

church is to shew herself a loving mother who can care for her children in their years of weakness until they are become strong and self-reliant, able to provide for their own spiritual needs, and doing what they can to enlarge her borders. The Board of Home Missions should have a greatly increased income, that the claims made upon its funds may be met and responded to; and the Church Endowment Fund ought to have an added capital, enough to allow of keeping of all three of the classes of the clergy full, according to its original purpose. But besides these regular means of helping on the work of the church, I give it as my opinion that the Bishop of this Diocese ought to have such a sum placed at his disposal, as would allow him to put a clergyman at once in charge of a sub-divided parish, or at a place where in his judgment a mission ought to be opened, and to take care of him while he was working up the people to the position of a self-sustaining parish. I know well enough that money is not the only nor the chief thing that we need, but men of spiritual and intellectual power who can feed and provide for the Lord's family, who will seek after His sheep, who are in the midst of this naughty world, that they may be saved through Christ forever; but, however deeply read such men may be, to whatever heights of spiritual knowledge they may have reached, however great may be their zeal and self-denial, they must be fed and clothed and housed, and these they cannot be without money. And therefore, it is that I plead with you for the means to do this special work, as well as that which is furthered by the Board of Home Missions and the Church Endowment Fund.

I am very grateful to the members of the Church Women's Missionary Association for the earnestness with which they have continued their work, so that this year they have been able to put at my disposal \$1025, instead of, as in former years, \$900, as well as to send sundry boxes to supply in some measure the necessities of underpaid clergy. I am thankful to be able to announce that a Branch of the Association has been set on foot at Amherst, so that we would have two branches affiliated with the Parent Association in Halifax. But why should not the example of Truro and Amherst be copied elsewhere, and branches be established in Yarmouth and Windsor, in Lunenburg, Liverpool and Annapolis, in Sydney and Charlottetown? I hope that ere long I may be able to say to Truro and Amherst, "your zeal hath provoked very many."

The general work of the Church makes us think of the clergy, to whom I am glad to make my acknowledgments for the good and efficient work which they so faithfully endeavour to accomplish. During my recent journey along the Western Shore for the purpose of administering Confirmation, I have been greatly struck with the appearance and demeanor of the classes presented to me for that Apostolic Rite, giving evidence of the pains and care taken by their Pastors to rightly prepare them; and their general solemnity and earnestness testified to the teaching they had received, and their own sincerity.

I feel sure that this proof of labor, afforded by the clergy of the Rural Deaneries of Lunenburg and Shelburne will be manifest all over the Diocese, and to the fact that the clergy have everywhere tried to do their best during my absence is due, in large measure, the little injury which has been sustained by my being away so long. Our ranks have, however, been depleted, both by death and removal. We mourn to-day the loss we have sustained by the death of Rev. J.