

it certain that—if only we are faithful—the blessing of God will be with us always.

Sir Joseph a Trutch, as treasurer of the Synod, made a very clear and business-like statement as to the actual condition of the Mission Fund. Four years ago, a collection was made in Victoria, aided by contributions from friends of the Diocese in England. In this way £1,000 was made up, in consideration of which effort, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge added \$250. This sum of £1,250 was called the "Bishop Hills Clergy Endowment Fund," as some small testimony of the esteem in which the Bishop was held by the Diocese. In 1890, this fund had risen, largely through the generosity of friends in England, to the amount of \$24,000 = £5,000. In 1891, an effort was made to make up another £1,000 in Victoria, to be met by another grant of £250 from the S. P. C. K. The effort was successful, and the Clergy Endowment Fund now amounts to \$30,000 = £6,000, invested, yielding an annual income of some \$2,500 = £500. Further help is received from the Ladies' Auxiliary, from annual contributions and offertories, but from these sources we have not obtained the \$5,000 which was reasonably expected. In fact the Mission Fund is \$1,000 short at the present moment, and unless a special effort is made in this last quarter of the year (ending March 31) the deficit will be still larger. Sir Joseph Trutch—and we agree with him—attributes this position of affairs to a want of information among Victoria churchmen generally, and thinks that possibly the title Mission Fund, is misunderstood. It is important that all Churchmen in this Diocese should realise that the Mission Fund is for the support of Home Missions in our own Diocese, and if we have derived benefit from our share in the privileges of the Gospel, and the ministrations of the Church, we ought to be not only glad but eager to help our poorer brethren in the scattered settlements to support their highly valued clergy.

Mr. Baynes Reed (Lay Secretary to the Synod) explained and urged the adoption of the envelope system, with a view to obtaining more definite and steady support.

The Reverend E. T. Lipscomb spoke of the Chinese Mission and some of its difficulties. He asked for sympathy with its objects, for support and encouragement, as the Mission promised hopefully from that which had been done in so short a time.

Archdeacon Scriven, from his experience gained in personal visits to the outlying settlements, pleaded for those who valued their Church privileges, and were too poor, and too few, to pay for them, if entirely unaided, with those who in Victoria were not likely to lose their own privileges through poverty or paucity of numbers. Some ask, "Is it wise to attempt so much now?"