

Reports of the Work in England. The Editor would be very grateful to secretaries and others who have any work in hand for the diocese if they would send him some account of what they have been able to do. To see such accounts is an encouragement to work and an incentive to further efforts. We have "local branches" in ten different places, but out of these ten only two or three have ever sent anything like a report of what they have done in order that they may encourage others.

THE BISHOP.

WE have received a copy of the Bishop's address to his Synod, the first part of which is mainly the same as the letter which he addressed to the members of the Association at their annual meeting and which was printed in our last number. There are two extracts, however, which the members of the Association may be interested to see. The first is what he said on the subject of the Bicentenary of the S.P.G.

"During the next twelve months the Venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel will be celebrating its Bicentenary. It has been the handmaid of the Church for two centuries, and has done splendid work for God, for the Church, and for the Empire. Looking at our own part of the world only. On work in British North America alone it has expended nearly £1,900,000. Our own Diocese between the years 1884 and 1899 received the sum of £20,738. But for its generous help we should have been in a very different position from that which we occupy to-day. Surely we lie under the very deepest obligations to a society which has done so much for us. Our past progress indeed, has been so largely due to the help received from this Venerable Society that we feel it hard to be called upon to disagree with its present policy towards us. But no dissatisfaction with, or lament over, its change of policy can ever deprive us of our gratitude for its aid, and even for its present greatly reduced grant. Its help is still most essential for the maintenance of our work.

"I trust that there may be throughout the Diocese a general hearty and thankful celebration of the Bicentenary."

Our second extract is on the subject of the South African War, the special interest in this extract arising from the fact that the Bishop is a Colonist and speaks a Colonist's mind.

"Because of our Empire's righteous and most solemn war, the eyes of the world have for the past seven or eight months been turned on South Africa, and how much more the eyes, the hearts, and the sympathies of the citizens of the British Empire.

"It is a war in which we were not the aggressors. We did not declare war. We were not prepared for it. The conflict, however, was inevitable. Strong in the righteousness of our cause, we were obliged to enter upon it. At the outset we suffered serious reverses. We watched with the greatest anxiety the fortunes of the war from day to day. How breathlessly we scanned the daily war bulletins.