

supplies might have been increased, and the cost reduced, to any amount supposed necessary. And I believe most members of the Church, both in St. John's and the Out-harbours, were aware of this opportunity.

One of my first cares, on undertaking the office of your Bishop, was to provide for the regular introduction and distribution of the Holy Scriptures; with other standard religious books, as the Book of Common Prayer, the Homilies, &c.;—confining myself for that purpose to the Catalogue of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. A supply was ordered before I left England, and since my arrival and residence among you several additional supplies have been ordered and received. These were made available to the Clergy and others, and copies of the Sacred Volume have been regularly forwarded where required, and sold at very reduced prices. In my first voyage of Visitation two large boxes of books were taken on board the Church Ship, and many Bibles and Testaments distributed; and the means of obtaining them, through the Clergy, explained and published everywhere. As, however, I was aware that to some persons it might not be convenient, and to some not agreeable to apply to the Clergy, I made arrangements,—with considerable trouble to myself and others, and not without some expence,—to open a Depository for public sale, where any person might at any time find and purchase, at reduced prices, various copies of the Sacred Scriptures. And to give the greater opportunity and facility to poor persons, small sums were to be received, in part payment, till the whole price of the Book could be paid up. Persons of any class or denomination may thus purchase; and no questions asked. My intention of making these arrangements was announced at the last anniversary of the Church Society, and they were made and completed accordingly before the close of