

other reliable source whence even the present stipends of the Clergy can be drawn, the grant of the S. P. G. being now £250 per annum less than the amount which we are pledged to pay on their behalf. And I now desire to remind you, officially, that you incur a grave responsibility, if you do not perform your part, and that even when the amount originally subscribed has been paid, you ought not to be content, but that every addition to your flocks ought to bring in an addition to this fund, and that those whom God blesses with success should be called upon to add to the amounts subscribed when their ability was less.

The propriety of employing Lay Agents has been much discussed, and it has even been proposed to allow them to officiate in the Churches in England, except only in the administration of the Sacraments. This, you know, has been allowed here as a matter of necessity, but we must admit that it is on many accounts objectionable, and although we thankfully avail ourselves of the services of laymen, who will kindly undertake, in the absence of the minister, to conduct the worship of their brethren, care should be taken to make the people understand the distinction between such an agent and the minister duly proved and commissioned. The lay agent should never wear the surplice, and should ordinarily be restricted to reading sermons furnished by his pastor. It has also been proposed to introduce the title of Sub-Deacons, but all things considered, I prefer the appointment of permanent Deacons, who might be persons engaged in other occupations supporting themselves, provided only it may be allowed them without reproach to lay aside their office, if they desire to resign it, and while I should maintain most strenuously the indelibility of Priests' Orders, I am not convinced that we are bound to take the same view of an Order which is avowedly probationary.

Although your primary object will be the increase of the Clergy, you may at the same time do something towards enlarging the number of School-teachers of our communion, for it cannot be prudent to allow the education of the young to fall entirely into the hands of those who differ from us. Formerly, when any one unfit for other occupations was considered good enough for a teacher, and there was little probability of obtaining a reasonable remuneration, the work fell into disrepute, and it was not easy to

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