

the number of Church Members in this Province, but he would hope that in this particular the state of things would be improved next year. He desired to make a few remarks on another point—the Clergy Reserves. This vexed question had disturbed the country, only because it was not sufficiently understood. The Church had been too ready, in time past, to give way for the sake of peace; in faith too that the former settlement of the question had finally disposed of it. The Church had only to put forth her strength, and the rights of the Church would be maintained. All that was necessary was that Churchmen should be well informed as to the extent to which they were interested in it,—the manner in which they were connected with it. Let us trust, under God, to our own resources—to our own exertions. It would be unwise to place dependence on any who were likely to disappoint us; that would not be assuming the position which the Church should occupy, whilst an indiscreet dependence on others would diminish the weight of our own opinion and efforts. Let a thorough knowledge of the question be diffused, and, he doubted not, it would be settled to the satisfaction of all Church people.

Moved by Rev. H. Patton, seconded by Dr. Paget:

2. That the encouraging measure of success which has attended the operations of the Society during the past year, should call forth feelings of gratitude and devout acknowledgment to Him, without whose blessing all human effort is unavailing, and that these should be evinced by greater individual zeal and exertion on the part of the Members of the Society.

Rev. HENRY PATTON, R.D., though suddenly and unexpectedly called upon to propose the resolution in his hand, felt great pleasure in introducing it. As a meeting of Christian men, all present must feel that the success which had attended the efforts of the Society was due to our heavenly Father, without whose aid nothing effectual could be accomplished. "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it." We are feeble, and should look to Him for assistance and for a blessing on our efforts. We have been highly favoured in many respects in this Province by the Almighty, and we should therefore show by our actions that we fully recognise from whom we receive them. The Church Society is in this colony most closely connected with the Church of Christ. When twelve years since, our Venerable Diocesan, with far-seeing wisdom, first established this Society, he hailed it as a truly noble work—a work designed to exercise a most important effect on the destiny of the province. And the more carefully he studied the workings of the Society, the more fully assured he felt of its vast importance. All its objects were praiseworthy, and its provisions were adequate to the ends required. All that was necessary was, that they should be carried out with zeal and earnestness of spirit. Now he would ask what part of our Blessed Saviour's conduct was especially to be imitated by his followers? Is it not

his benevolence? And it should be our earnest endeavor to follow humbly in our Saviour's footsteps. He came upon earth to spread the knowledge of himself, and it is a great privilege for us to be able to spread the same divine knowledge—a knowledge which contained in itself peace, comfort, and happiness here and hereafter. He felt much encouraged at the great measure of success which had attended the Society, for he found the income increased year after year in a remarkable degree. This year there was an increase, he was happy to find, of £1,788 over the previous year. A most pleasing feature in the Report that had been read were the instances given of the munificence of private individuals. He felt cheered and encouraged at the examples recorded of Christian liberality with respect to the widows and orphans' fund and that noble institution Trinity College. They were solemn appeals to those blessed with this world's goods—"Go and do thou likewise."

Moved by G. W. Allan, Esq., seconded by Rev. T. Bousfield.

3. That, as it must be apparent to all, that the General Purpose Fund is wholly inadequate to meet the urgent and increasing demands made upon it; and as it is stated in the Report that no attempt has hitherto been made to carry out one of its objects, viz., the augmentation of the incomes of the poorer Clergy, it is the opinion of this meeting that greater exertions should be made to increase the number of those eligible to become incorporated members, as well as an additional number of associated members.

Mr. ALLAN felt sure that it was only necessary to reflect on the nature of the demands made on the General Purposes Fund to see the importance of making every possible exertion to sustain that fund. It was designed not only to increase the means of the poorer Clergy, but to supply additional Missionaries. If new schools are to be built, new churches erected, glebe lands purchased, the Bible, Prayer book, and other books and tracts circulated, all this must be done or aided through this fund. At no period was clerical suffering more severe than now. At no other time had the expense of living more increased than within the last twelve or eighteen months; and it would be acknowledged that on no class did this press more heavily than on the Clergy. He could not but consider it as a blot upon Churchmen if, when everything is prospering around us, there be not a liberal spirit in contributing to the support of God's Ministers. It was a painful thing, too, when the Parent Society felt itself unable to meet an application from some of the more remote and destitute localities. The resolution, he was persuaded, would have been more effectual had it been preserved in its original shape, with a requirement that every incorporated member should pay in the whole of his subscription, (£1 5s.), to the Parent Society. There can only be 300 incorporated members in connection with this Society; and it surely was not too much to ask the whole of their sub-

scriptions to the Parent Society. He would earnestly deprecate everything likely to impair the efficiency of the Parochial Associations, through the agency of which, in an eminent degree, the claims of the Society are brought home to the hearts of all; but let each incorporated member give to the General Fund his five dollars, and then contribute something additional to the Parochial Association. He could not admit that Churchmen were not as liberal in religious offerings as the members of any religious community, but the contribution should be more extended; he conceived that if there were more dollars and fewer pounds, the resources of the Society would be more prosperous. He hoped the Clergy would pardon him for the liberty of suggesting that on them mainly it depends to bring their people into a train of consistent giving—teaching them that to give is not merely a duty, but a privilege,—and that, in this way, more general contribution may be ensured. Those who refused to sustain as they should the Church's ministrations are not worthy to be called her members. With such increased prosperity as this country had been enjoying of late, increased responsibility was entailed; and surely in view of earthly advancement like this it could not be deemed a consistent state of things that in a city like Toronto, for example, Church accommodation should be so deficient. Ought we not to learn a lesson of warning from parts of the United States, where Ministers had been forced to abandon their sacred vocation and have recourse to secular pursuits for a livelihood? He should be glad to see Churchmen more generally deny themselves, and from year to year lay aside a sum to be contributed towards forming a permanent fund for investment. When Incorporated members were pressed, as he thought they should be, to send in their subscription unbroken to the Parent Society, they should remember that their duty did not centre wholly in local objects; but that this society is essentially a Missionary Society; that it is the almoner and the steward of the Church; and if the gospel is to spread through the land, to an extent at all commensurate with our spiritual necessities, Christian liberality must be manifested much more cordially and more widely in the shape of contributions than now.

The Rev. T. BOUSFIELD felt indebted to the mover of the resolution for impressing upon the respectable assembly present that it was not a deficiency of wealth in the country that was to be dreaded, so far as the Church was concerned. It was satisfactory to know this—to be aware that even if we were sacrilegiously despoiled of our Church property, it only required vigour and earnestness amongst our own people to make up the deficiency. There were some important matters he should like to make a few remarks upon at this influential meeting; because until the Synod was fully organized he regarded the