

Society for the Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts that, under God, the Church must look to carry out the glorious and blessed work of evangelizing the world of heathendom throughout the almost boundless extent of the British dominions. It may, at the same time, be set down as incontrovertible, that the aforesaid Society has established a righteous and most weighty claim upon the Church in this province. That debt has been acknowledged in almost every Report, and in almost every Annual Meeting of our Diocesan Church Society, as well as the floor of the Synod. Ferrent in her behalf are the prayers of assembled churchmen; intensely ardent are their expressions of most grateful obligation for a long course of most generous fostering care.

Now, this is all quite right, so far; it is only just what it ought to be, and nothing more, nay, I would venture to ask, is it as much as it ought to be? Ought there not to be some pious requital, some practical love-token to her to whom the Canadian Church owes a debt which can never wholly be discharged? Though I happen to have put the point as a question, it is not that I think there can be any question whatever about it. Every churchman, (deserving of the name) throughout the province, will freely admit that the Church in Canada, is bound, on christian principles, to assist the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, to do for others that which the Society has long done for Canada; and I make bold, my dear Brother, to say that there are hundreds on hundreds of Churchmen among us who would be very greatly gratified to have the privilege and opportunity of adding to their prayers for that noblest missionary Society of the Church some tangible testimony to their verbally acknowledged obligations. Such persons believe it to be a positive duty to obey the commandment of Christ, according to the ability which He Himself has been pleased to give them:—"FREELY YE HAVE RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE." They would most gladly add to their prayers for the prosperity of that Venerable Society, a gift of such things as she now is known to need. But they would desire to do so, not by detached and individual effort, but, as being themselves only parts of a whole, as members of the Church: somewhat for instance, as was done at the time of the Society's jubilee.

Beyond the offertory collection just alluded to, our Canadian Church has not given I believe any direct practical acknowledgment of its deep debt to the Society. It cannot be said that there is no room for need for the extension of our best aid to that mother of our missions from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth. For, it is perfectly true, and ought to be made perfectly known, that, at this moment, when the field of missionary labour is being enormously enlarged, especially in British India, the Society is lamentably straitened in her ability to send forth laborers into the harvest, and in her efforts to plant the Standard of the everlasting Gospel throughout her almost limitless fields of operation.

They, (if there be any such,) who would argue, that, until we have converted the heathen at our door, the heathen abroad (in "foreign parts,") can have no claim upon us, may find their confutation in the recent appeal of our Reverend Bishop for the appropriation of an offertory collection to the sufferers in the East, taken along with the cheerful response of his lordship's Diocese, as partly set forth in your last Gazette. Although, at this exceedingly trying time, there is an amount of physical want and suffering in most parishes beyond their capabilities as generally put forth hitherto, the offering for our suffering brethren "in foreign parts" was most willingly made. True charity, whether exercised on behalf of body or soul, though beginning at

home, will not be satisfied to stop there, if by any means it can reach beyond. This is the law of true Christian love; alike in spiritual and in carnal destitution. And therefore the heart that feels a spiritual longing for one section of the heathen on God's earth that are nigh at hand, will also feel for others of them however remote.

The proposition then which I would most respectfully suggest to our brethren throughout the bounds of our Church Society, is simply this: that the subject of this Church's obligations to the venerable Society, P. G. F. P. (more particularly with reference to the duty of imparting assistance to her, in spreading Gospel light throughout our heathen dominions, especially in the East,) be taken into consideration at the Annual Branch Meetings about to be immediately held. What more suitable subject for a general Resolution at this time could be devised and unanimously carried? What "resolution" should receive more universal favour than one, embodying the fact that the Parochial Branches of the Church Society of this Diocese would feel grateful to their Right Rev. President, the Lord Bishop, if he would be pleased to grant them the opportunity of showing their lasting love and obligation to the Venerable Society P. G. F. P., by contributing to its pecuniary necessities in the foreign Missionary field; (especially in the East Indies at this time). The said contribution to be collected on any day notified by his lordship; and then forwarded, as "donations of the people," by the hands of Clergy and Synodsmen to be placed among the offerings made at the administration of the Holy Communion, on the first day of the meeting of each Diocesan Synod.

Surely it would be a most pleasant thing to see the united free-will offerings of a grateful diocese laid lovingly upon the altar of God; a God whose unspeakable mercy had caused the light of the glorious Gospel to shine brightly upon itself; a God who has blessed to the Anglo-Canadian Church the unremitting labours and fostering care of the Society for the Propagating the Gospel of Christ.

There can scarcely be a doubt that our good Bishop would accede to the pious wishes of his people with heart and soul, and would much prefer this link in the chain of practical Catholic unity, to the absence of alms, as at the last communion during the session of the Synod.

In conclusion, I beg to add, that the usual Annual Meetings of the various Branches of the Church Society would have a much greater interest, when the speakers should be able to communicate something of the work of the Lord in other lands, a work to which the hearers had themselves contributed. The various parishes would thus also be entitled to the exceedingly interesting Reports and monthly papers of the Venerable Society; and their Clergy, be enabled to speak authentically of the trials and the triumphs of "the Holy Church throughout all the world."

Believe me to be,

Very faithfully,

Your brother in Christ,

CLERICUS

January 9th, 1858.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

ADDRESS TO THE BISHOP OF HURON.

The following, says the London *Prototype*, is a copy of the address presented to our Bishop on Tuesday last, in St. Paul's Church. His reply will be found appended:—

Recognising, with humble thankfulness, the goodness of Almighty God, in prospering your

appointment as a bishop of His church, and vouchsafing your speedy return to the scene of your future labors, we bid you a cordial and Christian welcome to your diocese.

Endeared to us especially, by your long residence and devoted services as a minister of Christ among us, we cannot but hail, with peculiar feelings of thankfulness, your appointment as an overseer in His church being persuaded that your experience in the ministry, and your soundness in the faith, will greatly tend to the glory of God, in firmly establishing our beloved church in the hearts of the people on this western portion of her Majesty's dominions.

That you may long continue to adorn and edify the church over which it has pleased God, in His great goodness, to place you; that, so having fulfilled His good pleasure, as His faithful servant in the church militant, you, at His call, may enter the church triumphant, is our most earnest and fervent prayer.

Signed by L. Lawrason, churchwarden, and about 200 others.

REPLY.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—I am deeply sensible of the kindness which has dictated the cordial and Christian welcome with which you have greeted my arrival amongst you as your bishop, and I would assure you that I am equally thankful to find myself, by the good providence of God, again surrounded by those friends, amongst whom as their pastor, I have spent the best and happiest years of my life. The new relationship in which we now stand to each other, does not tend to weaken, but strengthen those feelings of affectionate regard which I have so long entertained towards you.

During my brief absence, it has pleased our heavenly Father to visit this community with trials of no ordinary kind; I have sympathised with you in them all; and I have not ceased to entreat the God of all grace to overrule them for your good, and to bestow upon you all needful strength and support under the many and grievous afflictions to which you have been subjected.

When I look back upon the many years during which I have labored amongst you, as an ambassador of Christ (to which you kindly advert,) I feel that I have much reason to humble myself before God. My shortcomings have been great, my sins of omission and commission have been many; but one thing I can with some degree of boldness, say, that "I have not shunned to declare to you all the counsel of God." I have endeavored, as the Lord enabled me, to proclaim to sinners a free and finished salvation through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and I trust that, while life is spared, I may be enabled to persevere in the same course, being persuaded that the only way to promote the glory of God, and firmly to establish our beloved church in the breasts of the people, is to set forth the great truths of our holy religion, as revealed in the word of God, and exhibited in the articles of our church. I desire ever to bear in mind that I am "put in trust with the Gospel," and that the first and great consideration which should influence me in the discharge of all the arduous duties which now devolve upon me, is the propagation of a pure gospel, and the adoption of such measures as may, by the Divine blessing, secure this inestimable gift to this diocese for all time to come. I shall look with confidence for your support and assistance in effecting this great object.

I trust that you will continue to offer up your earnest and fervent prayers in my behalf, that I may be endowed with wisdom from on high, to fit me for the discharge of those sacred duties to which I am called, and I earnestly pray that the God of all grace, who alone can bless His word to