

The income of the parent Societies in England has been seriously affected by the burden of increased taxation for the support of the war; and they are consequently less able than formerly to assist this Diocese. It should therefore be our grateful task, upon whom this burden falls but lightly, to redouble our exertions for the support of our Church.

It is evident that the most critical period in the history of the Church in this Province is fast approaching, viz., the transition from reliance upon paternal aid to the more vigorous position of self support.

A severe trial must await those who first meet the difficulties of the change, yet we doubt not the effect will be ultimately beneficial, and the Church will be able daily to adapt itself more and more to the wants of the people and to the circumstances of the country.

We have no fear of the results of that change if only with faithful hearts, in unity and brotherly love, by zeal tempered with knowledge, we labor together in that work for which we will be held individually accountable.

We look upon the Diocesan Church Society as the means provided by Divine Providence for encountering the difficulties of our altered position, and we regard it as the centre which should unite and direct the efforts of every Churchman in the Diocese.

The Society has but one, and can have but one object in view, which is to spread abroad and maintain the true knowledge and love of God, as it has been revealed in His Word, and is set forth by that Church which he has appointed as the pillar and ground of the truth.

A review of our proceedings during the past year affords much cause for gratitude to Almighty God for the success which has attended our labors, and for encouragement to proceed steadily in the work we have begun.

We have good reason for hope that much and permanent advantage has accrued to our Church from the efforts which have been made to carry out those objects of the Society which are most pressing in their claims for attention. While the steadily increasing income affords a good practical proof that the Society retains the confidence of the Churchmen of the Diocese, and that they are daily more impressed with its importance as the means for supporting our Church and affording a bond of unity among themselves.

Your Executive Committee have much satisfaction in giving the following brief statement of the Society's receipts during 1854.

The total amount received during the past year was £1,772 6 4½, of which £899 15 6½ was for the following especial purposes:—

Bishopric Endowment Fund	£105	12	3
Endowment of Parishes	544	0	5
Widows and Orphans Fund	183	15	3½
Books from the Depos. of S. P. C. K.	43	10	11
King's College, Windsor	10	0	0
Jubilee Fund	11	4	2
To be sent to S. P. G. for Heathen	1	12	6
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