

homesteads of America into a dreary wilderness. These are, indeed, priceless blessings to us; blessings for which we cannot be sufficiently grateful to the Almighty Hand which bestows them.

At our last Annual Meeting here, there was a subject discussed which, though I shall say but a few words regarding it, I am yet unwilling to pass over in silence. The subject to which I allude was the proposition that Prince Edward Island be erected into an Episcopate. During the course of last summer we had the advantage and privilege of a visit among us from the Chief Pastor of our Church—our excellent and worthy Bishop Dr Binney—whose opinion on this matter was of much importance. At a meeting where he presided, the difficulties which offered to the formation of this Colony into a separate Diocese appeared too formidable to be at present overcome; and I think, therefore, I am correct in saying that in the meantime at least, the project is abandoned. I think, however, that the impression prevailed, nor was it discountenanced by His Lordship, that it rested with ourselves to secure, what was next best to a Bishop of Prince Edward Island, visits more frequent than once in three years from the Bishop of Nova Scotia. You are aware that the salary of His Lordship is very small; it is altogether inadequate to the calls upon him, and were he not in a manner independent of his salary, his usefulness would be greatly circumscribed, and these visits trench greatly on his means. I may add they encroach not a little, also, on the too narrow incomes of men whose active usefulness and whose unrewearying labors deserve a better return than they receive. The case, therefore, is a very simple one. If you desire to see the Bishop more frequently, you must bear a share of the burden, and at least shield him from pecuniary loss. Speaking for Mrs Dundas and myself, I can assure you we shall cheerfully contribute our share; and moreover, I need scarcely add, that, so long as I am spared to fill among you the honorable position I enjoy, my house will be the Bishop's home in the Island, and a hearty welcome will ever await him. You will, I am sure, listen with much satisfaction to the report which is about to be read to you. You will gather from its interesting narrative renewed confidence in the efforts of those self-denying men whose labors are there recorded, and who, amid many struggles, much privation, and frequent discouragement, are still beckoned onward and supported by the example of that glorious Master in whose footsteps they are treading, and by the remembrance of the noble cause in which they are engaged.

The Rev. Secretary then read a more than usually interesting report, and the financial statement made by the Treasurer showed considerable increase over the ordinary receipts of other years.

The following resolutions were then passed *nem. con.*, after having been first earnestly and eloquently spoken to by the proposers and seconders:—