

portance, nay, the sacred duty of paying the debt has hitherto prohibited any other application of the funds. The rental of the School-house Lot to which £15 was applied it will be remembered, was guaranteed by the Association when it was deemed desirable to secure the ground.

With peculiar satisfaction your Committee now turn to the Report of the Parent Society for the past year, which again records a steady improvement in the working and income of the Society. The excess in the *latter* over the previous year is set down at no less than £1788. [See page 12.] The Report states, "The fact that the income of the Society during the past year was much larger than it has ever been, is not the only one which affords matter for congratulation. New Parochial Branches had been formed, and the Reports which have been received from some of them, shew results which could hardly have been expected by the most sanguine well-wishers of the Society: others in consequence of certain local engagements which had been previously entered into could remit but little to the Society in this the incipient stage of their existence, but they all give good promise for the future."

"These results will, your Committee hope satisfy all the members of the wisdom of the Society in adopting the recommendations of the Committee, which in the commencement of the year 1852 was appointed to devise the best means of reforming and giving vitality to it, and also those suggested by the Special Committee, which in February 1853 was selected to