

trust is formed, expending on the buildings only such funds as the generous kindness of friends may place at my disposal."

Books and maps to the value of £10 were voted for this object.

The Lord Bishop of Cape Town, in a letter dated Bloemfontein, May 3, 1850, wrote as follows:—

"I write to you a few hurried lines from this place, at which I have arrived on my way up from Cape Town to Natal. My journey to this distant part of the diocese, which is the capital of the sovereignty, a country inhabited by the Boors, lately in rebellion, has occupied nearly five weeks, and it has pleased God to bring me so far in health and safety, and without any accident, save the loss of one of my horses, which I saw die in the Karroo, at a distance from any house or water. My object in writing to you now is, however, not to give you any account of my visitation, which has been in many respects very interesting, but to bring under the notice of the Society the spiritual condition of this place, and to intreat their assistance. Bloemfontein is a village of very recent growth. When besieged by the Boors two years ago, it was merely a military post. It is now rapidly rising into an important town. A press is on its way up from Graham's Town; a newspaper is about to be started; a library to be formed. The inhabitants are nearly all English, and chiefly members of the Church.

"I was met yesterday at some distance from the village by a party of gentlemen on horseback; and shortly after my arrival received a deputation from the military and civilians, who presented me with an address expressive of their joy at my visit, and their earnest hope that it would lead to the establishment of a church and clergyman in their village. At the same time, they placed in my hands a list of subscriptions towards a church, amounting already to £200 and likely to increase to £300. With such an evidence before me of their earnest desire to have their spiritual wants supplied, I could not but encourage them to proceed. I assured them, therefore, that the Society which has already extended so fostering a hand to many parts of this diocese, would assist them also; and the object of my present letter is to make an application in their behalf. I do not think, that the proposed edifice can be erected for less than £1000. It will be built of brick, and plastered. There is plenty of stone in the neighbourhood, but the expense of a stone building would far exceed the funds which can be raised. The building will be thatched, but the timber will have to be brought several hundred miles by wagon. I do not of course presume to point out to the Society what their grant should be; but if they can afford it, I am sure £150 would be well bestowed.

"It has been very encouraging to me to see the progress made since my last visitation in that part of the diocese which I have just passed through. In one or two places churches, aided by the Society, are in the course of erection. At Graaf-Reinet there is a very correct and well-built early English church nearly completed. I hope to consecrate it in my way back to Cape Town, about six months hence. At Colesberg there is a neat early English church rapidly rising. At Beaufort the inhabitants are making a vigorous effort towards the erection of a church; and I have promised to bring their case under the Society's notice. They are situated in the very middle of the Karroo. There is no English Church within 150 miles of them. They wish to build one to hold about 150; the cost will be £1000. Towards this they have already raised about £250 and are still collecting funds. I encouraged them to hope that the Society would assist them. There is a very nice congregation already collected there, though Mr. Maynard, the clergyman, has only been a few months in the town. Divine Service is held in the Government school-room. They contribute £70 a year towards their minister's support.

"I have now in conclusion to thank the Society for the many proofs they have given of the interest they take in this destitute diocese. Were it not for their generous aid, we certainly should not be able to erect churches in this land, where the cost of labour and material is so very great. I hope to start in a few days for Natal. My route will be through a country only partially inhabited;

there is grass, however, for my horses, and I carry provisions in my cart. I hope to arrive at Maritzburg within a fortnight after leaving this place. Might I ask the Society to make me another grant of some sets of books for Divine Service? The second grant has not supplied all that have applied for them."

It was agreed to grant towards the church at Bloemfontein £150.

Towards the church at Beaufort £100.

Twelve sets of books for the performance of Divine Service, and six hundred copies of the Bible in Dutch, for sale and distribution in the diocese of Cape Town, were also voted.

A letter was read from the Rev. R. Kempthorne, St. Helena, requesting, in the name of the Committee in that island, books for three Lending Libraries; one being for soldiers.

Three libraries, to the amount of £5 each, one being from the fund of Clericus, were granted.

A letter from the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, dated St. John's, Newfoundland, was read to the meeting. The following are extracts:—

"Your letter of the 14th ult. received yesterday, would at any time have been occasion of much joy and thankfulness; but it arrived at a moment when the assurances it conveyed of the Society's sympathy, and the promises of more substantial, though not more valued, aid, by a liberal grant for the new missions in the Labrador, might seem intended and vouchsafed as special encouragements. The day before I received your communication, I had been privileged to send to Battle Harbour an experienced and, I trust and believe, faithful and earnest clergyman, who has gone forth in a true missionary spirit, having made very considerable worldly sacrifices to serve his Master and the Church on that desolate and uninviting shore. I may confess, that in so sending and instructing him, I felt some misgivings and searchings of heart, whether I was not laying too heavy a burden upon him. We, however, commended him and his cause to God, and he departed in better spirits perhaps than he left us in. You will judge, then, what special cause of rejoicing and thankfulness I found in your kind letter,—for myself chiefly, but for him also, and my poor flock on those barren shores. He took with him the plans of the first church to be erected, please God, at St. Francis Harbour, about twenty miles from Battle Harbour. This work will be both an instruction and encouragement to the people of Battle Harbour in undertaking and carrying on the greater works in that settlement—the church, the school, and the mission-house.

"I have to express my gratitude for the handsome present of books for the new churches which I have consecrated. And lastly, but perhaps I may say chiefly, do I thank the Society for the very kind encouragement held out to apply for assistance if I should be spared to commence next year my long-since-projected collegiate buildings. I can only offer in return for all this encouragement the prayers and blessings of a full heart.

"By some mistake, I am made (in the 'Ecclesiastical Gazette') to invite the members to Labrador. I only ventured to name St. John's, but shall be truly glad to meet you at either, or both."

The following communication, addressed to a member of the Society by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, dated Morpeth, New South Wales, Dec. 18, 1849, was read to the meeting:—

"When I arrived in my diocese, I found many of the churches heavily in debt, many stopped in their building, some for years, and some places, where they had been subscribing for years, and were angry and dispirited that their subscriptions had been wasted and nothing effected. Now every church in my diocese is out of debt; and many of the churches which had been sources of disappointment for years are advancing towards completion, and affording satisfaction and delight to the subscribers. So that though there was no church for me to consecrate last year, yet next year I fully expect to consecrate seven. These are of stone or brick; and the wooden ones, which I do not consecrate, will equal them in number.

"Again: when I arrived in my diocese, three large districts were vacant by the withdrawal of the clergymen into the Sydney diocese, three others of the clergy in the course of a few months died, and another, from old age and infirmity, became incapable