

the Clergy Reserves Fund,—then assumed by the Local Government and diverted to other uses. The money which the Clergy thus received they paid over to the Church Society, on the guarantee of their respective incomes for life; and then to be employed for the use of the Church in this Diocese in all time to come. There were two other courses open to them,—either to refuse to commute, and so become the stipendiaries of Government as long as they lived, with nothing accruing to the Church; or to commute each on his own behalf, and invest the amount received for the benefit of his family for ever. They did a nobler thing than either of these.

I am surprised at the excuse thus alleged on two grounds:

First, because there is not the slightest connection between this fund and its purposes, and those objects of the Church Society to which, from year to year, you are asked to contribute. That fund has its special Committee of management; and if they should be so imprudent, or so unfortunate, as to lose all the moneys entrusted to them, it would not abstract one shilling from those purposes which you, by your contributions, are asked to promote.

Secondly, my great surprise is that such an impression of mismanagement should be allowed to prevail in face of the facts which have been, over and over again, set before the public.

When this fund was established in 1855, the income derived from it was £6000 per annum less than the annual charges upon it; and the late Bishop of the Diocese was about issuing a strong appeal to the members of the Church, to make up the deficiency by special contributions. Several circumstances, however, concurred most providentially to render this unnecessary. A large amount of arrears on our share of income from the Clergy Reserves Fund, unexpectedly came in; the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel voted us £7500 sterling; several of the Clergy who commuted did not draw their stipends; and several savings occurred from death and removal from the Diocese, which diminished the annual charge. But more than all this, the capital sum received was so judiciously invested,—mainly through the activity and skill of the Hon. J. H. Cameron, who, let me add, would never accept a shilling of compensation for all the valuable services he rendered,—that, combining the advantages thus acquired with the concurrent ones I have adduced, it was not necessary to make the special appeal contemplated by the late Bishop. Every salary was paid, and every contingent expense was met, out of the actual income of the Trust Fund.

I have often taken occasion, in sermons and at public meetings, to express my surprise at the apprehensions and suspicions entertained in some quarters regarding the management of this fund. For the very fact that, through good management and what we may call providential interpositions, a deficient income of £6000 was made up; the fact that, at every annual inspection, the securities were found intact; and that every commuting Clergyman regularly received his stipend on quarter-day; these facts ought to have been enough to have dispelled all alarm, and have stamped those reproaches as a delusion or a slander.

If, after this secure condition of the fund had been effected, and its annual expenditure diminished by the falling in of lives, it be complained that there is not yet the surplus which had been promised, we candidly avow that, as will happen in the case of all other institutions of this sort, some partial and temporary losses have been sustained. Certain Municipalities got into pecuniary trouble, and could not meet the interest upon the moneys loaned to them; but these difficulties have been arranged, though not without some loss of revenue for a time. But notwithstanding this, every Clergyman has all along received the income to which he was entitled, and at this moment there is a surplus of sufficient extent to enable the Committee to place three of the uncommuted Clergy upon the list, at \$400 each per annum.

This is a very different state of things from that presented by some other