

The villages and wealthier parishes may be able to support their rectors, but it is impossible to foresee how the living voice of the Church can be provided for the many poorer districts.

Our Divine Head will indeed feed his own flock, but Churchmen are not only collectively but individually responsible for the exertions they make to preserve for themselves and their children the ministrations of the church of which they are members, in its pure Apostolical form, with its Divine Sacraments and its appointed ordinances.

Our Diocesan Church Society appears to be the means appointed by Providence for effecting this object. It is well adapted for exciting and combining the efforts of all. It must become the channel through which the clergy of this Diocese will all at some future day receive part of their support, and through which all other funds for the maintenance of our church will flow. We must never feel satisfied until every member of the Church in the Province is enrolled as a contributor to its income.

It must as handmaid to the Church bind together as one body every parish and district, and be moreover, according to its original intention, a means of promoting among us a spirit of christian charity and emulation in good works for Christ's sake.

We acknowledge with gratitude the wisdom and foresight of the Ecclesiastical rulers, who in this and the sister Provinces originated the Diocesan Church Societies, in order that they might gradually relieve the Parent Societies in England, and assume the position which they have long filled in connection with the church in this land.

Under the present circumstances of our Ecclesiastical affairs, this committee does not hesitate earnestly to recommend that all members of the Society increase their yearly subscriptions, and that active measures be taken in every parish to enlist more members in the common cause.

A brief notice of what the Society has already done may not be without service at the present time.

Up to the end of the year 1855, £309 15s. has been paid toward the erection and completion of Parsonages.

In the building and enlargement of Churches there has been expended £1486 10, and toward the support of Missionaries the Society has paid £4,212.

The total amount received by the Society during the year 1855, was £2153 3 7½, of which £1,233 16 8½ was for the following especial purposes :

Widows and Orphans Fund	-	-	-	-	£799	13	9
Endowment of Parishes	-	-	-	-	331	7	3
Bishopric Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	62	10	11
Books from the Depository S. P. C. K.	-	-	-	-	38	1	8
To be sent to S. P. G. for Heathen	-	-	-	-	2	3	1½

Leaving the sum of £919 6 11 for the general purposes of the Society, which is £56 16 1 more than on any preceding year, and affords us much encouragement in this good work.