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"Ad profectum sacrosanctæ matris ecclesiæ."

SCARCITY OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

Since writing the article on this subject which appeared in our last number we have been gratified in perceiving that the Executive Committee of the Diocesan Synod have given notice that one of the matters to be proposed for the consideration of the Synod in July next, will be, "To consider the best means to be adopted for increasing the supply of Candidates for the Ministry." One of the great benefits to be derived from the meetings of our Synod is the strengthening of feelings of mutual interest between the different parts of the Diocese. While Parishes continued in the isolated condition in which they have long been placed, it was almost natural that they should feel little or no interest in the welfare of others. But with more intimate intercourse comes greater interest in one another; and greater anxiety to promote that religious prosperity of the parts, which invariably produces its effect on the whole. We trust that this important subject will receive the most earnest attention of the Synod, and that some systematic action may be adopted for the furtherance of the object. In the meanwhile we beg to offer a few brief suggestions in continuation of our subject.

In our last we referred to one or two of the principal causes which, in our judgment, were operating against the increase of Candidates for the Ministry. Our remarks were designed to be suggestive, rather than exhaustive. We must now treat the remedies in a similar manner.

The most obvious remedy for the present undesirable state of things is the removal of the first of the causes alluded to, by providing an adequate maintenance for our Clergy. Of course this is a matter which rests almost entirely with the laity, who indeed, are principally interested; for no one can be blind to the fact that merely considered as a means of obtaining a livelihood, the Ministry is the poorest of Professions; the same amount of preparation, the same unremitting diligence which is required of most of our Clergy, would place a man of ordinary talents far above the reach of want in any other occupation. And we should remember that God may be served just as completely in the counting-house, or in the work-shop, as in the pulpit. Many an earnest man might be deterred from entering the Church, lest the want of suitable provision for his necessities should so hamper him with cares and difficulties, as actually to interfere with that consecration of himself to God's service, which was his most cherished desire. What is required is that the Laity should have a clearer and more abiding sense of their duty and their privilege in this matter, that they should entertain more liberal views, and that they should be rigidly punctual in the discharge of their obligations. They have no difficulty in acting thus in their secular affairs. What is the course