

REPORTS OF THE CLERGY

IN CHARGE OF PARISHES OR MISSIONS, READ AT THE MEETING
OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD, HELD IN ST. STEPHEN, JULY, 1898.

INTRODUCTION.

We have reason to believe that the issuing of the reports from the clergy on the work in their respective parishes, and the list of subscribers to the mission work of the diocese, is looked for with interest by the members of the Church. The report of this year is of more than ordinary interest because we have entered upon a new order of things. On January 1st, 1898, the long talked of union of the Diocesan Synod and the Diocesan Church Society was consummated, and the old Diocesan Society Report is a thing of the past. But the change after all is a change in name only, for the work of the Church, so well and so faithfully carried out by what was known as the Diocesan Church Society for over fifty years, has not come to an end, but will still be carried on by the Diocesan Synod, and carried on, too, on nearly the same lines as in past years. It has been found necessary to make a few changes, which, after due consideration, have been thought advisable, but they are very few, and of minor importance. One of the alterations which have been made is the changing of the close of the financial year from the thirtieth of June to the thirty-first of December. It is for this reason that the Report for 1898 has not been sent out earlier. It may be well to quote here the words of the Canon on this subject, which are as follows:

Each rector, incumbent, or missionary (and, in case of a vacancy of any parish or cure, the churchwardens) shall furnish the Secretary of the Board, on or immediately before the twentieth day of June in each year, with a statement in detail of the amount of all contributions from the parish or mission for Home Mission purposes during the year, so far as the same shall have been received or pledged; and shall furnish a final statement of such contributions to the Secretary on or before the thirty-first day of December, which final statement shall be accompanied by an account and payment in full of all contributions to the Synod for Home Mission purposes received during the year.

This is followed by a direction to the Board of Home Missions to issue a report as follows:

The Board shall, as soon as practicable, after the thirty-first day of December in each year, issue a report which shall contain a list of con-