

they recommend that 25s. should be transmitted from each District Treasurer for every incorporate member residing within its bounds. The charter restricts the number of members, in addition to those incorporated under the act, to 200; this would always insure an income of £375, which added to the one-fourth of the other parochial subscriptions remitted, and the proceeds of the annual sermon, would cause the Society's influence to be realized; as the General Purpose Fund of the Society may be applied for the support of Missionaries, for the circulation of the Bible and Book of Common Prayer and Tracts, or other objects, all of which tend to benefit the Church at large throughout the Diocese.

Two of the objects named in the Constitution of the Society, it has not yet been enabled in any way to effect, viz: the augmentation of the stipend of poor clergymen, or the encouragement of church schools, yet these, as well as a provision for the maintenance of additional Missionaries, might be to a great extent carried out, if every member of our church throughout the diocese contributed a small sum annually towards the General Purposes Fund.

Your Committee are happy to announce that the sum collected for the Jubilee Fund of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, has been at length forwarded to their Treasurer, and they trust that the members of our Church will the more readily contribute to this fund, when they are aware that in order to do this, the Society has pledged itself to repay with interest, by our annual instalments, the sum of £384—it having been borrowed on the credit of four gentlemen.

Grants of Service Books, Bibles, and other Books and Tracts, to the amount of £46 7s. 6d., have been made during the year.

The Committee cannot too strongly urge upon the attention of the Society, that the General Purpose Fund is wholly unequal to meet the urgent and increasing demands made upon it for the general benefit of the Church.

DIVINITY STUDENTS' FUND.

This year, though as before stated under the head *Annual Sermons*, but short notice was given of the collections to be made for this object, and it was required to be taken up before the collections for the last object had all been made, yet your Committee are enabled to report that not only has the amount exceeded that of the preceding year, but also that the object was advocated at a greater number of stations. Last year there were only 157 collections, whilst this year 167 have been reported, and some of the clergy have stated that if longer time had been given, dollars would have been paid where they only received shillings. The amount collected last year was £214 17s. 8d., whereas this year £249 14s. 3d. have been received. Eight Divinity Scholarships have been paid to the fund of Trinity College out of this fund, viz: three of £30 each, two of £25, and three of £20, to Divinity Students at Trinity College.

LANDS.

Several deeds of sites for churches and burial grounds have been made out during the year in trust to the Society; a complete list of them will be found in the appendix. Your Committee would draw particular attention to the following, in the hope that other individuals and parishes may be induced to go and do likewise.

The South half of Lot 12, Con. 9, in the township of Dunwich, has been granted to the Society by Mr. George Macbeth and wife, as an endowment for the Church at Dunwich.

8 acres and 1 rood, part of Lot 10, Con. 1, township of Hope, have been granted by Dr. Smith, of Port Hope, as an endowment of St. John's Church in that town. This property, being near the town, is at present very valuable.

The parish of Georgina have purchased, as an endowment for St. George's Church, the N. E. quarter of Lot 16, Lake Con., North Gwillimbury, comprising 30½ acres.

27,796 acres are now held in trust by the Society, including acres purchased by the S. P. G. F. P. Of these, 4,405 acres are leased, the rental of which amounted during the past year to £196 7s. 6d.

Much valuable information has been obtained concerning some of the lots, and great pains taken in selecting lands to be purchased with the proceeds of the sale, on very advantageous terms, of four lots, but in consequence of the restrictions at present applicable to the sale of Crown lands, only two lots have as yet been bought.

GENERAL.

Your Committee find great cause to congratulate the Church in this Diocese on the aspect of its affairs. The first assembling of our Diocesan Synod was most encouraging, as it was numerously attended from all parts of the Diocese, and no doubt the manner in which its proceedings were conducted, will have its due weight in strengthening the arguments of those who, in the British Legislature, have consistently advocated the rights of the Colonial Churches; and before another annual meeting, it is to be hoped a permissive bill will have passed, giving to the Church in every Diocese, that which all sectional denominations already have—namely, the power, under certain proper restrictions, to manage their own local matters. Now that the iniquity of attempting to secularize the Clergy reserves, a property set apart for the maintenance of religion by the British nation, simultaneously with the granting a constitution to this portion of its dominions, has been set forth in all its deformity, such a change has evidently manifested itself in the opinions of many who previously advocated such a measure, as to encourage your Committee in entertaining the hope, that if any are hardy enough to introduce a bill on such a sacrilegious question in the Legislature, the voice of the vast majority will be indignantly raised in the negative.

The present system of school education also appears to be better understood by the public than it was, and your Committee trust that the views of the B. N. A. Bishops, expressed at their conference in the year 1852, will soon be adopted by all who believe "that righteousness exalteth a nation." They are thus set forth in the minutes of the proceedings of that important meeting.

Whereas systems of Education are very generally introduced and supported in these Colonies, either (1) excluding religious instruction altogether from the Schools, or (2) recognising no distinction except between Roman Catholics and Protestants, whereby no opportunity is afforded us of bringing up the children of our Communion in the special doctrines and duties of our faith, to the manifest depravation of their religious principles, and with crying injustice to the Church of England, we desire to express our decided conviction.

(1.) That all Education for the Members of our Church should be distinctly based on the revealed religion of the Old and New Testaments, with special reference to their duties and privileges, as by baptism regenerate, and made God's children by adoption and grace.

(2.) That all lawful and honourable methods should be adopted to move the Colonial Legislatures to make grants to the Church of England, as well as to the Roman Catholics, and other religious bodies, as they require it, and according to their numbers respectively, for the education of the members of their own Communion.

Your Committee conceive that the thanks of this Society are due to those gentlemen who, by their writings, have endeavored to set these two questions in their proper light before the public, and especially to those many editors of the