

Rev. Mr. Stimson should have made such imputations against the Church Society and its worthy and respected secretary, and we will look forward with some anxiety to see that the *amende honorable* will be made by the reverend gentleman, in the most public and prominent manner.

CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION.

Rev. Mr. BETTRIDGE made a proposition to change the constitution of the society, as will be seen by the following resolution:

Moved by Rev. Mr. BETTRIDGE, (rural dean,) seconded by Rev. Mr. SALTER, (rural dean,) and resolved—

"That the sixth article of the constitution be altered as follows: that the rural deans be *ex-officio* members of the standing committee; that all the non-official members of the standing committee, the four clerical and the four lay who have been on the committee from the annual meeting in June, have attended the fewest quarterly meetings and the fewest meetings of the standing committee during the year, shall go out at the annual meeting in June.—Should any doubt arise, the member or members who have served the shortest time on the committee shall be considered to have vacated his or their seats; that the standing committee shall recommend to the society at its annual meeting four members to be elected in the place of the four retiring members of each order, and that the retiring clergy who shall not be eligible for re-election for the ensuing year; that any member of the society wishing to propose other candidates for election on the standing committee, be required to give in the names of such candidates to be proposed by him to the secretary before the meeting of the standing committee in June."—Carried.

COMMUTATION FUND.

Rev. Mr. FAUQUIER read the report on the Commutation Fund, which is as follows.

The committee appointed at the last quarterly meeting of the Church Society, to consider the best method of carrying out the details of the Rev. F. D. Fauquier's resolutions for the management of the surplus Commutation Fund, beg to report: that feeling the subject of the said resolutions to be one of the gravest importance, they have given it their most serious and deliberate attention. Your committee believe that it is essential to the well being of the church in this diocese that some better provision than at present exists should be made for permanently securing some certain incomes to the senior portion, especially of the non-commuted clergy; whilst in the opinion of your committee, it is not desirable that the clergy should be altogether independent of their congregations, in a pecuniary point of view; neither is it proper that they should have to depend entirely to voluntarism for their maintenance and support. Your committee, therefore, recommend that the surplus of the Commutation Fund, as it accrues, after the claims of the commuted clergy have been paid, shall be applied towards the payment in part of the salaries of the non-commuted settled clergy in this diocese, according to the plan hereinafter laid down, instead of being appropriated as at present provided for under the Mission By-law. In recommending that one uniform sum of \$400 shall, so far as the fund will admit, be paid annually to each settled clergyman, instead of dividing the fund into smaller amounts, whereby a large number of the clergy might be more immediately, though in a less degree, benefitted, your committee feel that they are adopting the wiser and better course, and this because the sum named, even when added to all that most unendowed parishes can be expected to raise for the payment of the officiat-

ing clergyman, will not certainly be more than sufficient to enable him to maintain his social position respectably, whilst any less sum would be found to be quite inadequate for the purpose. Further, your committee believe that the prospect of an assured moderate income, to which the junior clergy can look forward as a matter of right, will encourage them to struggle for a few years (whilst young, and with fewer claims upon them than they must expect to have as they advance in life) far more cheerfully than they otherwise would, and also tend to remove that not unreasonable dread of penury and want which, it is to be feared, deters many pious and seriously disposed young men from entering into the ministry of Christ's church. Be it therefore resolved—

"First—That clause No. 4 of the Mission By-law be expunged.

"Second—That the surplus interest of the Commutation Fund, as it falls in, be applied towards securing to the clergy of this diocese (having care of souls, and not being under ecclesiastical censure) the sum of \$400 each per annum, to be paid quarterly, such surplus fund income to be altogether irrespective of any salary which such annuitant may receive from the pew rents, or any other voluntary payments of his parish: provided always, that this resolution shall give no claim to the incumbent of any endowed parish or rectory, or to any of the legally commuted clergy save only in so far as may be necessary to bring such endowment or commutation up to the aforementioned sum of \$400, to which their standing in the diocese would, according to this arrangement, entitle them—length of service in the diocese to give priority of claim in all cases.

"Thirdly—That every clergyman receiving from this fund shall, if necessitated by sickness, infirmity, or old age, to resign his cure, be entitled to the same amount during the term of his natural life. Provided always, that his inability to discharge active duty be attested by a physician annually, (if required,) according to a form to be prescribed by the Church Society.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

"FRED. D. FAUQUIER,

Chairman.

"Dated this 12th day of March, 1862."

Moved by Rev. Mr. FAUQUIER, seconded by WALTER WATSON, Esq.,—

"That the report of the committee appointed to consider the best method of carrying out the details of the Rev. F. D. Fauquier's resolutions, for the management of the Surplus Commutation Fund, be printed and circulated amongst the clergy and lay incorporated members of the Church Society, with a view to its full circulation at the next meeting of the society."—Carried.

THE RECTORIES QUESTION.

The minutes of a special meeting of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, respecting the vesting of the title of the rectorial lands in the church societies, with power to sell, and asking concurrence in a petition to the legislature, was brought up.

The Rev. W. BETTRIDGE, after considerable discussion pro. and con., moved the following resolution, seconded by Rev. Dr. TOWNLEY—

"That the Church Society of the Diocese of Huron regret that it cannot unite in the prayer of the petition of the Diocese of Toronto, for the sale of the rectories, believing such a measure to be very detrimental to the best interests of the church, and opposed to those principles of a holy conservatism by which the church of God has ever been distinguished"—Carried.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS IN MONEY

The following applications for grants in money were made:

By Rev. Mr. Tighe, for assistance to build a parsonage.

By Rev. Mr. Potts, to aid in building a church in the village of Lambeth.

By Rev. Dr. Sandys, towards the new Episcopal Church at Chatham.

By Rev. Mr. Salter, towards erecting a new church in the neighbourhood of Sarnia.

It was decided by the society that there were not funds at present to meet those grants, and that the application lie over until next meeting.

GRANTS OF BOOKS.

Grants in books were made to the following gentlemen:—

Rev. Mr. Gibson, Warwick, 20 prayer-books, 50 S. S. hymn-books.

Rev. Hans Caulfield, Millbrook, 20 prayer-books.

Rev. Mr. Wright, Wardsville, 20 prayer-books 20 testaments, 100 catechisms, and 100 S. S. hymn-books.

Rev. Mr. Duberdiens, Blythe, 20 prayer-books, 25 testaments, 50 S. S. hymn-books, and 100 catechisms.

Rev. Mr. Keys, Holland and Sullivan, 20 prayer-books, 25 testaments, and 50 S. S. hymn-books.

An application for S. S. hymn-books, from the Rev. Mr. Haines, Durham, County of Gray, now came up. It was agreed that the reverend gentleman should receive 100 copies of the S. S. hymn-books.

THE EPISCOPAL FUND.

Moved by Rev. Dr. TOWNLEY, seconded by Rev. F. D. FAUQUIER—

"That the standing committee be requested to put forth as speedily as possible an exact statement of the deficiency of the Episcopal Fund, and the means by which this deficiency is from time to time to be met, the sources from which it is to be derived, and how to be re-paid."—Carried.

Moved by Rev. Dr. CAULFIELD, seconded by Rev. G. SALTER—

"That in article 10th of the constitution, the words 'third Thursday' be omitted, and the words 'first Wednesday' be substituted"—Carried.

NEW MEMBERS.

Moved by Rev. Dr. ARMSTRONG, seconded by Rev. E. L. ELLWOOD—

"That the Hon. James Patton, Benjamin Fra-lick, Esq., George Stanton, Esq., John Maguire, Esq., James Cowan, Esq., J. P. W. Smyth, Esq., and Rev. T. C. DesBarres, be incorporated members of the society."—Carried.

Moved by L. LAWRENCE, Esq., seconded by Rev. G. R. SALTER, and resolved—

"That this meeting desires to record its opinion that the sum of £600, which has been appropriated for the present from the CAPITAL account to the interest account, of the Episcopal Fund, should be repaid by the interest account, according as that fund may from time to time permit, after paying the liabilities on the same."—Carried.

This closed the business of the meeting, and after the Bishop had pronounced the benediction the members separated.

Rossin House, Toronto, March 27th, 1862.

To the Editor of the Ecclesiastical Gazette.

DEAR SIR,

I have just observed that a report of the