

meanest capacity, it will be proper to analyze the extract from his Lordship's letter.

It is emphatically laid down, as "the duty of the Clergy, to require from all a contribution ACCORDING TO THEIR MEANS" The amount, not asked, but required from all to be proportionate to the means they possess of paying,—and who is to be the judge of their "means"? Not the parties themselves, but the Clergyman, who is to decide whether heads of families can pay "less" or "more" than ten shillings, and whether persons are so poor that "they can make no acknowledgment," and who is called on "TO TEACH ALL BY SUCH ARGUMENTS AS THEY CAN RESPECTIVELY UNDERSTAND" (!!!) that is, in case of refusal, by "withholding from them the Services of the Church," that "one of the first and most sacred duties of Church Membership is to provide for those who labor in the Word and Doctrine." The whole of this portion of the subject is happily illustrated by a letter from a Clergyman, a Rural Dean, to one of his parishjoners,—

"Sir,—

"I have received your subscription of six shillings, to the Church Society for 1852, and feel it my duty to apprise you of what you may not be aware, that that sum is not sufficient, by the rules of the Society, to entitle you, as head of a family, to the benefit of Church Membership, beyond that of attendance at Church, from which none are excluded. A dollar for each member of a family was the sum originally fixed in 1845, ten shillings is the lowest sum now admitted in any case, except that of extreme poverty, and twenty shillings is fixed for every head of a family who has more than one child.

"I have, &c.

N. B.—For the necessity and Scriptural obligation of these contributions, I beg leave to refer you to the Report of the Society."

Whatever opinion be entertained of the Committee of the Church Society, it would certainly be practising an unusual amount of charity to believe, that the *writer* of the far-famed Resolution was not experimenting on the Governor's credulity, when he informed his Excellency, as a proof of the Society's having "steadily advanced in the affections and confidence of Churchmen of all ranks in Newfoundland," that "its income had increased in the short space of seven years from £170 to £1800." That the Committee generally were themselves deceived, may readily be credited, when it is remembered how eagerly any gratifying intelligence is received, and that only four of the present Committee were in that of 1846, and