0 0	
Do. P. Dobbie, Portsmouth	20 0 0	
Special allowance to W Greig	25 0 0	
	£5 0 0	
	£17 4 11½	
	209 0 2½	
Receipts		
1855—March 6, balance to credit this day	£101 15 3	

The association of St. James' reports having taken up a collection for the Widows and Orphans' Fund, amounting to £3 2s. 6d., which, with the yearly subscription of the Rev. R. V. Rogers of £1 5s. 0d., and a collection taken up after the Church Society meeting of £1 1s. 3d., makes a total of £5 8s. 9d., which has been duly transmitted to Toronto. To account for so small a sum, it is necessary to add, that this congregation has paid for their organ, £150—and about £60 for repairs to the south wall, which, however, still remains so faulty as to make its being taken down absolutely necessary. The report chiefly adverts to the condition of the Church generally at the present day, and concludes as follows:—"Let us thank Him, then, for the past, and take courage for the future, with the Bible in one hand and the Prayer-book in the other, for we have no fear when we confidently acknowledge that the issue of all things belong to God. Let our prayer, then, be, that He would lengthen her cord and strengthen her stakes, and that he would so order it in the course of his good providence, that in

all her agencies throughout the whole earth, amid the snows of the polar regions, or beneath the burning sun of the tropics, that men after His own heart might be constantly provided, and found feeding the Church of God, over whom the Holy Ghost would make them overseers, that so the result might be, we should ever be found amongst those who are the blest of the earth, and that our Church and nation should never have written on their front, 'Ichabod, the glory is departed;' but, in faithfulness occupying that exalted position in which God has hitherto placed her, she may still be, as she hath been, the glory of all lands, and beacon to all nations. Let us take heed, then, and see that by our unfaithfulness her candle-stick is not removed out of its place; neither let us cease in our petitions until the great Head of the Church shall make our Jerusalem the praise of the whole earth."

The Portsmouth Association reports having duly taken up and transmitted to Toronto the quarterly collections, amounting to £6 15s. A considerable expense has been incurred in repairing the Church of St. John's, the proceeds of the general collection have been applied to purposes of a local nature. The interesting infant school established at this mission, we are happy to observe by the report, still continues in operation, and the Committee announce with thankfulness the erection of a substantial parsonage-house, upon which, however, a debt still remains of £200, which, as the Church is still in its infancy, they appeal to a liberal public to assist them in liquidating.

In concluding this report, your Committee desire to express an earnest hope that the change decided upon in the time for holding the meetings of the County Associations will be productive of such good fruits as will enable your next year's committee to report, not only more fully of their proceedings, but also more favorably of the assistance which they render to the town of Kingston in its endeavors to supply the pressing wants of the Church in this immediate neighborhood.

From the Church.

REPORT OF THE GORE AND WELLINGTON DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

The arrival of the 13th anniversary of the Gore and Wellington Branch of the Church Society calls upon the Managing Committee to present their annual report—a task agreeable at all times, but especially so on the present occasion, when the funds appear to be steadily on the increase, and the work they have in hand (especially their missionary undertakings)

appear to be more vigorous than ever, and to hold out fair promise of the most satisfactory results.

Your Committee are of opinion that the most useful lesson which we can learn (as beings accountable to God for all the talents committed to our trust, and destined to be judged hereafter according to the deeds done in the body) is, what are the fittest, the noblest and the most profitable uses which we can make of our various faculties of mind and body, and of the worldly substance with which God has been pleased to endow us. A better instructor in this lesson we cannot have than the Church Society, whose anniversary we are now met to celebrate. The many pious designs which it has in view point out in no unintelligible language, that the promotion of the glory God, and the extension of his kingdom by the diffusion of the Gospel, are the great ends for which we were all created, and for which we ought all to live. The Church Society comes before you from time to time, pleading the cause of Christ and his Church, asking you to send out shepherds in search of Christ's sheep who are scattered through the wilderness—to furnish the bread of life to those who are dying of spiritual hunger, and water from the wells of salvation to parched and thirsty souls, that are, "panting like the hart after the water-brooks." She enlists your sympathies, awakens your zeal, secures your offerings (accompanied, she trusts, by your prayers,) and thus she goes on her way rejoicing, and addresses herself to her momentous work of enlarging the kingdom of Christ. At the expiration of each year, she comes before you again to tell you of all her labors—to show how your contributions have been expended—what good has actually been done—how many missionaries have been sent forth—how many churches have been built, or are in progress of erection—and how the Macedonian cry still comes from remoter quarters, "come over and help us." Your Committee are happy then to inform you that the past year has not been less prosperous than former ones, that the total amount of receipts is greater than on any former occasion, that additional missionaries have been engaged, that the labor bestowed in former years is bringing forth fruit, that new ground has been broken, and a good seed being sown with every prospect of a bountiful harvest.

From the printed report of the parent Society—which has been widely circulated among the members of this association—the income of the Society during the year appears to have been £5419 4s. 7d. But your Committee are informed by the Secretary that remittances subsequently received—but too late to be included in the

year's accounts—have raised the receipts to an amount considerably exceeding that of any former year. With the funds thus received the parent Society has continued to promote the various objects set forth in its constitution, and the details of its proceedings are to be found in the report alluded to.

The receipts of the Gore and Wellington Branch last year amounted to £570 4s. 10d., which was disposed of agreeably to the constitution of the Society, viz., one-fourth remitted to the parent Society, 21 per cent. for District Mission fund, and the balance was returned to the respective parishes for local expenditure.

The receipts of the present year exhibit a pleasing increase, which is the more gratifying as your Committee have deemed it expedient to increase the number of missionaries, as well as the amount of their stipends, and in so doing reckoned confidently on the liberal support of the members of this association. In this they have not been disappointed, and the clergy and lay members of the Committee have unanimously agreed upon an assessment of 50 per cent this year upon the parochial collections for the support of travelling missionaries—having ascertained from the members of the Church in their respective localities that no object within the scheme of the Church Society elicited warmer sympathy than the missionary work.

This association, then, at present has assumed the responsibility of maintaining wholly two travelling missionaries, at a salary of £150 a year each, and of contributing £85 towards the salaries of two other missionaries, making in all a charge upon the common fund of the District Association of £385 per annum.

The Committee notice that three associations have this year (it is believed under erroneous impressions as to the by-laws) made their own special appropriations of the monies collected within their limits. They trust this may not be the case another year, because its effect is necessarily to inconvenience greatly the operations of the Committee; and so far as the existing liability of this Association for travelling missionaries is concerned, the burden which must be met by a *pro rata* assessment falls so much heavier on the remaining Associations. The Committee leave the question to the attentive consideration of the respective local Associations, in the confident assurance that in future the by-laws of the Society, and the regulations of this Committee, will be sustained with cordial unanimity.

Of the missionaries above alluded to, the Rev. Mr. Hodge is occupied in the County of Bruce, through which he will gradually extend his ministrations. His head-quar-

ters are at present fixed at Walkerton, where a handsome stone church is in progress of erection.

The other missionary whose stipend is paid in full by our district fund is the Rev. Mr. Preston, who has been appointed to the mission of Arthur as a centre, from which he extends his ministrations to Garafra and Erin, Luther, Minto, Glenelg, Egremont and Normandy. In a report received from this missionary he describes his reception as very gratifying, his congregations large, and the people rejoicing at the prospects of regular services and visits from a clergyman. He has travelled 500 miles during the last 120 months; his scheme of labor comprises seven stations for Sunday services and eight stations for monthly week-day services. The great difficulty of getting into the back townships, owing to the depth of the snow, and the extreme length of the mission (75 miles) have prevented the regular holding of these services; but, under more favorable circumstances, the missionary hopes to be able to supply either Sunday or week-day services to all the Church people under his care. Two churches are nearly finished in this mission—one at Arthur, the other at North Arthur—and one is about to be erected at Mount Forest. 186 families have been already enrolled on the missionary's list, and he conceives that the number will be easily doubled. He states that his missionary toil has been invariably alleviated by the glad welcome given him by the backwoodsmen in their humble and primitive dwellings.

Of the two clergymen whose salaries are partially paid from our mission fund, one is the Rev. Mr. Mulholland, who, in conjunction with a Sunday service at Owen's Sound, performs laborious services as travelling missionary in the adjoining townships with a zeal of which your Committee cannot speak too highly. In a report, just received from Mr. Mulholland, he represents the prospects of the Church as hopeful and encouraging. He holds sixteen full services every month, and travels 300 miles. In addition to ten regular stations at which these services are held, there are four other week-day stations where occasional services are performed, and the missionary remarks that it is very grateful to know that these week-days are joyfully looked forward to as if they were Sabbaths. A site for a church has been secured in Artemisia, and one-half of the building materials is on the spot. 160 baptisms have been solemnized, six burials and fourteen marriages.

The other clergyman alluded to is the Rev. Mr. Butler, who has since August last performed regular services of a missionary character at Waterdown and Carlisle in

the Gore district. These stations are at present discontinued, for want of proper encouragement on the part of the people, and Mr. Butler has resigned any further claim upon the funds of the Association.

ASCENSION CHURCH.

The Committee of the Church of the Ascension avail themselves of this the only opportunity they have of presenting their fifth report, and have to notice that the result of their canvas shows the sum of £42 12s. 6d. contributed towards the general funds of the Society, the amount last year having been £36 5s. This small sum is far below what the congregation would under different circumstances be disposed to pay towards the many and important objects included in the scheme of the Church Society; but they are reminded by the sadly unfinished appearance of their own Church, that much yet remains for them to do at home.

The Committee in their canvas have received a further sum of £82 3s. 9d., specially subscribed towards their own pressing local wants; and when it is understood that more than £2250 have been contributed by, or on behalf of the congregation towards necessary improvements and furniture, sites for parsonage and for school, &c., in the five years since they received the church from the Building Committee, irrespective of the annual current charges of an unendowed city congregation, they trust that their earnest zeal in the cause of Christ may not be estimated alone by the extent to which they at present contribute towards the funds of the Church Society.

The Committee hail with thankfulness the increased efficiency of the District Branch in its missionary labors; and they are convinced that the members of the united Church of England and Ireland, throughout the Gore and Wellington Districts will ever cheerfully contribute to the maintenance of faithful and experienced travelling missionaries within their partially settled and spiritually destitute borders.

CHRIST'S CHURCH.

The Parochial Committee of this congregation desire to inform the members of their association that of the amount collected last year—£121—the sum of £40 11s. 3d. was remitted to the parent Society, and £22 10s. 5d. was appropriated to the mission fund of the district. The balance, £57 18s. 4d., returned for local expenditure, was disposed of as follows:—Paid D. McInnes & Co., for church furniture, £7 13s. 4d.; Churchwarden on account of new furnace, £50. They are happy to state that this year the collections have reached the sum of £150 7s. 6d.—an indication, they trust, that the congregation

of Christ's Church (which has not a single foot of endowment, nor any public aid, except a bare hundred sterling from the commutation fund) continues to take the same lively interest they have ever done in the prosperity of the Church Society.

It must be gratifying to all who are connected with this District Branch that it enjoys a high reputation among the sister associations throughout the Diocese. Its proceedings have always been marked with singular unanimity—its financial affairs (thanks to its zealous treasurer) have been managed with great ability and success, and the amount of funds raised within its limits is the largest of any in the Diocese. These remarks are not made in any spirit of self-gratulation, or for the purpose of exciting an undue opinion of their liberality in the members of this association, but simply as an incentive to increased exertion, that the progress of the Church Society may keep pace with the temporal prosperity of its members, and that adequate means may be forthcoming to enlarge the sphere of our operations and to meet the crying wants of our destitute members.

Such is a summary of the work in which this Association is engaged, and such the success which has hitherto attended its labors. Whether it shall advance, stand still, or retrograde depends upon the members of this Association. The Committee feel confident that the unanimous acclamation of this meeting, if appealed to, would be—
 "Advance by all means. Engage more missionaries, devoted men, push forward the work with energy and vigor, and *re pledge* ourselves that you shall *never want* the means of support."

The following is the Treasurer's statement:—

The Gore and Wellington Branch of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto in Account with the Treasurer for the year ending 31st December, 1855.

1855.	Dr.	
March 8—To remitted Treasurer of Parent Society fourth of £19 13s.		
9d. additional collections of 1854	£4 18 6	
Repaid Parochial Associations from income of 1854 for local purposes	275 16 10	
To paid account Mission Fund—		
Grant to Rev. Mr. Mulholland for a horse	25 0 0	
Grant to Rev Dr Heise for duty	12 10 0	
Grant to Rev. Mr. Butler for duty	20 18 8	
The half stipend Rev. Mr. Mulholland, the year	60 0 0	
The stipend Rev Mr Hodge, six months to 31st Dec. 1855	75 0 0	
	193 6 8	
To invested in W. Permanent Building Society	86 9 10	
To remitted Treasurer Parent Society balance due Elora Association	5 9 6 1/2	

Dec. 31—To remitted Treasurer Parent Society—		
25s. for each of nineteen clergymen	23 15 0	
25s. for each of 21 lay incorporated members	20 5 0	
Fourth of £569 2s. 4 1/2d. the balance collected	142 10 7	
Special grant for Grand River Settlement	28 0 0	
	220 10 7	

To balance in hand, of which £168 0s. 8 1/2d. is available for local purposes in the respective Associations, and £299 15s. 7 1/2d. is at the credit of the Dist. Mission Fund

	467 16 4	
	1251 8 2 1/2	

Also invested of District Mission Fund in Western Permanent Building Society.....391 13 5

1855.	Cr.	
Mar. 8—By balance per statement	£388 3 7	
Collections of 1854 received subsequent to meeting, viz.		
Ancaster, additional	4 13 9	
Binbrook and Saltfleet	12 10 0	
Grand River Settlements	2 10 0	
	19 13 9	

County debenture redeemed at par Interest and profit on Building Society investment..... 68 14 6

Dec. 31—By collections of 1855 from Parochial Associations for general purposes	679 2 4 1/2	
By Grand River Settlements (£112 collected) grant for Parent Soc.	28 0 0	
Paris—amount collected, appropriation undetermined	24 4 0	
Elora (£28 Gs. 1d. collected) grant towards District Missions	6 10 0	
	£1264 8 2 1/2	

HUGH C. BAKER,
Dist. Treasurer.

Hamilton, 13th March, 1856.
All which is respectfully submitted.
J. G. GEDDES,
Secretary G. & W. D.

We have the Report of the Mono Parochial Branch set up in type, but it is unavoidably crowded out for this month.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND DISABILITIES.

DESPATCHES FROM THE IMPERIAL AUTHORITIES.

Despatch No. 2, of date 4th May, 1855, is from Lord John Russell, acknowledging receipt of the Address from the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, and stating that it would receive the favourable attention of her Majesty's Government.

Despatch No. 4, of same date, is from Lord John Russell, transmitting to Sir Edmund Head copy of a letter with its enclosure, addressed by the Bishop of Toronto to Sir George Grey.

The enclosure is a long letter from the Bishop of Toronto, of the 20th January, 1855, accompanied by a Memorial addressed to him by the Clergy and Laity of the western section of the Diocese.

Despatch No. 36, from Sir William Molesworth to Sir Edmund Head, as follows:—

Downing Street,
24 September, 1855.

Sir,—With reference to Lord J. Russell's Despatch of the 4th of May last, acknowledging an Address to her Majesty from the Legislative Council and Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, praying for the repeal of such English Statutes as impede the meeting of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of England in Synod, and that the choice of the Bishops may be left to the Clergy and Laity of each Diocese.

I now enclose for your information copy of a letter received from the Law Advisers of the Crown, to whom the subject had been referred by his Lordship.

You will perceive from the terms of that letter the difficulties which must necessarily impede her Majesty's Government in dealing with that subject, regarding as it does the rights and position of members of the Church of England, not in Canada only, but throughout the colonial possessions in the empire.

Her Majesty's Government will, however, not fail to take the whole question into their earnest consideration: and, notwithstanding the legal or rather constitutional objections adverted to in the letter which I now transmit, I am myself thoroughly persuaded that the desire for freedom of action and self government on behalf of the Church of England in Canada, is just and reasonable for the reasons specified in the Address and in your despatch.

For the present, however, further delay is unavoidable. And, as it appears to me that the division of the diocese of Toronto is so much desired that it may be very inconvenient to postpone it until the general question is disposed of, I have to inform you that her Majesty's Government are prepared to take the necessary steps for this purpose, whenever required so to do, and they will recommend to her Majesty for appointment to the new bishoprics such clergymen as you may yourself designate to them after consulting with the bishop and such authorities of the Church of England in the colony, as you may think advisable, and taking such precautions as to the sufficiency of the means for endowing such a bishopric as you may judge necessary.

You will have the goodness to communicate a copy of this despatch forthwith on my part to the Bishop of Toronto.

I have, &c.,
WILLIAM MOLESWORTH.

The following is the enclosure referred to in the above despatch:—
Doctors Commons,
August 21, 1855.

H. MERIVALE, Esq.

Sir—We were favoured with your letter of the 8th of May last, in which you state that you were directed by Lord John Russell, to transmit to us a copy of despatch from the Governor of Canada, enclosing an Address to her Majesty for the repeal of such English Statutes as impede the meeting of the clergy and laity of the Church of England in Synod, and the choice of Bishops may be left to the clergy and laity of each diocese, and you were to request that we would take the same into our consideration and report to his Lordship, whether we considered that the prayer of the address or any part of it (notwithstanding the supposed statutory obstacles referred to,) could be legally granted by the Crown, if her Majesty should be advised so to do, or whether an Act of Parliament would be necessary for the whole, or any part of it, and if so, what should be the general force and scope of such Act. In compliance with your request, we have considered the question submitted to us, and beg to report—

That the Address prays for the introduction and passing of an Imperial Statute for the repeal of all such statutes as impede the meeting of the Clergy and Laity in Synod, for the purpose of framing rules and canons.

The propriety of introducing such a bill into the Imperial Parliament is a question not of law but of policy. If such an act should be passed, it is obvious that the Royal Supremacy within the colony would be most seriously and directly affected: nor is it possible to foresee all the legal or ecclesiastical consequences which might ultimately result therefrom.

The clergy might be legally empowered by royal license to meet in Synod to make rules and canons: but in order to legalize a meeting of a general assembly of the representatives of the clergy and laity, and to empower such an assembly to legislate upon the affairs of the church, an Imperial statute would be necessary.

That portion of the Address which prays that the Synod may proceed to the election of their own Bishops might be practically carried into effect without the authority of Parliament, by her Majesty issuing letters patent in favour of those reverend gentlemen exclusively who might be elected by the Synod; but this would be only a practical and indirect, and not a strictly legal method of accomplishing the object of the address.

In order effectually to legalize the election of Canadian Bishops, an Imperial Statute would be requisite, and considering that both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the officiating bishops exercise their episcopal functions in every consecration of a colonial bishop, not under authority derived from the Legislature, but directly and immediately by commission from the Crown as a portion of the prerogative, the objections to introducing any Bill into the Imperial Legislature to compel the consecration by other bishops of those who may be elected by the proposed Canadian Synod, without the royal authority, appear to us to be almost insuperable.

We consider it our duty to remark that although the Address states that the Provincial Parliament has passed an Act, "by which it is declared there shall be an entire separation between Church and State," yet that the Clergy Reserves Act (sent with the papers) only appears to do this, if at all, by way of recital, and in somewhat vague terms, and that in respect to the nomination and consecration of Bishops and their various officers, and the power and jurisdiction conferred upon and exercised by them by patent, the connection between Church and State cannot be legally said to be entirely separated in Canada.

With reference to what should be the general force and scope of an Act of Parliament, to carry into effect the prayer of the Address, we can only say that the force and scope of such an Act, in order to be effective, would necessarily extend far beyond those of any Imperial Statute as yet passed. It must authorize the meeting of a General Assembly, confer on it a permanent and corporate existence and constitution, and extensive ecclesiastical and legal power and jurisdiction, together with the means of enforcing its decisions and orders.

Such an Act must further provide for the election of Canadian Bishops by the Synod, their compulsory consecration by other Bishops, and their investiture thereupon, with all the powers and jurisdiction hitherto conferred by patent.

We are, &c.
(Signed)

J. D. HARDING,
A. C. COCKBURN,
R. BETHELL.

The following is despatch No 39, from the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, to Governor Sir Edmund Head.

Downing Street, 16th Feb. 1856.
Sir,—With reference to Sir William Molesworth's despatch of the 24th September last, transmitting to you copy of a letter from the law advisers of the Crown, explaining the obstacles which exist to compliance with the prayer of the Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, that a measure may be introduced into the Imperial Parliament to remove all obstructions that may exist, or be supposed to exist, under any statute now in force in Great Britain, to prevent the meeting of the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the United Church of England and Ireland in Canada, in Synod, for the purposes therein specified, and I wish now to communicate to you the result of the further deliberations of her Majesty's Government on this important and difficult subject.

2. It is undoubtedly plain from the opinion already communicated to you that it would be impossible to effect in a literal manner the whole of what is prayed for by the Address, without the assistance of Parliament. Nevertheless her Majesty's Government have a strong feeling that the difficulties raised by that opinion against adopting the entire recommendation of the Canadian Legislature, ought not to be permitted to interfere with the meeting of the Clergy and Laity by representative bodies, for the purpose of making rules for the management of Church affairs, not having legal force or in the nature of canons, nor contravening any known law of the Church; but binding on those who make them in the same manner as similar rules generally speaking in communities of Christians not established by law. And they are by no means satisfied that for purposes so simple any statutory aid is necessary.

3. But there are strong reasons for thinking that, if Parliamentary legislation is not strictly necessary, it is highly expedient. On the one hand, all parties, as it appears, are anxious to preserve the unity of the Church of England.—Even those who most desire the removal of the restrictions under which they conceive themselves to labour, seem to entertain no thought of separation as the final result. And yet, it would not be easy to frame a measure, and perhaps still more difficult to obtain the assent of Parliament to such a measure unaltered, which should satisfy the wishes of the Canadian Legislature, and realize the objects contemplated by that body, without affecting at least a partial separation of the Colonial and Mother Church, and encroaching on that supremacy of the Crown, which is at present the substantial bond of union. Unless I have altogether mistaken the spirit by which the members of the Anglican Church in Canada are animated, I greatly doubt whether they would not regret even the accomplishment of their own immediate wishes, if attended with such a permanent result.

4. On the other hand, it would be perhaps hardly less difficult to frame such a measure, of the merest enabling character, without in some degree compromising the principle which regards legislation on the internal affairs of Canada as belonging to its own Legislature, and not that of the empire at large. However guarded the expressions might be, there would be danger of constituting within the Province a kind of corporate body, independent in some respects of the Provincial Legislature itself.

5. Legislation in the Parliament of Canada would be open to neither of these objections. It could not impair the connection between the Anglican church of the Province and the mother

country, because any of its provisions which might involve some seeming and accidental derogation from the supremacy of the Crown, could not be considered as legally operative against those principles of general law, binding throughout the British dominions, on which that supremacy is founded. On the other hand, the Canadian Legislature could, at its discretion, give legal effect to the ordinary proceedings of the proposed Synods, so far as necessary; which it would be very difficult for Parliament to do, without infringing on the rights of that Legislature, by dealing with a strictly local subject. This seems the more essential, inasmuch as, although the Canadian Legislature has passed an Act declaring, or rather reciting, the separation of Church and State in the colony, (as I am reminded by that address,) yet those former Canadian Acts, which make provisions for the management of the Church's temporalities, are, I believe, still in force. With these, the Synod ought, no doubt, to be enabled to deal; they could not be so, except either by Parliamentary or colonial enactment, and the subject is one which clearly appertains to the latter.

6. It is, therefore, the wish of her Majesty's Government, that you should recommend the Canadian Legislature to enable the members of the Church of England, in the Province, to enjoy the freedom sought for, so far as the power of the Legislature, according to the most reasonable supposition extend, that is to say, by empowering them to meet in the manner specified in the Address, and to form Representative bodies, and giving to the rules which may be framed by such bodies for the control of the church temporalities and for the enforcement of discipline, so much of legal force as may be absolutely requisite. I am aware of the advantages which might belong to a scheme under which the binding force of such regulations should be simply voluntary: but the existence of prior legislation on the subjects referred to seems to render this impossible.

7. If such an act were passed in the Province, and either the operation of the act itself, or the proceedings of the meetings constituted under it, met with any well defined obstacles from existing Imperial law, then a difficulty would be clearly raised for removal by the interposition of Parliament here, which cannot be said to be the case, so long as the supposed objections are not easy to be understood, much less removed, from their very general nature, founded as they are only on vague opinions.

8. It would, however, be desirable, if the Act when framed was found to contain provisions appearing to you and your advisers to involve substantial difficulty, that you should reserve it for the assent of the crown.

9. Her Majesty's Government have been the more induced to suggest this course by the fact that in the colony of Victoria, where similar inconveniences are felt by the members of the Church of England, the Legislature of that Province has come to their relief by passing a law of the very nature here indicated. It is entitled "An Act to enable the Bishops, Clergy and Laity of the United Church of England and Ireland in Victoria to provide for the regulation of the affairs of the said Church," which it does by empowering the Bishop to convene an Assembly of the Licensed Clergy and Laity, and making the acts of such Assembly binding on members of the Church, as regards their membership, and no further. The Assembly is further empowered to establish a Commission for the trial of ecclesiastical offences, but not to impose any penalty, except suspension or removal from a Benefice, reserving existing rights of appeal to the ecclesiastical authorities at home. This

bill has received the sanction of her Majesty's Assent, after much deliberation, the necessity for which was incurred by the defective character of part of its provisions.

10. With regard to the question raised in the address of the election of Bishops, the opinion of the law advisers already referred to states very distinctly the objections which exist to effecting this purpose by Parliamentary enactment. Her Majesty's advisers do not the less recognize in the case of a community like that of Canada the propriety of consulting the wishes of members of the Church of England on this head.—And they believe that the practical purpose which it is sought to attain may be secured without the obvious inconveniences attendant on direct legislation for it, if they adopt the course of recommending her Majesty to be guided, as a general rule, in filling up any vacancy which may occur by such representation as she may receive from the clergy and laity of the diocese duly assembled. I cannot too distinctly disclaim, on the part of her Majesty's Government, any intention or desire of placing the Church of England in a privileged or exclusive position in Canada. But they are most anxious to meet the wishes expressed by the Provincial Legislature, as well as by the Church of England, and to free its members from all unnecessary impediments to their own voluntary internal organization, and thus to put them on an equal footing with other denominations of Christians.

11. I am aware that an answer is still to be expected from you to that portion of Sir William Molesworth's despatch, which relates to the division of the diocese of Toronto. But on the whole I thought it advisable not to delay my present communication on that account.

12. You will make known the contents of this despatch to the several Bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland in Canada.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. LABOUCHERE.

Miscellaneous.

MISSIONS IN ABYSSINIA AND PALESTINE.—The following extract of a letter from Bishop Gobat contains some interesting information respecting, especially, the religious state of Abyssinia. It is gratifying to see the activity displayed by the Jerusalem Mission, under the direction of this able and devoted servant of God, whose watchful eye continually embraces every region of his vast diocese. We hope he will be largely assisted in the prosecution of his missionary work by the contributions of the Christian public, for at no former period did the providential opening for Christian exertion in these highly interesting regions so loudly call upon all the Lord's true servants to spare no sacrifice for the advancement of His kingdom among their benighted inhabitants:—

Jerusalem, Nov. 5, 1855.

"With respect to the Abyssinian Mission, my first difficulty arose from the bankruptcy of Messrs. Strahan and Paul, but, seeing the believing cheerfulness of four of the brethren, I have determined to send them, *via* Cairo, towards the end of this month, unless I should discover in the meantime that the state of my funds absolutely prevents it.

"My first object in sending them is to disseminate the Word of God as widely as possible, whilst the King is in favor, and gives the example of having the bible read in the vernacular Amharic.

"So that even if they should not find it possible to settle in Abyssinia as missionaries, the

best of all missionaries, the Bible, may remain to witness for Christ in as many places as possible. If they can settle and work there, it is all the better, but even if they cannot, and must return, it will be little worth while to make the trial.

"I have just written to the Bible Society for a large supply of bibles to be sent immediately, that the brethren may start from Cairo, during the first part of January, before the hot season in Nubia and Sennar. Pray that God may prosper this work, which I undertake after many prayers for Abyssinia.

"The brethren are not only sound in faith, but I believe they live in faith. I am about to write my annual letter, if I can find time, and therefore I cannot enter into many details respecting this count.

"The congregation of Nablous is going on quietly and nicely under the care of Mr. Brown.

"I have sent Mr. Kawan to spend a few months with the American missionaries of Beyrout for his own improvement. I have every reason to be satisfied with him.

"The young men in Nablous begin to come out, but the priests will not allow people to give them employment. Popery is making great progress in this country by means of large sums of money, and the influence of the French Consulates.

"Sir Moses Montefiore's visit has done much harm to the Jews. I fear many will starve during the winter. Pray for them, and for us; and believe me ever faithfully yours.

ADVICE TO OPEN-AIR PREACHERS.—The Rev. Robert Miller, who was with Mr. Wesley at Winchelsea, in 1790, on the last occasion on which he preached in the open air, suggested to Mr. Wesley that he should stand with his back to the wall. This he declined, and afterwards, at dinner, he said: "Brother Miller wished me to stand while preaching with my back to a wall, forgetting, I suppose, that I preached out of doors before he was born, if not before his father was born. Many of my preachers have killed themselves for want of judgment, by preaching out of doors; they have stood so as to have nothing to collect the sound of their voice. Any person may preach out of doors with as much ease as in a chapel "if he will only stand in such a way as to have the people between him and some high building."

A NOVEL, AND YET ANCIENT PLAN of MISSIONS.—Messrs. Rayland, Fenn, and Meadows, three laborers of the Church Missionary Society in Southern India, have adopted the plan of having no abiding place, but dwelling in tents, and going from village to village, to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to as many heathens as will hear them; they seldom remain longer than a week in one place, and aim to pervade every part of it with the truth of God; they have visited hundreds of villages, and left behind them evangelical tracts and books, to remind the people of the truths they have heard. Always, and everywhere, they set forth the guilt and vileness of sin, the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, as the only hope of the sinner. Is not this apostolical? Did not Paul and his brethren do the same thing?

DR. KRAFF IN ABYSSINIA.—I have received a most satisfactory and interesting letter from my friend Dr. Krapp, respecting Abyssinia. The

Lords ways are not our ways. Dr. Krapp has traversed the whole breadth of it, a journey of about 700 English miles from the shores of the Red Sea to the banks of the Blue River. He says, "All our enemies are removed, and new rulers in Church and State are in power, and manifest a friendly disposition towards us." He makes mention of the King Theodosius, who is a most remarkable person; he has forbidden slavery and polygamy in Abyssinia; he has ordered all the Mohammedans to embrace the Christian religion within two years, or to leave the country. He means to conquer the Gallas, and make them Christians! He was most kind to Dr. Krapp, and gave him a safe conduct through the country.

A singular circumstance attended the thanksgiving at Bombay, desired by the Governor General for our successes in the Crimea. On the 2nd of December, the day fixed upon, the Parsees of their own accord met in the town hall to listen to a lecture on the freedom and blessings of the British Government, contrasted with the tyranny and oppression of Russia, drawn up and delivered by one of their countrymen—Doosathoy Framjeey. The lecture being concluded, the service of the day was wound up by the following prayer, not only remarkable for its own excellence and appropriateness, but doubly so as one of the first ever delivered by a layman in public, and in the ordinary conversational language of the hearers, the Parsee worship being conducted, and their sacred books being written, wholly in an unknown tongue, unintelligible to the worshippers, and very imperfectly understood by the great body of the priesthood themselves:

"O Almighty God, let Thy shadow always fall wherever the British rule exists. Grant it, O God, success in all its undertakings. Vanquish by the aid of Thy powerful hands all its enemies, and grant that its greatness may still rise, and its moral effects be spread over a still greater portion of the world. Receive our humble acknowledgments, O Lord, for having placed us under such a beneficent rule, and we pray to Thee to preserve us under it. Grant, O Heaven, that the Government over our head be actuated in ruling over us with still greater kindness, and its effects be spread still wider. O Almighty protector, preserve for ever secure our lives and properties as they now are—and grant that the security may be still more strengthened. Bestow, O Lord, a still more merciful heart to the Queen who reigns over us. We pray to Thee, O Almighty God, to bless her armies with success in the great war in which they are now engaged, and bring to a speedy end the great strife, by granting victory to those who have gone to shed their blood in the right cause. Grant, O gracious God, that we may continue to live as we now do, with perfect security to ourselves, under the Government in which we now are, and that we may ever be impressed with a grateful sense of the advantages which we enjoy under this benign reign. Amen."

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED TO APRIL 15.

Mrs. A. E. P., England, Vol. 3; Miss M., England, Vol. 3, W. W., Weston, in full; Rev. W. B., Trenton, Vols. 1 and 2; Rev. H. H., England, Vols. 3 and 4; F. W., Toronto, Vols. 1 and 2.

HENRY ROWSELL, PRINTER, TORONTO.