

The following incident, which served to cheer the labors of the colporteur, will be read with interest, and will afford a bright example of Christian piety. May a blessing attend the "Widow's mite:"

"Next day passed over twenty-four miles of dreary wilderness, with only one house—receipts, 1s. 3d. But a most interesting circumstance happened in the evening that richly paid me for my day of toil, like one of those sunny spots in life, to which we can ever look back with pleasure, and I am sure I will remember this as long as reason keeps her seat. In the house in which I put up for the night was a poor old widow, living with her son. I was struck with the appearance of the woman when I first saw her, and when I came to talk with her, I found her quite intelligent; and while the family were out about their evening work, she told me something of her life. She was the daughter of a soldier, and spent her early days in Halifax. She has since seen many changes. For the last three years she has not seen a Church Minister; but she is a religious woman, and devoted to the Church, whose ministrations she enjoyed in her earlier days. She said she thought within herself that she, poor and destitute as she was, must and could do something for the Church, so she resolved that one tenth of all that passed through her hands should be dedicated to the Lord. Since then God had blessed her in all that she did, and her savings now amounted to fifteen shillings, which she asked me to receive at her hand. The thing was so extraordinary and unexpected, that I did not know what to do. I told her I would take it and give her books for it, but she said that would not be carrying out her intention. She intended it as a freewill offering to the Church. I then told her I would take it as a donation from her to the D. C. S. She said she was satisfied, and gave me the money, with a prayer that it might be the means of doing some good. If each donor to the Society would give in the same spirit as this poor widow gave in, what a blessing the Society would be; and if each member of our Church could feel as I felt when I received that "poor widow's mite," knowing her circumstances, how much would the funds of our Society be increased? I left her in the morning, with a promise that a Report of the Society should be sent her, and I made the best of my way down through Dalhousie."

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

With reference to this object of the Society, the committee have much pleasure in stating that the effort made during 1855 to make some provision for the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy, has been as successful as we could expect. Our hearty thanks are due to those who joined in raising the £1000 as a basis for the scheme.

At the end of 1855 the committee had received £1013 11 4, including the premiums of those clergymen who took out certificates. Since then the amount has increased to about £1250. Thirty eight clergymen hold certificates.

The committee to whom this matter was intrusted have made their own report, which we lay before you.

The committee cannot refrain from alluding to a kindred subject with the above, viz., the condition of Clergymen whom age or infirmity may compel to retire from active labor in the Church. They are obliged in most cases to live upon so small a pittance that it is utterly impossible for them to make any provision against such a calamity.

After spending his years of usefulness in the service of his Church, he might, at the time of life when least able to endure hardship, when "the grasshopper becomes a burden," be turned off in poverty as a dependant upon others.

Though these cases, yet they may be disposed of.

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