

# The Church Chronicle.

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## RURAL DEANERY OF SIMCOE.

The Rural Deanery of Simcoe in this Diocese having become vacant by the lamented death of the Reverend S. B. Ardagh, late Rector of Barrie, the Bishop of Toronto has been pleased to sanction the division of the said Rural Deanery into two,—to be designated the “East and West Simcoe Rural Deaneries.” The former will be composed of the Townships of Vespra, Flos, Tiny, Oro, Medonte, Tay, Orillia, N. Orillia, and Matchedash, and also of the Townships of Thorah, Mara, and Rama, in the County of Ontario, together with the Muskoka Territory. The latter will be composed of the townships of Sunnidale, Nottawasaga, Mulmur, Mono, Tosorondio, Adjala, Tecumseh, Essa, Gwillimbury, and Innisfil, together with the Parry Sound Territory.

The Lord Bishop has further been pleased to appoint the REVEREND STEPHEN LETT, LL.D., Incumbent of Collingwood, to be Rural Dean of the West Simcoe Rural Deanery; and the REVEREND ALEXANDER STEWART, M.A., Missionary at Orillia, to be Rural Dean of the East Simcoe Rural Deanery.

Toronto, December 15, 1869.

## GENERAL PURPOSES AND MISSION FUND.

*To the Members of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Toronto:*

MY DEAR BRETHREN,

The following resolution, passed at a meeting of the “General Purposes Fund Committee,” on the 9th November last, has recently been placed in my hands, and I very cheerfully comply with the request it contains:—

“Resolved, That the Lord Bishop be respectfully requested to issue a circular to the Incorporated Members of the late Church Society, requesting them to continue their subscriptions as formerly, for the present, in order to enable the Synod to meet the General Purposes expenses, for which provision has not yet been made.”

It is very true that the Incorporated Members of the late Church Society are not, under the new arrangements, bound to make any specific annual contribution to secure to them the privilege of belonging to the present governing body of the Church—the Incorporated Synod. The Clergy are, *ex officio*, members of that body; and the election of the Lay members is defined by the Constitution, and requires no payment in money. But what the General Purposes Committee ask, is, that although not bound as formerly to make such payment; in order to secure the privilege of membership, they should continue those annual payments until other arrangements can be made for meeting the expenses of which that Committee have charge. The sudden cessation of the means thus derived would materially embarrass the financial operations of the Synod, and impede its healthful progress.

But while I thus address myself to the late Incorporated Members in general, I may be permitted to add a few remarks to the members of the Church generally.

In order to secure the satisfactory working of the various benevolent and pious enterprises of which the Synod has now the control and direction, it has been found necessary to make a sort of double appeal to the liberality of the several parishes. A leading object connected with such enterprises is, that by affording a small amount of annual aid from funds under the control of the Synod, our missionary operations may be upheld, and extended as the wants of the Church demand. We are much cheered by the contemplation of what has already been