

The Archdeacon having made a very feeling and suitable reply, the Bishop pronounced the Benediction and the meeting separated.

On the previous Monday evening a large assemblage of the teachers, scholars of the Sunday School and their relatives met in the same place, for the purpose of presenting to the Ven. Archdeacon Gilson, a purse containing the sum of twenty guineas, as a small, but affectionate parting tribute. Mr. Ross presented the testimonial and the purse on behalf of his fellow-teachers and the scholars.

A PASTORAL LETTER TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

REV. AND DEAR BRETHREN.

We have now held the third annual meeting of the Synod of this Diocese, and I feel that we have no reason to be disappointed at the manner in which these meetings have been conducted, or at the amount of interest which has been taken in these proceedings. There is, however, so much real practical work requisite, in order to give full effect to the action of the Church, now entering upon its duties of self-government, and so many prudent and thoughtful measures that must be planned and executed in order to promote its efficiency and secure its support, that I wish to draw your attention to a few particulars, with the hope that, before we meet again next year, we may have our whole system prepared for some more complete organization and adaptation to the present state and necessities of the Diocese. In order to insure any success in the prosecution of these objects, I rely very much upon the future working of the several Deaneries, into which the Diocese is now divided. Much useful information was embodied, and many good suggestions made in the Reports, which were laid before the last Synod; but the short time that intervened between the appointment of the Rural Deans to their respective offices, and the meeting of the Synod necessarily made their work very incomplete. I now depend on its being resumed with renewed zeal and prudence, and through means of the information that will be brought before the Synod, and with the zealous co-operation of the Church Society, I trust we may soon see good progress made. It is through their united agency that the work of the Church must be advanced. They both in their several spheres of action represent the Church in its corporate character; and all who have at heart the welfare of the Church will be anxious for their success. It will be the province of the Synod to make rules for the organization of the Church and its order and discipline; while the Church Society, as its almoner, must provide what funds may be necessary to aid the local efforts of the people, and extend its missionary work. And our attention must thus be given to two distinct objects:—

1st. The more complete arrangement and systematic organization of the Parishes and Missions now existing.

2nd. Providing for the extension of the Church, and the establishment of new Missions.