

not but think that we are too apt to neglect that becoming decoration which the sacred edifice deserves. While we lavish ornament on our own dwellings, and make them as beautiful and as elegant as we can, we leave the House of God too frequently like a barn.

You will have to re-consider this evening a subject which was alluded to by me last year, the necessity—a necessity becoming each day more apparent—of creating larger accommodation in our Church in Charlottetown. The numbers of those attending Divine Service have of late, I rejoice to think, so considerably increased that additional room is indispensable.

While calculating the calls, extraordinary as well as ordinary, to be made on the funds of the Diocesan Society of this Island, we must bear in mind that although the great Religious Societies at Home have not yet entirely withdrawn their aid, the time cannot be far distant when we shall have altogether to rely on our own unaided efforts.

Another subject which I brought under your notice last year, was the proposed substitution of a new Hymnal for that at present in use. You appointed a Committee to consider the matter, but it would appear that the wish to effect a change is so far from general that it will not at present be pressed.

Every one here will, I am sure, unite with me in feeling great satisfaction that we may look forward this Autumn to a visit from His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese.

I hope that on his arrival he will find that we have not been going backwards during the period of his absence; but that, on the contrary, as he has, I trust, always found zeal, activity, earnestness and liberality on the part of the members of the Church in this Island, so he will on this occasion be gratified by observing all these in larger and increasing proportions.

The Secretary, Rev. D. B. Parnter, then read an interesting Report, which shewed that the Church's progress during the past year has been marked and decided. At the same time allusion was made to the fact that a very large proportion of Church Members have not as yet, contributed anything to the Society, and recommended the adoption of measures to remedy the defect.

It was also observed that the name, "Home Missionary Society," would be more suggestive of the objects of the Society than its present one. The prayers of all who have the welfare of our beloved Zion at heart were claimed—especially during the Ember weeks, when so many throughout the world are added to the Ministry—that it