

share such work, and to it probably the society owes its formation.

Church-work was, however, a novelty, and, as such, presented many difficulties, and some opposition. Both, it is hoped, may be overcome, especially the latter, when the objects and works of the society become better known. Many ladies had previously been engaged in preparing fancy and ornamental articles for bazaars, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to Church purposes, but their own amusement and pleasure were chiefly consulted in such work, and the far higher, purer pleasure of devoting their time and skill in direct offerings to God's House and service was unknown. Soon after the ladies had agreed to unite their efforts and form a society for the continuance of the work so well begun, a copy of its rules was sent to every clergyman in the diocese. Many responded by sending subscriptions, and bidding the work "God-speed." Within a few months numerous applications were made, and work done by the members of this society has been sent to various parts of the diocese.

Those who have travelled into the more distant parts of the province, have seen how much is required to enable the service of the mission churches to be conducted with that decency and order so earnestly enjoined in Holy Scripture.

In some of these churches not even a white cloth for the communion-table is kept, but the clergyman, or one of his more wealthy parishioners, is compelled to take an ordinary table-cloth. This is surely wrong; an article used for such a purpose ought not to serve for common meals.

Individual effort could hardly provide all that is needed that "everything be done decently and in order,"

but united co-operation may effect a desirable change.

During the first year of the society's existence, the sum of \$120 has been received in subscriptions. Few have refused when its aims and intentions have been fairly and fully stated. All the subscriptions have not been confined to Fredericton, where the work was started; and the members are most anxious that its influence should increase by becoming more generally supported, more widely known.

A few of the articles made by the members may here be enumerated, and from time to time the readers of the Church Magazine may look for, it is hoped, an extended list:—

Altar-cloth and carpet for chancel of the church at New Maryland, with kneeling-cushion and alms-bags.—Utrecht velvet altar-cloth for Moncton. Four sets of linen napkins for communion of the sick, consisting of three to the set, embroidered with crosses and monograms, in oil cloth case. Six linen surplices have also been provided, and four more are ordered, and will shortly be made by the members. Altar-linen, hoods, stoles, and kneeling cushions, have also been provided, and the members have several pieces of work now in hand, some ordered, and others ready for any applicant who may require them. The society undertakes to supply such articles at two-thirds of the cost price of materials to those unable to pay the whole. It is hoped that it is almost unnecessary to add, that this society of Churchwomen has no desire to interfere with the province of the clergy, but only to supply them, *on their own application*, with such articles for their use in the service of the Church, as either the Prayer-book prescribes, or decency and reverence suggest.

## THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD IN JESUS CHRIST.

**Y**ES. Once we have a' been thoughtful. It was when we laid "our dear brother" or "sister" in the grave. But what was buried? Think, reader! Was it *all* that we once knew and loved so well? Think again. Surely not. It was the **BODY** that was laid so gently in the deep earth. But where is the **SOUL**? Absent

from the body, "in Abraham's bosom," "In Paradise," "Waiting beneath the altar." The body is in another earth, or in the sea, or on the sands, or on the rocks, or on the battlefield, perishing yet imperishable; corrupting yet incorruptible. We have not seen the last of that body now absent for a season. The separation of body and spirit is but for a while.