

Fund, £100 6s. for the Bishopric Endowment Account, £811 4s. 3d. for the Endowment of Parishes, £10 a donation to be funded, £35 9s. 5d. for the Colporteur account, and £813 2s. 1d. for the general purposes of the Society.

The Rev. the Rector of Liverpool, when forwarding the liberal contribution of £65 from that parish, writes:—

"I, however, cannot refrain from mentioning that, in face of the greatest scarcity that I have ever known here, our town list exceeds that of any previous year; nor can I forbear calling your attention to the annual subscription of one of my wardens, Mr. Snow. Year by year has it been gradually swelling in amount, until it has reached the sum of £7 10s. Nor is this the only instance of increasing interest, there are others who exhibit the same spirit, and whom I pray may long be spared to offer such examples to the flock. You will also observe that, while we have to regret the loss of our local secretary, E. C. Barss, Esq., and others, from various causes our list shows 79 new members have been added this present year.

With the contribution from New Dublin we have received the following account from the Rector:—

"The people are gradually learning to appreciate the D. C. S. and I hope are also learning the pleasure of contributing to God's cause. I anticipate, with God's help, a continual increase in their benefactions. With this sum, the account of which I now enclose, they have contributed to church purposes, in various ways, during the last fifteen months about £226, and have lately subscribed about £50 for a new church at La-Haye river. And yet this land is thin and rocky, and their fishery last year did not nearly reach the ordinary yield. Add to this that the provision market was higher last year by fifty per cent. than it usually is. I think, therefore, considering all things, that I have reason, like St. Paul, to 'thank God and take courage.'"

The Rev. T. H. White, of Shelburne:—"I shall however still have a small sum to forward, which I trust will make our contribution a trifle more than last year.

"This result I must confess is beyond my expectations, as our people for the most part are very poor, and from the pressure of the times and almost total failure of the fisheries along this shore many are in very distressed circumstances.

"Money is a rare sight among them, and therefore, unless they look forward (which indeed is the right and scriptural way) for the day of collection, there is one hundred to one against their having a penny at their command.

"I am thankful to say that some do thus look forward and prepare, and accordingly are found ready with an offering, an offering truly made to God, which astonishes their not poorer but less thoughtful neighbors, and puts to shame the contribution of many a one who, though rich in this world's goods, are poor toward God; who are ever ready to squander pounds on passing vanities, but think a three-copper piece is as much as they can afford for Christ and the Church.

"These are indeed melancholy truths, and, as I suppose not confined to this locality.

"May He who can dispose and turn our hearts as seemeth good to his Godly wisdom, grant that we may all both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and also give us grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same."

## DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

A painful duty attaches to the Society as trustees of Missionary Funds, of keeping a watchful eye over its expenditure, and reducing salaries wherever there seem to be the means of making them up from local resources. The measures which were in consequence adopted have led the Bishop to communicate to the Society an explanatory statement of the condition of his extensive Diocese.

The information thus conveyed is very valuable, and it seems not only respectful to the Bishop, but proper also, in consideration of the interests of the Church in Lower Canada, to give it as much publicity as possible.

"In the first place," says the Bishop, "the enormous extent of country over which our Church-population is scattered in this Diocese,—the Magdalene Islands in the Gulf being nearly six hundred miles below Quebec, and the frontier townships in the St. Francis District, about one hundred and fifty above it,—necessitates, unless our poor feeble flocks are to be left absolutely to the wolf, the maintenance of a body of Clergy which may seem somewhat out of proportion to their mere numbers, while the same aspect of things at once tells the tale of their inability to find resources, within themselves, for such a purpose,

He proceeds:—

"But in addition to the fact that our people are, in many instances, not such a body as any man can slightly regard, yet numerically too inconsiderable, as mere settlers, to support a clergyman upon the spot, and too isolated to command the stated visits of clergymen from more privileged places—they have to contend with a rigorous climate, in which not one-half of the year is open to the toils of husbandry, and they occupy portions of country, which, from natural and other causes, participate, if at all, to a very confined extent, in the advancing improvement and prosperity of the province. Most of the Church of England Missions in this Diocese are either in the backwood settlements, often with desperately bad summer-roads, or among the fishing settlements of the Gulf. With reference to the former class of Missions, the portion of the emigrants who remain in this part of Canada consists largely of those who are too poor to proceed further; and it is notorious that if they become a little prosperous they are constantly prompted to move westward, and thus plant themselves out of the limits of the Diocese."

With respect to the claims of the Diocese to help and consideration, his Lordship speaks as follows:—

"I must press upon the Society a consideration at which I have already incidentally glanced, that, although the Church of England population of this Diocese is, to a great extent, seated in backwood settlements which are, in a manner, struggling into life,—it has, under the nursing hand of the Society, been brought up to hopeful condition, and has assumed, if I may so express it, an ecclesiastical consistency which it would be grievous to think of breaking up by

any severe and sudden check. That the See is comparatively old, is evidently no argument for the discontinuance, or extensive and rapidly progressive diminution, of supplies from home, if the state of the Church within the Diocese, and the wants created by a new and continuous influx of emigration, are such as to fall, with exact propriety, within the objects of the Society's charter;—if all local resources at command are utterly inadequate even for the meagre and imperfect supply of those wants which is now provided;—if the effect of what the Society has done, and is doing, yields encouragement for the future;—and, finally, if the Diocese stands now in a conjuncture of a critical kind, and any shock given to the progress of the Church would be charged with the most disastrous effects.

"Now all these suppositions may, I believe, be safely averred to correspond to the realities of our case. With reference, in particular, to the encouraging grounds which exist for protecting and cherishing the Church in the Diocese, and the call which is presented in the insufficiency of its own resources, I will beg here to state some few details.

"We have a population of perhaps twenty-five thousand Church people, of whom between four or five thousand are in Quebec. We have forty clergymen, of whom twenty-three are Missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. We have sixty-one churches (including the chapels of the city). The number of Clergy has been increased, since my own accession to the Episcopate in 1836 from seventeen to forty,—that of Churches from twenty-one to sixty-one,—and within the same period we have gained the object of passing a Church Temporalities Act; formed our Church Society, and obtained for it the privilege of incorporation; established our College under a Provincial Charter, and procured for it a Royal Charter for conferring degrees: sent out from this College about thirty candidates for Orders, now laboring chiefly in this or the adjoining Diocese of Montreal. About two thousand persons are confirmed in each of the triennial visitations, every church in the Diocese being visited for the purpose. The proportion of communicants in our congregations is much larger than that which subsists in the mother-country. If we are enabled to keep our ground, we shall, by the blessing of God, lay a foundation in the country, firm and deep, upon which others, to enter hereafter upon our labours, may prosperously build up and enlarge the Church. We are now at a turning point in our history: for the introduction of railroads, and the development of mineral and other resources not yet made available, cannot fail to give an impulse to the country; and its institutions and religious predilections, in connexion with the advances of the Anglo-Saxon race, will be moulded by the influences which can maintain the ascendant in supplying, intellectually and spiritually, the popular want."

He next proceeds to speak of the efforts made within the Diocese:—

"I wish to draw the attention of the Society to the fact, that we are not endeavouring to ease ourselves of our proper burthens, and to let them lie upon the shoulders of our English benefactors. I do not say that we are doing or that we approach to doing, what the love of Christ ought to constrain Christians to do; for where is this done by entire communities of professed Christians? But we are doing something, and more year by year, to draw out the resources of the Church, and to put things in