

diocese, chiefly in Launceston and Hobarton. Missionary clergymen are much needed, especially for the agricultural and pastoral districts. The Bishop here entered into some details respecting the position of the State Aid question in Tasmania.

• "THE DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE.

"This bishopric was established, in a great measure, at the instigation of the late Bishop of Sydney, through the liberality of Miss Burdett Coutts. The proportion of members of the Church of England is smaller in this diocese than in any other—the clergy twenty eight in number." "The difficulty of obtaining clergymen from England, and the want of provision for the colonial pastor on his retirement, make the position of a South Australian clergyman a somewhat trying one, nevertheless the difficulties are cheerfully met." A gratifying fact is that the debts upon all the churches, have been all but discharged. It has been determined to petition Her Majesty for the establishment of a Provincial Synod and the constitution of an appellate tribunal. Two efforts are being made in different quarters of South Australia, for the conversion of the Aborigines.

"THE DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE.

"Here, with a population of half a million, the Church of England is supposed to have from one-third to one-half, or 200,000 souls, belonging to its communion. Including clergy and lay readers, there is but one religious instructor to every 2500 persons. In order to preserve the same proportion between clergy and population as Adelaide, there ought in this diocese to be 160 clergymen. The population of Victoria is, however more densely packed than in other colonies, so that the disadvantage is not so great as appears. Still forty or fifty additional religious instructors might be very usefully employed. His lordship then appealed to the laity in this behalf.

"THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN AUSTRALIA GENERALLY.

"He desired to impress upon his hearers the immense importance of the Church of England, as a social and national institution, as an element of stability and order, as a witness to the value of a learned education, and as a means of preserving and cultivating those tastes which were essential to a nation's progress....The Church is now on her trial. She is capable of adapting herself to the circumstances of this country, and the circumstances in which her children find themselves. That she may be preserved as a blessing in these lands, that she may hold a forward place in their evangelization, and that disincumbered of the weight of tithe, church-rate, and possibly Government aid, she may not be outstripped in the race of Christian well-doing, must be the prayer of every lover of Christ's Gospel and this country's good. But especially incumbent is it on her own children to place her in that commanding position in which her influence may be most extensively felt, and her blessings most widely diffused."