

Soon after his return to his Diocese the Lord Bishop summoned a meeting of the Clergy and Laity to meet in London, to form a Church Society.

In obedience to the summons a meeting was held in St. Paul's School House, on the 27th day of January, 1858, and the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron was then formed, and the Bishop was empowered to apply to the Provincial Parliament for an Act of Incorporation. The Hon. M. Foley, M.P., was entrusted by the Bishop to introduce "the bill" into the House of Assembly, and the Hon. G. J. Goodhue took charge of it in the Legislative Council; and to the exertions of these gentlemen the Church Society is in great measure indebted for the "Act Incorporating" this Society, which received Her Majesty's assent on the 24th day of July, 1858. The Society met again in September, the 21st and 22nd, and after careful deliberation adopted the Constitution, which was sanctioned and confirmed by the Bishop on the 22nd of September, 1858. Thus, then, the Society has been in operation only eight months when your Committee is called upon to make their first Annual Report, and though they cannot yet look back upon much work as done by this Society, they can confidently look forward, in dependence on God's blessing, to the great results which they firmly believe will follow when Churchmen generally are fully awakened to the spiritual destitution prevailing in many parts of this Diocese, and when, through this Society, their combined efforts are systematically employed for the alleviation of the same.

Still, the past has not been without some fruit, and short as has been the period since the Society has been fully organized, its income has reached the creditable sum of \$3,540.88, and this sum would have been largely increased had all the Parochial Associations made collections; but owing to the end of the financial year being changed at the March meeting from December 31st to May 31st, few of the Parochial Associations have made any return, most of them having previously arranged to make their collections during the coming autumn; your Committee, therefore, confidently anticipate a large increase from this source during the ensuing year.

During the months of January, February, and March, deputations appointed by the Bishop attended meetings for the Church Society in almost every congregation of the Diocese, when Parochial Associations were formed, and although, owing to the change in the financial year