

and the mistakes of the young might be touched tenderly and kindly, would be essentially advanced, and thus give unity and force to the Church as a body in all her proceedings.

These are some of the grounds which induced me to think of Rural Deans as a most useful element of Church Government, and very much in accordance with the parental superintendence of the Church in her primitive days.

With such views and expectations I selected ten Presbyters of ability, zeal, and long standing in the Diocese, for Rural Deans, purposing to increase their number should the benefits looked for be realized, and the duties (which are gratuitously discharged) prove, from the great extent of some of the Deaneries, too onerous.

The Rural Deans, with the Archdeacons, will constitute a standing body always watching over the wants, the perils, the discipline and well-being of the Church.

Although the Reports of my Rural Deans are not yet all before me, I have great reason to be well satisfied with their disinterested services. They have been in general well received by the Clergy and Congregations of the Missions which they have visited, and by their kindness, discretion, and practical knowledge, have smoothed many difficulties, and promoted in various ways, the healthful position of several parochial localities.

Permit me to add, that if in any case a Rural Dean has not been received with the cordiality to which his office and kindly visit entitled him, it must have arisen from some unfortunate misconception; but it should be remembered, that a willing obedience in all things lawful is our bounden duty, and especially required in this Diocese, surrounded as we are by so many difficulties requiring a firm and cordial co-operation.

#### THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

You are aware that our Theological Seminary at Coburg, (which has been conducted with so much ability, and has been of so great benefit to the Church, by the great number of