

VICES, they confidently anticipate a large increase during the ensuing year.

But while your Managing Committee feel a due anxiety that the funds of the association should be sustained, they crave the prayers of this meeting that Almighty God would be pleased to bless with his richest blessings the labours of those who are engaged in the service of the Church Society, in building up the Redeemer's Kingdom in this Diocese.

All which is respectfully submitted,
T. B. FULLER, Secretary.

St. Catherine's,
2nd March, 1856.

DIocese OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

This Society has now attained its Twentieth Anniversary, and as each year brings about the period of our annual meetings, the hope is strengthened that a blessing from above rests upon the work in which we are engaged.

During the past year the usual Missionary stations have been occupied: except in two instances, where there was an unavoidable interruption for a few months, the ministrations of the Church have been regularly performed in fourteen missions, by the aid afforded by this Society. In addition to this, the Lord Bishop has provided an assistant in the extensive Mission of Saint Stephen, in whose labours a deep interest has been substantially manifested.

By the grants made in aid of Churches, the one at Campobello, assisted by the liberality of a Layman, whose zeal deserves our special thanks, and in every way suited for its holy purpose, has been finished and consecrated, and the Stone Church in the lower part of Douglas has been brought to completion. The addition and improvements in the Parish Church of Lancaster have been also carried out.

By the sums appropriated for books, the grants to the Local Committees have been supplied by the depositories, and the sales have been as great as the limited stock would allow. Little can be done to supply the increasing demand for bibles, prayer books, and other publications of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, until the Society can afford to place a larger amount at the disposal of the Depository Committees.

Messrs. McMillan of St. John having undertaken the publication of the Diocesan hymn book, the grant made last year for this purpose was not called for. The publishers have some time since completed their engagement to the satisfaction of the Lord Bishop and the Committee, and have sold already more than one thousand copies of the work.

By the kind Providence of God, no fur-

ther demand has been made this year on the fund for the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy.

As yet in two instances only has provision been required for this object; an object which so readily appeals to the best sympathies of all the members of the Society.

The Lord Bishop has afforded aid in two cases from the grant made to assist in the education of the children of certain Clergymen. The Society, it is hoped, will keep in view this most desirable object, in which many influential members of the Church have expressed a deep interest.

Thus we find good reason to give thanks to our Heavenly Father for having permitted us to do even so little for the glory of His Holy name, and for the benefit of his Church. But what we are doing only opens a greater work to our view. On this, our Twentieth Anniversary, it has been truly said our work has only just begun. It is begun, either to dwindle away, or be carried on by much united exertion with success, at a period to which those who come after us will look back as one of the most important in the history of the world. Among the marked features of the present time, is a general feeling of restlessness and instability with regard to all that effects this present scene. Who then does not feel that it is a good thing to be engaged in the furtherance of such lasting objects as this Society has in view? While man's projects excite for a while, but change and fail, the means we here employ point to the attainment of something more enduring. The mind finds here something worthy of exertion. While one with another we seek the good of those for whom Christ died, peace is brought to our own hearts, and good will prevails around us. Our meeting together, on an occasion like the present, creates a lasting impression for good. Those necessarily engaged in worldly pursuits have their attention called to those high ends for the promotion of which the Creator and Saviour of the world came from heaven to earth. The lonely Missionary, toiling all the year round in remote districts, is encouraged by your assistance, though far more by your sympathy and co-operation. The members of the Church throughout the Diocese, scattered indeed, and comparatively few, begin to feel there is a bond of unity among us, something in common for which we may all act and work together. Our efforts may be small, the result may be imperfect, but faith looks up for that blessing from on high, which can make our "few leaves" suffice for as many "thousands." Through the means

of this Society, God may be pleased to guide many of the weak, the ignorant and the erring, along the narrow way that leadeth to Eternal Life.

These expectations are very much strengthened by the Reports of the Missionaries, and of the various Local Committees.

Thus, we find the whole amount contributed to the different objects of the Society, as follows: Missionary Visits, £1 16s. 6d.; Sunday and other Schools, £1; Books and Tracts, £1 3s. 6d.; Churches and Chapels, £3 4s. 6d.; Aged Clergy Fund, £2 15s.; Widows and Orphans' Fund, £26 10s. 6d.; General Purposes, £1169 18s. 3d.; Total, £1206 8s. 2d.

It is truly most encouraging, that, notwithstanding the depression in all pursuits of industry, so frequently alluded to in the preceding reports, that from so many quarters we have received an increased amount of contributions. In St. John and the neighbouring Parish of Portland, this increase, above the returns of last year, amounts to the sum of £113 7s. 8d. Had the like exertion been made in every parish, we cannot doubt but a much larger amount had been placed at the disposal of the Society.

On this subject it is well to be reminded that we need no longer look elsewhere for assistance in extending the ministrations of the Church among us. Too long already have we depended upon the bounty of our brethren in the Mother Country. It is with the Church in this matter, as in the affairs of private life, dependence on others damps individual exertion. Our energies soon become paralyzed when we leave to others what is clearly appointed for ourselves to do. Besides this, we lose all the blessings which ever attend the right performance of the duties to which we are called.

Never can the Church here, or elsewhere throughout the Colonial Empire of Great Britain, repay the debt of gratitude due to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, for the bounty it has hitherto extended with so generous a hand. Thus we may safely hope will be continued, till occasions arise, when, without injustice to individuals, a portion of the amount now received may be applied to the extension of the Church in less favoured regions. Now, suppose that each member of the Church in this Diocese could be persuaded to devote to the glory of God the one-tenth of his substance, a proportion which the Scripture often mentions, would there not be enough for the support of the Church in the more wealthy communities, and also in the poor