

behalf of its various objects be regularly made in all the Parishes, Missions and Stations throughout the Diocese, and that a greatly increased measure of liberality be evinced by the members of the Church throughout the Diocese, both in responding to the appeals made to them on the occasion of the quarterly collections and in other ways contributing to the funds of the Society.

The Rev. T. B. Read nominated the Rev. F. Fisher to be elected an incorporate member at the next meeting.

The meeting then adjourned till the evening.

In the evening, the Society held its Annual Meeting at the City Hall, which was well filled on the occasion. Many distinguished members of the Church of England, lay and ecclesiastic, were present, some of whom addressed the meeting. The Bishop of Toronto opened the meeting with prayer, after which the Rev. T. S. Kennedy, Secretary of the Society, read the Annual Report at the request of his Lordship.

ANNUAL REPORT.

"The Society's thirteenth year, which has just closed, has been rendered memorable by an event in which future generations of Canadian Churchmen will recognise an important crisis in the history of our branch of the Catholic Church of Christ. The consummation of the long-agitated plottings for the secularization of property set apart specially for religious purposes, has stamped the times with the indelible mark of a sacrilegious age. Yet amidst the storm of irreligious violence, the voice of justice has not been wholly overpowered, that which would have been utterly denied to the cause of God has been partially yielded to the claims of men. Hence in the Providence of Him who is over all things to the Church which is his body, there has been preserved, through the commuted claims of individuals, a fund, not adequate indeed to the extension of our Zion, nor yet equal to the maintenance of even her present limited ministry, but still of vast importance as forming a permanent nucleus, round which the contributions of her children may accumulate. While we humbly bow before the will of the Great Head of the Church, who has permitted for wise ends, an act of spoliation, we cannot but give glory to him also for having raised up energetic and zealous friends in perilous times, to stem the torrent of vindictive covetousness which threatened to sweep away the whole provision for the support of the ministry. Nor has the secularization of the Church's property been in itself an unmitigated evil; for here again we must acknowledge with grateful hearts a gracious over-ruling Providence which has removed for ever, from the clamour of party, the fund, which, however diminished, from this time will form the basis of the maintenance of the Church in Western Canada. Furthermore, the hearty good-will with which the clergy have united in commuting their claims for the benefit of the body at a time when it was a matter of doubt with some, whether the assertion of their claims, separately, would not have been better for their private interests, has afforded to this society subject of deep congratulation in this tangible proof of zeal and unanimity.

A new duty now devolves upon this society, and calls for increased exertions on the part of its officers and members—the proper administration of the Commutation Fund. We may humbly and confidently hope that the same Divine Power to whom we gratefully attribute that measure of success which has attended the efforts of those who have so nobly battled for the

rights of the Church, will give also such sound judgment to this society in the management of the Commuted Fund, that it may remain a partial endowment of the Church for ever—a lasting monument of the goodly portion originally bestowed on her by a pious Government, and an enduring memorial of the energies of those who under God have saved this remnant for her.

Your Committee regret to say, that those Clergymen who have been added to the list since the passing of the Imperial Act of 1853, have as yet been unable to obtain a commutation of their claims on the Clergy Reserve Fund. The injustice of this will be apparent when it is considered that, if the Canadian Government, by withholding immediate action on that bill denied the Church the instant benefit of the Commutation of its then claims, they should not in common fairness have objected to meet any new claims consequent upon the legitimate growth of a living body, during the interval of their inaction, and this injustice will be the more palpable when it is considered that those whose claims are disallowed were for the most part appointed to supply the immediate wants of the church and to fill the places of those who have since demised, but who were serving the Church in 1853.

With this allusion to the wrongs which the Church in this Province has sustained, your Committee would now recommend the Society to forget the injury in the earnestness of action to repair it.

Your Committee is unhappily not able to report any increase in the general income of the Society for the past year. Perhaps the storm which was lowering over the temporal interests of the Church, may have had a depressing effect upon some, so as to cause them to withhold their support for a while. Perhaps, as in the awful moments which precede the encounter of mighty hosts, "the bravest hold their breath for a time;" so Churchmen may have been waiting the result with expectation too anxious for energetic action. But now that the crisis is past, now that the ship has outrid the storm, your Committee would call earnestly on Churchmen not only to return devout thanks to Him who has preserved from alienation, a portion of the temporalities of the church, but to show the reality of their gratitude by taking effective means to replace what has been lost, enabling the Society to pay all the stipends of the Clergy who have commuted, and so far as human prudence may, to prevent those evils which might threaten the Church in days to come, if her necessities compelled her to diminish the capital so generously contributed by the clergy.

The Church is a perpetual Society, is a living, and therefore a growing Society. In providing for the temporal wants of such a body we must not consider merely the present day, the present generation; we are led by the consideration of the immortality of the Church, by that looking forward which characterises those whose highest hopes are placed in futurity, to provide for a future generation, trusting that that generation will in its turn provide for those who are to follow, even as we ourselves have benefited and are benefitting by the labors and bounty of those who have gone before us.

The following details will on comparison, show that in many parishes the amounts raised have not been equal to those of the preceding year.

The income of the Parent Society, exclusive of monies received for Special Trusts, the noble bequest of the late Dr. Burnside, of £1750, and the sum of £156 belonging to the previous year's income, and acknowledged in the Appen-

dix though received too late for the audited accounts, amounted

To	£2337 4 18
To this may be added amount received since books were closed this year.	174 10 2
	£2511 12 0

Some collections and proportions of Parochial Branch Subscriptions have not yet been received. The estimated income of the several branches and Parochial Associations, so far as has yet been ascertained, amount to	£2324 12 4
Of which, £30 6s. 10d. was received after the Books were closed; deduct as remitted to Parent Society, something on an average over ¼	783 1 11

To which add monies received on account of Instalments on Loans, Dividends and rents paid in for particular trusts.	£294 18 3
	£2748 9 8

The income of the Society last year, inclusive of the bequest of the Hon. W. Allan, (£200), amounted to £5419 4s. 7d., so that if we add the bequest of Dr. Burnside (£1750), the income of the Society will appear to be much greater this year; but your Committee cannot, considering all the circumstances, represent the case in any other light than as an actual falling off of income, and a result far different to what they might have expected, considering that new Branches had been organized, that some Branches remitted in full, and the great prosperity of the country, particularly in the rural districts; while other countries are being desolated with war, or drained of men and money to supply its insatiable demands, and while in the Mother Country an increased taxation weighs heavily upon the people, our favoured land has been receiving large accessions of population, capital has flowed into it profusely, the harvest has been bountiful, agricultural industry has been rewarded in an unprecedented degree, and property has in most places risen in value beyond what the most sanguine could have expected. In all these general benefits, Churchmen have fully participated, and your Committee would earnestly call on them to consider seriously from whom this prosperity flows, and to honour with their substance in increasing proportion, Him to whom they owe it all. "Honour the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of all thine increase, so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

DEPOSITORY.

A large sum is apparently still due to the late Depository; and the Society, out of its General Purposes Fund, has, during the past year, paid all the liabilities, amounting to £182 1s 9d.

SERMONS.

The proceeds of the Quarterly Collections remitted during the past year amounted to £1,289 2s. 7d., and were taken up at 725 stations, last year £1291 9s. 7d., was received from this source, and the number of collections reported were 8,68. Some of the Collections, on account of the Students' Fund, are yet to be received.

Collections for the Mission Fund made at 171 Stations, amounted to	£321 5 0
Collections for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, made at 192 Stations amounted to	467 2 8
Collections for the General Purpose Fund, made at 181 Stations, amounted to	302 15 11
Collections for the Students' Fund, made at 138 Stations, amounted to	201 4 0