

amounting to £10 19s. 5s., paid into the parent society and acknowledged in the annual report

The excess in this latter branch of income over that of the preceding year, is.....£0 15 11
To which add excess of annual subscrip-

tions and donations 6 4 2
Which gives 7 0 1

as the excess of the gross income over that of the year preceding.

This increase of income, though in itself small, your committee acknowledge with thankfulness; and accept as a proof of the continued and growing interest that is entertained by this parish towards the important objects which the Society is desirous to promote; and they cannot but attribute it mainly to God's blessing upon the judicious and indefatigable exertions of the devoted individuals that undertook the laborious task of collection.

To them as well as to the subscribers generally the committee beg to express their unfeigned acknowledgments, and they would venture to express the hope that an increased amount of patronage and support will in the ensuing year be accorded to the Society by this parochial branch.

The other funds usually embraced in the annual report, are the burial ground enlargement fund, and the parsonage house fund. These shew for the past year the following results:—

Burial ground fund£64 2 6
Parsonage house do 104 15 6

In conclusion your committee report that this branch has complied with all the requirements of the Society's by-laws.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. E. BLAKE,
Chairman.

Moved by Dr. Winstanly, seconded by N. McLeod, Esq.,

1st. That the Report now read be adopted.

Moved by Dr. Beaven, seconded by Rev. H. Cooper,

2nd. That the steady and continued progress of the Church Society of this diocese calls for the expression of our thankfulness to Almighty God for the measure of success with which he has been pleased to bless it.

Moved by Rev. S. Givins, seconded by Rev. T. S. Kennedy,

3rd. That the now well tested usefulness of the Society in its various departments gives it a strong claim upon the members of the church for such an amount of support as may enable it not only to maintain, but to increase its present efficiency.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Belt, seconded by Rev. Mr. Leach,

4th. That this meeting, while convinced that all the specific objects of the Society are commendable and deserving of support, yet views with especial favour any effort on the part of the Society to extend the missions of the church to new or multiplied quarters of the diocese.

Moved by Mr. Baldwin, seconded by Rev. Mr. Hill,

5th. That the thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby tendered to the collectors of this parochial branch for the past year.

Resolved.—That this meeting concurs in the spirit of the memorial on the subject of Foreign Missions, adopted at the several meetings in this District, and it be presented to the Lord Bishop, and that the chairman be empowered to sign it on behalf of this Parochial Branch.

MEETING OF THE FITZROY AND PAKENHAM PAROCHIAL BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY OF THE DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of this Society was held in St. Mark's Church, Pakenham, on Saturday, the 16th January, ult., at the hour of 11 o'clock, A. M. The Mission was represented in the persons of the most respectable and intelligent members of the Church, whose deep attention to the very eloquent and appropriate speeches of some of the movers and seconders of resolutions, attested the interest felt in the proceedings.

The presence of two of the neighbouring clergy imparted much additional animation to this meeting, from which considerable future good cannot fail to result—evidences of which, it is hoped, will be exhibited in a nearer approach than hitherto, to a just proportion between the means and the contributions of those at least of whom it was composed.

The proceedings commenced by the reading of the usual prayers, after which the Incumbent prefaced the following report, by inviting attention to the nature, constitution and objects of the Church Society:—

Fourth Annual Report of the Fitzroy and Pakenham Branch of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto.

The present is the Fourth Annual Meeting of this Branch of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto. The first question suggested by this fact is, what amount of good has our Society been the instrument of producing? The answer is, "much every way." It will not be uninteresting or unprofitable, or out of place, to devote a little time to a brief consideration of the reasons on which this answer is founded.

First, it must be remembered that the benefits accruing from the Parochial Branches of the Church Society are two-fold—their direct and their indirect benefits. By those which are here called their direct benefits, we would desire to be understood to mean the results of the local expenditure in the Mission or Rectories, of the proportion, which, by the constitution of the Parent Society, they are entitled to appropriate out of the contributions collected in each, to the relief of their own special necessities. This proportion, being the three fourths of the whole sum collected, secures the larger advantage to the missions by which it is raised—an advantage which is oftentimes very sensibly felt in the aid afforded by it towards the erection and repair of churches, the purchase of glebes and parsonages, the maintenance of travelling missionaries within the district, the furnishing of Sunday schools with books, the dissemination of the Bible and Prayer Book, and the employment of other scriptural instrumentalities for the promotion of the kingdom of Christ, which is His Church in heaven and on earth. In the fruits of the expenditure of the remaining one-fourth, are to be found the indirect advantages to the Parochial Societies of their liberality. This small proportion of the total collections goes to the Parent Society, to constitute a fund to be devoted to the "General Purposes" of Church extension and missionary enterprise—objects which are to be accomplished only by the same means which the Apostles employed and the Church has every where depended upon, and availed itself of, and these are the education and ordination by lawful authority of ministerial teachers of the Word—men who shall feel themselves to be armed with the commission of the Head of the Church Himself to stand before His altars, and who, in the strength of that

commission, will fearlessly proclaim the truth, and as fearlessly denounce error.

When then we, in imitation of the converts of St. Paul, send up to the central body our contributions for the relief of the brethren in distant parts, we conform to a fundamental principle of Christian love, which teaches us to assist the weaker members, and to strengthen and hold up their hands in the arduous warfare with the powers of Satan. And although we may not be able to behold the visible fruits of our self-denying aid in the cause of Christ's Church, we should rest content with the earnest conviction that we have discharged our duty—the solemn and imperative duty of sowing the seed, and should leave, in a spirit of faith and hope, the increase in His hands who alone can give it; we should remember at the same time that He watches the smallest mite that is dropped into His treasury, and reserves for it a reward which He oftentimes denies to the abundant gifts of the rich, because he can penetrate "the counsels of the heart," and knows how to apportion to every man his reward—not in proportion to that which he gives but in proportion to the faith and purity of spirit with which he lays his gift upon the altar.

The further enlargement of this very important and suggestive subject does not fall within the scope of the present report; we will therefore turn to an inquiry into the more particular and immediate benefits which we have hitherto derived from the operation of our own branch of the Church Society. It is to be hoped in making this estimate that contributors to its funds will remember the foregoing observations, and not lose sight of the aid to the Church at large which they have afforded, and which, it is hoped, they will continue to afford by their subscriptions, nor suppose no benefit to result from them because they cannot see it with their eyes. It is to be hoped that they will take a more Christian view of the duty of giving to the Church of God, than to measure the value of their gift by its visible fruits, rather than by the reward which is reserved alone for the motive which prompted it. When a man makes an offering out of his substance to God, as he does who contributes to the extension of God's Church, he should take care that the motive which prompts the offering should be as pure as the object on which it is to be expended. He must not give in the spirit of a speculator, who is guided in his pecuniary expenditure by the prospect of an immediate, tangible, personal, and worldly advantage; and who believes to be for ever lost that which is lost to his sight. In viewing these, the advantages which have hitherto accrued to this mission from the operation of our Branch of the Church Society, we would again request you to consider the object which it is intended to promote, that your liberality may bear some proportion to its importance and its sacredness. Those who will give it the requisite reflection, must then feel that the most they can bestow is far too little, and that if even they sold all their possessions and dedicated them to it, they would have done no more than what piety and faith have long since accomplished, when Christians cast all they owned at the Apostles' feet; and no more than Christ himself expects from those who desire to lack nothing of that character which befits His perfect disciples, as appears from His advice to the young man mentioned in the Gospel, who so faithfully obeyed the commandments and observed the law—to go sell all and follow Him.

If we take a retrospective view of the total advantages which this mission has derived from our Branch of the Church Society, we will find in them sufficient to encourage us to a perseverance in our exertions to maintain it. The funds, for