

men when they go, devout Christians, good Quebec Churchmen, good Vermont Churchmen. In the third place we were told that we were small bodies in the midst of hostile populations. You, he said, have given us many Roman Catholics. We have given you many Puritans. The Church has much to do for both of these classes. But, in order to accomplish it, she must be truly reformed, and yet truly Catholic. The Bishop spoke of the admirable features of the plan and work of the Church Society. By the central plan of the Church Society, a Board equitably assesses different missions as to what they should pay towards their clergyman's stipend, and receiving this from them, pays the clergyman himself. This, it was objected, made the Bishop altogether absolute. He did not think so, and he sincerely hoped not. He believed that even in Quebec the Bishop could not do always as he liked. But it was quite right that a clergyman should not be altogether dependent upon his congregation, for he might feel his tongue tied and be unable to speak out when he should. A rich ungodly layman, who had perhaps contracted an unholy marriage or was an offender in some other way and could not endure to have his pet vice denounced, might hold the purse strings so tightly if his clergyman dared to speak independently, that the latter would be either squeezed out or starved out. On the other hand too much endowment of a Church, such as often existed in England, was a drawback, and made a clergyman too independent of his people. This was like living on the generosity of the past. But we were not much troubled with this sort of thing either in Canada or in Vermont, and he was decidedly opposed to allowing a congregation the power to starve out a clergyman, when they were tired of him. The Bishop also spoke of the Pension Fund in Quebec and said what a capital thing it was, that clergymen here were not forced to hang on, when they became aged and unfit for work. And as a celibate himself he pleaded for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund. He recognized the fact that many congregations, English people particularly, preferred married clergymen. Well, of course they must pay for the wife and children as well as for the clergyman himself. It was only proper that they should live in comfort. He recognized what the 37th article said as to the right of the clergy to marry. But he pleaded for a class too of unmarried clergymen, who, either for a number of years or for life, would give themselves up entirely without

any thoughts or affections divided by domestic ties and home comforts, to the promotion of God's glory alone, like the saintly Bishop Stuart of Quebec. In regard to the Diocese and Church Society of Quebec, he said that the Church people here had a great inheritance, and he begged of them in conclusion to adhere to their own best ecclesiastical traditions. (Loud Cheers.)

The hymn, "Lord speak to me that I may speak," was then sung, during which the offertory was taken up, amounting to the splendid sum of \$121.27, made up of 339 different contributions varying from five dollar bills downwards.

A cordial vote of thanks was proposed to the speakers of the evening by the Hon. H. G. Joly de Lotbinière and seconded by the Hon. Geo. Irvine, in neat and appropriate speeches.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese, before putting the motion, spoke of the self-denying labours of the country clergy and urged more consideration for their condition. He gave a number of instances of the privations they endure and the difficult work they undertake. He urged the ladies who would collect next autumn for the Church Society to redouble their efforts for increased subscriptions. He mentioned the case of one clergyman who, as a congregational minister, had \$2,000 a year in Constantinople. Having from conviction entered the Ministry of the Church, he was now working for \$700 or \$800 a year and sawing his own wood-pile. He urged all present to take the *Quebec Diocesan Gazette* and to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the excellent article in the last number by Mr. Eckhardt, of St. Matthew's Church, on Christian almsgiving. His Lordship mentioned that last year he had confirmed 1100 candidates, and testified that, as a rule, they were even more carefully prepared for the holy Rite than similar candidates in England. When such excellent work was going on, it was a shame that it should be hindered in remote country districts, where the truth was not known by drivelling nonsense sent out from Quebec, which here, of course, could not be productive of any harm. It was indeed sad to think of God's work hindered by the wickedness of man. In conclusion he asked for daily prayer for the Church Society and for Church work in the Diocese, and said that all qualified Churchmen in the City should be ready to serve upon some of the Committees of the Society. (Applause.)

His Lordship then closed the Meeting with the Benediction.