

could not attend. Nothing material had occurred in the matter of the fund since he last addressed them, except that £1,200 sterling had been received from societies at home. A loss to the fund had been felt by the failure of parties, but he hoped to be able to furnish them with a more favourable account at their next quarterly meeting.

Rev. Secretary said as there were but three members of the trust fund resident in London, and as it required those three to form a quorum, he suggested the propriety of naming two more to be added to the list. This was the second time they had met without receiving a report.

It was then moved by the Rev. Mr. BRADY, seconded by George RYAN, Esq., that James Hamilton and Benjamin Bayley, Esqs., be added to the committee.—*Carried.*

The Bishop closed the meeting with prayer.

After we had copied the above report from the columns of the Colonist, we received the account from the Rev. the Secretary, but too late for us to do more than make a few slight corrections.

EDITOR GAZETTE.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

MISSION FUND.

Previously acknowledged.....	\$481.74
St. George's, London Township, per the Lord Bishop	5.00
St. John's, London Township, per Rev. C. C. Brough.....	12.00
St. Anne's, Adelaide, per Rev. A. Mortimer	1.92
Church, Strathroy.....	1.75
	\$452.41

WIDOW AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Previously acknowledged.....	57.00
St. George's, London Township, per Rev. C. C. Brough	5.20
	\$ 62.20

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

H. Crotty, Ingersoll	\$5.00
Hon. G. J. Goodhue, London	5.00
Peter Roe, St. Thomas's	5.00
Rev. J. Smyth, St. Mary's	5.00
S. Peters, Sen., London	5.00
Rev. A. Mortimer	5.00

J. WALKER MARSH.

Ingersoll, Sec. C. D. H.
Dec. 13, 1858.

NOTICE.

The Clergy of the Diocese of Huron are notified that the Lord Bishop has directed the next collection for the Church Society, to be made during the month of January, the proceeds to be applied to the Widows and Orphans' Fund.

A copy of the pamphlet containing the constitutions of the Synod and Church Society, and also the acts relating to Synodical action and the Church Society acts, &c., have been handed to, or mailed to, each incorporated Member of the Church Society. Attention is called to article V of the constitution of the Church Society which points out the conditions upon which members are continued on the Society's list.

The time for closing the books has been extended to January the 31st, for Incorporated Members for this year.

Applications for pamphlets can be made to the Secretary who is authorised to supply them at the rate of five cents each.

THE LAY POWER.

(The Echo.)

How much may be done by the Laity; even by those who have much business of their own to attend to; has been exhibited lately, through the devoted and untiring energy of Mr. BRADY, one of the chief clerks of the Admiralty. He has come to the assistance of a zealous but overworked clergyman in a London suburb, and has enlisted cordially and largely the sympathies of the poor inhabitants, in aiding to provide for themselves the advantages of public worship, and for their children the benefits of improved education.

The emergencies of daily increasing trade and commerce have created in the parish of Plaistow just across the London border, two new towns or districts bearing respectively the names of Halls-ville and Canning's Town. The palace is a reeking marsh some seven feet below high-water mark, intersected by stagnant ditches, which run in and out amongst the houses, evaporation and soakage being the only means for escape for the sewage. One of the witnesses said that it must be seen to be appreciated: of course paved streets are out of the question. On one occasion the clergyman is stated, during his parochial visitations, to have lost his shoes, and not for some time to have discovered his loss, so completely had his feet been encased with mud. The houses stand on the ground rather than in it, so slightly are they built and so shallow their foundations. In this wretched locality from four to five thousand people are compelled by the necessities either of their poverty or their occupation to make their abode, and it is not unlikely their numbers may be largely recruited by the contemplated extension of the new Victoria Docks. They are more than two miles distant from their parish church. The Incumbent's income, but scanty at the best, was of course quite unequal to the strain which the creation of this new district entailed upon it. For some time, however, with a self-denial "which made Lent extend considerably beyond forty days," he managed to provide a curate, but was compelled at last by sheer necessity to dispense with him. An attempt was made at a school, but the only school-house was a wooden lean-to erected against the side of the last house in an unfinished row. Meanwhile the town grew and the school increased, but it was long before a better and more commodious building could be secured. As might be supposed, there was no dearth of public houses. One beer-shop or gin-palace to every 100 of the population, i.e., to every 20 or 25 families supplies abundant temptations to intemperance, and, according to the evidence, something worse.

Who, on this side of the Atlantic, would imagine that such a state of things could exist in the suburbs of the mighty Metropolis of the British Empire? Should not such cases prevent us from being discouraged and despondent as we think of the vast amount of Spiritual destitution which exists in our Colonies; and make us feel thankful for the comparative prosperity in temporal matters which we enjoy.

Thousands of men there are in England who have abundant means for the relief of such cases. But every where it is found that, as a general rule, the wealthy are not the persons from whom much aid is to be expected. But see what can be done by one zealous worker.

In the early part of last year one of the chief clerks of the Admiralty, Mr. BRADY, had occasion to go down to this district. While there his attention was called to the lean-to school-shed, in which the Incumbent of Plaistow was carrying on the education of nearly 200 children, and where, too, it is stated that on a wet day the mistress might be seen doing her work beneath

the protection of an umbrella! It occurred to him that a man who was doing so much with so little was deserving of help. So he invited him to his house, and after an evening's consultation sketched a plan of operations, and after securing the Bishop's sanction, made it public. This was to build schools which might answer for worship on the Lord's day, and education in the week. We need not go through the details. Suffice it to say, that in little more than twelve months, an iron church and schools have been erected and paid for. £1000 is promised for a permanent church. Three curates are at work, two of whom are paid by the Mission, and one at Canning's town by the Pastoral Aid Society. Nearly £3,000 was received during the year. There are also subscriptions to the amount of £400 a year for the payment of the clergy till such time as the church shall be self-supporting, or be provided with an endowment. Of course this has not been done without great labour on the part of Mr. BRADY and his colleagues in the work. But, as he says, "the most gratifying part of all is the extreme interest which the poor have taken in it. Upwards of 400 of them have subscribed sums varying from a farthing to half-a-crown, in quarterly, monthly, and even weekly subscriptions. The clergy testify that the people are most grateful for the exertions which have been made on their behalf, and that both churches and schools are very well attended. It is the testimony of one that he was never in any cure where he found more heartiness and real good will.

What are the Laity doing in our Canadian Dioceses? No doubt many of them are doing well, in co-operating energetically with the clergy in every good work. Our Synods show the willingness of the Laity to take hold, and to do their part; and one great benefit of Synods is, that they give opportunity to good men among the Laity to show their zeal for the cause of Christ and the church.

But let every man exert himself still more; especially in his own locality. Let him not delay for a moment to enjoy the great luxury of doing good. The reward that accompanies the outlay of money, time, influence, and prayer, for the good of one's fellow-creatures, and for the glory of God, richly remunerates, even in this present world, all that is expended; and returns more than a 100 per cent. of real comfort and pleasure. And what can the largest pecuniary profit do more than that? It is not the money itself that is valued by any except a monomaniac miser, but what money procures. If the erection of a church at his own expense, procures more pleasure and happiness to a man than the building of a railway, is not the building of the church the better investment. Surely it is a kind of insanity to suppose that man is intended to be a mere mechanical machine for making money.

If the intelligent and christian laity of the Church of England would but take example by Mr. B., how speedily would the dark blot of spiritual neglect which lies against us to be wiped away? A few such laymen in every district, fired with godly zeal and compassion, might, under the Divine blessing, be the salvation of those crowded parishes, many of which, to all outward appearance, are fast drifting into universal irreligion and ungodliness. The Laity, says Mr. BRADY—and no one has a better right to say it—must second their clergy. They are as much a part of Christ's church as ordained ministers, and are as fully responsible for past omissions. Almost any thing is better than cold indifference. Would that many of our wealthy laymen could say as he says, "I cannot any longer sit down quietly to the blessings I enjoy, and leave so many thousands of my neighbors to the teaching of the devil!"