

liberal donations, and a legacy of £1000 3 per cents. by the late Rev. Dr. Bell, Prebendary of Westminster, are reported. The unappropriated sum, however, now remaining with the society does not exceed £3000. The annual subscriptions are insufficient to meet the annual expenses of the Central Institution, and those connected with the general business of the society. These amounted last year to more than £2500, of which the expenses of the training master and the other charges of the Central School were £1830, and the incidentals £720, while the annual subscriptions amount to but between £1400 and £1500, thus leaving an annual deficiency of upwards of £1200, which, together with grants in aid of schools in union, has hitherto been supplied out of the capital stock of the society.

The committee appeal forcibly on this subject to the members of the society and the public, and remind them—

That the sum originally contributed amounted to about £24,000, and that, on this sum being exhausted, and a second appeal made to the liberality of the public, a further sum of above £9000 was subscribed, of which less than £3000 remain at this time in hand—that, by means of the sum thus expended, the National Society has directly, by grants of money, contributed to the erection and enlargement of above 230 schools in different parts of the kingdom; and has trained, in its Central School, no less than 530 masters, and above 210 mistresses, all of whom have been employed in managing National Schools in various places.

After stating the number of scholars, as above reported, the committee observe—

With this most satisfactory statement of all that has been done, they trust that they may justly glory in

the expenditure of their funds, and consider their present poverty as the means and the pledge of future wealth. They hope that the solid proof, which is hereby afforded of the extensive good that has been effected, will furnish the most powerful of all inducements with the public, to maintain and replenish those sources from which it has been derived.

With these impressions, the committee will continue, in the exercise of their best discretion, to execute the trust reposed in them; and to dispense the remaining funds of the society in that manner which shall appear most conducive to the great purposes for which those funds have been provided.

APPENDIX.

Among the various matters contained in the appendix, we shall notice the two principal.

The usual detailed account of the state of the schools in union with the society, occupies 95 pages. The statements are given in the tabular form, and show—the places, the kind of schools, whether daily, Sunday, evening, &c. the number of boys; the number of girls; the total number; donations; and annual subscriptions. By a little management, these tabular statements might be compressed, with advantage, into much less than half the space which they now occupy.

Extracts are also given in the Appendix, as usual, from the reports of the societies and schools in union. These occupy, in the present appendix, 78 pages; and contain satisfactory details of the progress and efficiency of the system, with many useful suggestions. Under the head of Gloucester, a forcible statement is given of the benefits of education, in an "Extract from Mr. Baron Garrow's Charge to the Grand Jury, at the Gloucester Assizes, on Monday, August 18, 1817."