

lation that each one of these ministers is supported by a large staff of lay helpers, and we must see how insignificant in comparison is the machinery with which the Anglican Church expects to evangelize this Dominion.

But it will be said in reply: "Lay Help is not forbidden by us. We would gladly avail ourselves of it. But the difficulty is to get the men."

In answer to this we must take up separately the two propositions which it involves; though indeed they act and react on each other.

1st. "Lay Help is not forbidden." This is true, but then it is not officially recognized; it is not incorporated into our Canons and Formularies, and Books of Discipline. It is not part of our system. It is not (to use an Americanism) an "institution" with us as with the others.

But let us proceed to the

2nd and more important objection—that it is so hard to get the men. This we must meet by admitting it—admitting it with sorrow and shame. It *is* hard to get the men, as every missionary knows. But let us ask, why is it so? Why should we find it harder to get Lay Helpers than any other Christian body? Surely there is not less earnestness or piety, or intelligence in members of the Church? Indeed our very safeguards ought to render it easier for us to obtain Lay Helpers. With us, for example, such a person would only have to *read* prayers, which among others he would have to *compose*. Surely the very possession of our formularies should be in our favor in the employment of such Lay Readers, relieving us of one great source of anxiety, viz.: lest errors in doctrine or incongruities of any kind should occur in such worship. What, then, let us enquire, is the source of this great difficulty which we experience? I would submit that it may be traced to the four following causes:

1st. Our requiring—or (which has the same effect) our laity dreading that we should require, too high a standard in such officials. The main thing, of course, is to secure earnest Christian men, who are anxious to work for the Church. The