

MISSION FUND.

Your Committee are gratified to find that the Mission Fund Collections exceeded those of the past year in amount by £111 12s. 8d.; this may be accounted for by the fact, that they were taken up at 43 more stations. On this Fund the Church must now chiefly depend for the maintenance of her Missionaries, and your Committee feel confident that the Missionary cause has only to be prominently brought forward in every Parish from the pulpit, and at parochial meetings, to ensure to it the hearty sympathy and co-operation of every one, as even the most careless can readily be made to feel the miserable position of those who are, especially in times of sickness or calamity, debarred the comforts, which they know can then only be derived from God's Holy Word and Sacraments, and it may be hoped that some may thus be led to follow the example of the late Dr. Burnside, who bequeathed the sum of £1,000 for the furtherance of this object. £238 has been paid out on account of salaries to Missionaries, Catechists, School Masters and Interpreters, chiefly for the benefit of the Indian Mission.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Your Committee cannot forbear to express their surprise at the falling off which there appears to have been in the number of stations at which collections were made for this object; the previous year collections were reported from 227 stations, whereas during the past year, it appears that they have been taken up at only 192 stations. The amount remitted being only very little less than that of the last year, your Committee are led to believe that had the collections been made at the same number of stations they would have had to report a large increase of this fund. There is now invested on account of this object the sum of £6,369 16s. 10d., including £750 bequeathed by the late Dr. Burnside. Four widows and fourteen orphans are on the relief list.

GENERAL PURPOSE FUND.

The collections made for this object were, your Committee regret to say, taken up at only 176 stations, being 33 fewer than the preceding year, and as might be expected, the amount falls short by £64 7s.—only £299 7s. having been received, to which add £783 1s 11d., proportion received from the Parochial Branches, and the Society has only £1,082 8s. 11d. wherewith to defray all the expenses incurred in the management of all the other funds, and meet the numerous and urgent demands continually made upon it. During the last year, grants were made from this fund amounting to £183 17s 6d. Some of the branches appear to have lost sight of the alteration made last year in the by-laws of the Society, which requires the whole of the subscription of all incorporate members to be remitted intact to the parent society. It has been painful to your committee to be forced to decline making grants sought for, month after month, by missions which had a right to expect aid from the Society, and to be unable even to attempt to carry on some important objects embraced in its constitution.

STUDENTS' FUND.

A similar falling off has occurred in the receipts of this Fund, collections having been made at 138 stations, instead of 165, and the receipts have been £201 4s. to £249 14s 8d. in the former year. The same number of scholarships, namely eight, have been paid over to Trinity College.

Reports have been received from 93 Parochial

Branches, extracts from which will be given in the appendix. Reports have been also received from the sister Societies in the other North American Colonial Dioceses as well as from the venerable societies at home, which give abundant cause for thankfulness that amid the many new calls which have been made within the last year upon the inhabitants of all parts of the British empire, these societies have all been enabled to carry on their great work with increasing vigor and success.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Moved by G. W. Allan, Esq., seconded by Rev. Arthur Palmer,

Resolved,—"That this Society adopts the Report, and desires thus publicly to acknowledge its gratitude to the Almighty Disposer of all things for any measure of success which has attended the operations of this Society, and more especially that He has been pleased to preserve to the Canadian Church, out of the wreck of her property, a small endowment to assist her in diffusing and perpetuating the blessings of true religion in this extensive Diocese.

Moved by J. C. Gamble, Esq. M.P.P., seconded by J. H. Hagarty, Esq. Q.C.,

Resolved,—"That this Society, considering the greatly increased prosperity of the country, and the urgent necessity for prompt exertion consequent upon the imperfect provision yet made for the maintenance of even the present Ministry of the Church, calls upon churchmen seriously to consider their responsibility, that as the Commutation Fund has been formed by the spontaneous action of the clergy, so the laity should do their part in the good work of endowment, by, with equal zeal, creating and maintaining a Sustentation Fund.

Moved by P. M. Vankoughnet, Esq. Q.C., seconded by Absalom Shade, Esq.,

Resolved,—"That the thanks of this society are warmly tendered the clergy of the diocese, for their readiness in commutating their individual claims for the general benefit of the Church—to all those who have in any way during the past year furthered the Church's interests: and more especially to those who, in our Legislative assembly have maintained her rights.

Moved by Rev. E. L. Elwood, seconded by J. W. O. Clark, Esq.,

Resolved,—"That the earnest sympathies of this Society are with the sister societies of Quebec, Montreal, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the venerable Societies for promoting Christian Knowledge, and for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and that we look with the same interest upon their efforts in the service of our common Lord and Master as we cordially believe they feel towards us."

Moved by the Hon. G. S. Boulton, seconded by Rev. B. Cronyn,

Resolved,—"That an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General congratulating his Excellency upon his assumption of the Government of this Province, and requesting his Excellency to be pleased to become the patron of this society.

The hon. mover then read the following address, which was adopted:

ADDRESS

To His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, Bart.

The Bishop, Clergy, and Laity of the Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Toronto, take the opportunity afforded by their first annual meeting since your Excellency's assumption of the government

of this Province, to approach your Excellency with the expression of their undiminished loyalty to the Crown, of their personal respect to yourself, and their confidence in the wisdom which has guided Her Most gracious Majesty in the selection of your Excellency to fill the high and responsible office which you now occupy.

Although the course of legislation latterly pursued by the Imperial Parliament in reference to this portion of the Colonial Church, has not in its character been so favourable to what we deem our just rights and interests as we might reasonably have expected, nevertheless we assure your Excellency that our principles of loyalty to our beloved Queen and of attachment to the Mother Country have not been in any degree shaken, nor have we been led thereby to entertain with the slightest favor any prospect, however remote, of severing the ties which bind this Province in affection and in duty to the magnificent empire of which it is so favored a portion.

We would also assure your Excellency, that in whatever steps we have taken or may yet take to obtain and secure for the Church that amount of local self-government and internal self regulation necessary for her well-being, we have not been actuated, nor will we permit ourselves to be actuated by any desire to separate ourselves from the Mother Church of England and Ireland, which has indeed been a nursing mother to us, and to which we feel ourselves united by the bonds of a hallowed communion, which neither time nor distance should be allowed to obliterate.

While we acquiesce with a spirit of Christian submission to the disposition which the Provincial Legislature has made of the endowments of the Church, acknowledging that at least your Excellency's Government is relieved of an embarrassing question which has been made, however needlessly, to assume a difficult and disturbing aspect, we, at the same time, look forward with confidence to receiving at your Excellency's hands that protection in our guaranteed rights and that immunity from further oppression, to which every subject of Her Majesty is entitled.

The course of events has precluded the United Church of England and Ireland in this Province from asserting or exercising any claims or privileges as an established church, with any especial preference or precedence; but no course of events can destroy her claims to a perfect equality in all respects with every or any other religious body in this Province; those rights we shall ever assert, but without prejudice to the rights or liberties, civil or religious, of any other denomination of Christians. In the preservation of those rights we look to your Excellency as to one to whom the interests of all classes of her Majesty's subjects here, and the maintenance of the great principles of justice inherent in the British Constitution, have been safely entrusted.

We express our hope that your Excellency, by becoming our patron, will continue to the Church Society of this Diocese that countenance which it has invariably received from your predecessors; and while, in looking forward to the future, we cannot but participate in the anxiety with which the present war has overcast the minds of all reflecting persons, we will ever pray that the Sovereign Ruler of all earthly events may so guide all the acts and councils of your Excellency and your advisers that your Excellency's Administration may long be distinguished by the progress of true religion amongst us—by the growth of our Provincial prosperity and by the stability of every institution conducive to the welfare and happiness of our community.

About half-past ten o'clock, His Lordship concluded the proceedings with prayer.