

ity of 146 to 62, being supported by members of both sides of the House. Thus the principle was decidedly adopted, but in committee it was found to be difficult so to frame the clauses as to accomplish the desired object without doing more than was intended, and consequently the bill has been dropped.

Under these circumstances, I have thought it my duty to summon an assembly, taking as our guide the bill past last year by the House of Lords, by which we shall be governed, so far as it may be applicable, until other regulations are framed.

Every Clergyman licensed in the diocese will be entitled to a seat, but deacons will not have a vote. The lay delegates must have been communicants for at least twelve months preceding the day of election, and it will be your duty to take care that no person is proposed who is not thus qualified. The election may be made by the same persons, and in the same manner, as the election of Churchwardens, and two Lay Delegates may be elected for each district forming a separate cure of souls.

You will immediately give notice to your parishioners of the intended election, which must take place before the last day of September. The votes must be taken in writing, and immediately after the election you will forward to the registrar of the Diocese, Henry Pryor, Esq., a list of the persons proposed, with the number of votes recorded for each, and a certificate that the persons elected are duly qualified communicants as aforesaid. The poll book, or list of voters, must be sealed up when the result has been declared, and placed in the hands of the registrar on or before the day of visitation.

I trust that you will endeavor to make arrangements as will ensure a fair and impartial representation of the opinions of your parishioners; and I pray that in all our proceedings, connected with this important matter, we may individually and collectively be guided by the Holy Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things.

We hope to be able to provide accommodation for many of the Clergy, through the hospitality of Churchmen in Halifax, and I have to request you to inform the Secretary of the D. C. S., without delay, whether you will require such accommodation.

I am, Rev. and dear sir,
Your affectionate brother,
H. NOVA SCOTIA.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of a Sermon preached at an Ordination of Priests and Deacons, held by the Provisional Bishop of New York in Trinity Church, New York, on the 2d July, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Quebec. The following prefatory note will best explain the occasion upon which it was preached.

PREFATORY NOTE.—The following sermon was preached at the special request of Bishop Wainwright. When it was ascertained that the proposed ordination would bring together a larger number of candidates for the holy ministry than had ever been ordained upon a single occasion in the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, the Bishop deemed it a favorable opportunity to add one more to those social ties, of a religious nature, which have been drawing together, in so happy a manner, and with such happy results, two Churches standing to each other in the near relation of mother and daughter. He therefore addressed the senior bishop of the Colonial Church of England on this continent upon the subject,

and requested him on this ground, as well as on the score of the friendly relations that have subsisted between them for a quarter of a century, to be present, and take part in the ordination services. To this request the Bishop of Quebec most readily assented, and made arrangements for a temporary absence from his diocese. His visit to New York was a source of much satisfaction to friends whom he had formerly known here, and to others of the clergy and laity, who gladly embraced the opportunity to become personally acquainted with one whose faithful and successful services in the Colonial Church, both as Archdeacon and Bishop, had long commanded their highest respect.

We trust that our readers will duly weigh the statements contained in the report of the Committee on Clerical Salaries, presented to the Convention of Western New York; conceiving them to be as applicable to many of our Canadian Missions, as they can be to any Diocese, we make no excuse for giving the following lengthy extract from the report, for which we are indebted to the *New York Church Journal*, a Church paper:—

The subject of the inadequacy of the Salaries of the Clergy, and the neglect, in many instances, of the congregations to pay promptly the amount stipulated, is one in regard to which the clergy feel a delicacy in speaking. Many of them will suffer rather than complain, and hence this matter is with great propriety referred to a Committee of Laymen. In older parishes, the salaries were settled at a period when the country was comparatively new, when the means of living were cheap, and the congregations were feeble and poor. The salaries thus fixed have, in most cases, remained the same, notwithstanding the increased cost and expense of living, and the greater ability of the congregations to pay. Parishes more recently established have generally taken the amount paid by the older ones as their standard; and where an increase has been made, it has borne no proportion, or very little, to the increased expense of living. Thus it can be shown that in many places in this Diocese, in the last twenty years, the price of almost every article necessary to the support and comfort of the family has doubled in price—and yet it would be difficult, in the judgment of your Committee, to show an instance where the salary of the clergyman has been doubled, or even increased in anything like a fair proportion.

Examples could be pointed out where statistics would show that not only the cost and expense of living, but the ability of the congregation has doubled in the period above mentioned, and yet the salary of the clergyman remains unchanged.

That the clergy have a right to a competent maintenance, will not, we think, be questioned by any one. They spend their time, their money, and labor, in order to qualify themselves to minister in spiritual things for the benefit of the people. In the discharge of this high and holy duty, they forsake all other means of procuring a livelihood. This sacrifice appears to be necessary, and most certainly is demanded by the people. An actual benefit is conferred upon them, (the people,) and it is only an act of simple justice that payment should be rendered in return.

That there has been so little attention paid to this subject—that the laity generally of our

Church have been so sadly deficient in their duty, your committee conceive to be owing to two causes:

1st. That Christians have not a proper estimate of the duty of devoting to God a reasonable proportion of the money and means which he has placed in their hands and at their disposal. They acknowledge that they are bound to serve God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength, but seem to think that this is consistent with giving him a very small, exceedingly small portion of their money, and even that very reluctantly.

The means adopted for raising the salaries of the clergy, are such as to cause men to ignore the fact that giving in proportion to their income is a solemn religious duty. The matter is regarded, even by devout Christians, as a mere business transaction. They hire a pew with simple regard to its eligibility, and without reference to their duty to give according to their ability. Or, when the salary is raised by subscription, there are those who will give liberally or sparingly, according to their personal regard for the clergyman, not making it a duty to give according to their means, as God has prospered them, to the support of the clergyman whom the parish may have chosen for its rector. Whereas every Christian should feel himself conscientiously bound to set apart a portion of his money as an offering to God for the support and spread of the Gospel.

2. The second cause of the inadequate support of the clergy, the committee conceive to lie in the neglect arising from thoughtlessness on the part of Christian people. In many instances, all the members of the vestry do not even know what salary their pastor is to receive—and we may say, that in most cases, the majority of the congregation do not know, and do not interest themselves to inquire or ascertain. This subject is committed as a mere matter of business to the vestry, and thus it happens that a clergyman may be deeply beloved by his people, to whom no tidings could be more unwelcome than that their pastor must leave them; and yet the members of the congregation never seem to think that they have it in their power, by a little exertion and sacrifice, to promote their rector's comfort, and render his stay permanent, and conduce to the prosperity of their parish, by preventing the necessity of frequent "clerical changes."

In conclusion, as your committee is required by the words of the resolution, to "make such a recommendation to this convention, as in their judgment may tend to remove the difficulty," they would beg leave to offer the following suggestions:—

1st. That as the inadequacy of clerical support is owing in no small degree to the fact that the congregations are not aware of the magnitude of the evil, and in many cases, not even of its existence, it is proposed, if the convention shall deem the matter contained in this report of sufficient importance, that the ministers of the various parishes be requested to read this document to their several congregations, so that the subject may be laid before every parish in the diocese.

2. That hereafter, in making the annual parochial reports, there be inserted the amount of salary stipulated for the support of the clergyman, together with the amount received from the missionary fund, if any, and also the amount of arrearages, if any—and that hereafter the secretary be directed to leave a blank for that purpose in the printed forms for parochial reports.

3d. That this convention earnestly recommend to each and every parish to pay their minister semi-annually, in advance; thus ena-