

## Diocesan Synod.

(Continued from 5th page.)

I had gone on too long in her, and that if the ship had proceeded on the proposed voyage down the Labrador and had met (as she probably would) with heavy weather, she would have foundered, and possibly with loss of life.

But while we thank God that such a calamity has been averted, it is with deep regret that we reflect that we shall never see her again. She was a welcome visitor to many an outboarder. To thousands of fisherfolk she has carried the ministrations of the Church's Chief Pastor, and her coming has been looked forward to with the keenest interest and delight. In this little ship I have spent four years of my life, and have made seventeen part from her without poignant sorrow.

The question as to what steps should be taken up to provide a substitute became at once a matter for serious consideration. I have taken counsel with some of our experienced laymen—merchants, ship-owners and others—and their advice and practical suggestions have been of much value. One thing is certain, namely, that a great part of the Bishop's work cannot for some time to come be carried on without a vessel at his disposal. Though of late years the facilities for locomotion have increased by means of railway and motor boats yet for quite half the coast a Church ship is still a necessity. The Bishop visit scores of settlements where no coastal steamer ever touches.

The Lavrock was a sailing vessel, and a better sailer could not be found. But the universal opinion is that something more than this is required, and we have decided to build a vessel in Newfoundland, of about 80 tons, and to equip her with a kerosene motor instead of trusting entirely to sails. The cost will be about \$15,000. We have nearly the sum at hand, made up of the insurance money, a small endowment yielding about \$200 a year, subscriptions from friends in England, and the recent Lenten Self-Denial Offering from various parishes and missions. It should be borne in mind that until within the last eight years the Diocese has not been put to any expense whatever for the maintenance of the three Church ships which have been worn out in its service. The Hawk, the Star, and, until quite recently, the Lavrock, have not cost the diocese one farthing. In 1902 the Synod made its first grant of \$500 towards the upkeep of the Church Ship, and of late years several of the missions and parishes have from time to time contributed a collection for the object.

### BISHOP'S PRIZEMEN.

It will be in the recollection of the Synod that with a view to the encouragement of Systematic Religious Instruction to our Day Schools I have for some years past offered prizes to the teachers of those schools which, in the opinion of the Inspectors, have shown a satisfactory knowledge of the special subjects prescribed in the syllabus. We made a beginning in 1903 with the schools of the Colonial and Continental Church Society. In 1905 the plan was applied to the Board Schools lying between Petty Harbour and King's Cove inclusive. In 1907 the schools situated between Brocklyn and Bay of Islands were reported upon. I had intended that the survey of the whole diocese should be completed last year by the examination of the schools lying between Bay of Islands and Placentia, and in fact was under the impression that this was being done. I regret, however, to find that through a misapprehension such inspection in Religion Knowledge has not taken place. The Superintendent of Education actually visited nearly all of these last mentioned schools, but as the selection of Prize-men was not in his mind at the time, he feels that he could not now make a just and equitable decision. The inspection in religious knowledge of this portion of the diocese must, therefore, be postponed for the present.

### EDUCATION.

The subject of education, as connected with the Church, is too important at the present time not to demand our special attention. At the last session of the Synod a special committee was appointed to consider the subject, and to draft resolutions on the same for the consideration of the Synod. That Committee, in its report, made various recommendations relating to the equipment of schools, the entrusting of an increased grant to the Synod Education Committee, the submission of plans for building to the Government, the increase of Teachers' salaries, and the increase of the grants for the Superior schools for training teachers, and for the colleges. It is gratifying to know that all of the recommendations have been, or are being, carried out. Meanwhile the questions rises in one's mind. Are the Clergy making the most of their present opportunities to train up the children of our schools in intelligent attachment to the Church? The influence of the frequent presence of the Parish Priest at the time of religious instruction and at other times, his constant interest in the progress of the individual boys and girls, the influence wisely and judiciously exercised upon the master or mistress of the school, his sympathy with their difficulties, his ready help, his appreciation of their work, all this tells immensely upon the efficiency of the school. A clergyman who never or rarely goes near the school, who is a comparative stranger to both teachers and scholars, is throwing away a great opportunity. The remedy again may be done to interest the Laity of the Parish in the work of the school. Invite them to the school examinations, to the school treat, to the prize-day. I regret that with perhaps the exception of a member of a school board here and there so few of our laymen ever enter the schools. I very much wish, my brethren of the Laity, that you would feel that the Board is a great Church institution in which you as Churchmen are much interested as the Clergy, and that upon the efficiency and maintenance of our Church Schools the prosperity and health of the Church itself depends.

### TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Then with regard to the new requirements of the age. We must be alive to all the new aspects of the Educational question. Technical education is now come to the fore. Drawing and carving and various industries, most useful to the after life of the child, are required, and we must not neglect these. Will the parents of the children be content to accept the Church Catechism as an equivalent for the industries which will command good wages when the school-boy is become a man. I am of course speaking now mainly with reference to schools in this city and in our larger settlements. It is not manifest that we wish to retain the opportunity of giving a sound religious education to the working man's child, we must secure to him while in the school the highest advantages which he can get elsewhere. Moreover, if it is found by experience that the possession of technical knowledge sharpens and expands the intellectual faculties and has in addition good moral influence, as undoubtedly it has, does not love for the scholars teach us that we ought, if we can, to give them such knowledge? Real Christian benevolence does not do things by halves, does not give a moderately good thing when it is possible to give a very good thing. And therefore I claim for our Church schools that they secure the best education that can be given to their scholars, and I earnestly ask those of you who are members of Boards to strain every nerve to keep abreast of the movement, and to be fully alive to the requirements of the age you live in. I can conceive nothing more likely to attach the rising generation to the Church than the consciousness that that Church, in discriminating love to them, gave them the best education that could be given, with a view to their future wants in life, as well as to the highest and eternal interests of their souls.

### LITERATURE.

The impulse which has been given of late years to popular education, has brought about social changes which amount almost to a revolution. It is not very long ago—not much more than half a century—since those of the adult population who were able to read were in a decided minority, and the comparatively few books and periodicals, then in existence, formed but a limited circulation even among the literate. What a contrast lies between that period and the present! The day is approaching when almost every adult in the Colony will be able to read, and the ability to do so is getting a demand for reading matter which a cheap press can scarcely supply. The majority of our people are dependent for their literature mainly upon daily and weekly newspapers. Almost every household has its paper. Thousands of readers become thus acquainted with the daily record of the world's doings, and are brought into mental contact with all sorts of ideas. The eye has in a great measure supplanted the ear as a vehicle of instruction, and the preacher and the teacher have their words borne to the end of the earth. The flood of literature which is poured out by the press week by week represents enormous social influences, and upon its quality depends, in a great measure, the well-being of the community. The character of the popular literature of the country is thus not a matter of affecting Churchmen only; it touches upon the most important interests of society at large, what men read tends to form their opinions, and to give an attitude to their minds,—tends by strengthening the moral sense to make them good and law abiding citizens, or by pandering to vicious instincts to render them lawless and corrupt.

Hence the importance of this subject in connection with the education of our young people. The Clergy have a great power in their hands in a movement to limit the influence of hurtful literature by improving the literary taste. The parochial libraries are under their control, and the selection of books is within their jurisdiction. We can hardly overestimate the importance of such institutions in giving healthy tastes to young readers,—tastes which seem to remain in after life. These tastes can be educated in a healthy direction, and their enthusiasm should be capable of being aroused on the side of virtue with as much ease as it is sometimes on the side of vice. But our labours will be in vain if we attempt to interest them in that which does not appeal to some element in their nature. A solid, emotionless literature will not influence them. They have hearts, and their yearnings for the new, their love of glory, their desire for adventure, their hero worship, must be met if their interests are to be thoroughly aroused. Records of voyages and travels, tales of discovery and adventure, biographies of the world's great men, wonders of science and nature, and, above all, lives of Christian Saints and Martyrs, will feed their interests, and give a healthy direction to their tastes.

I have said that the majority of our people read little more than the daily newspapers, and here it might be admitted that there is room for much improvement in the conduct of the press. In our local journals large space is often devoted to trivial matters, while a few lines are given to events bearing on the cause of civilization and progress in the world. All unprejudiced persons will acknowledge that the tone of our newspapers at such a time as a general election leaves much to be desired. The misrepresentation of the words and actions of public men, the apparent inability to give credit to an opponent for a wise or honourable action, the appeals made to prejudice and ignorance, the attempts to put class against class and creed against creed, are such as should be repudiated by all right thinking people. The remedy for this state of things lies in the creation of a healthy public opinion, and I venture to think that a pronouncement by the Synod on this question would be a point in that direction.

A good daily paper is a desideratum—a journal which, while recording all that the press now deals with in politics, commerce and affairs of the world, would give to moral and religious questions at least the share borne by them in human life. I do not refer to what are called "religious newspapers," some of which do not present to the world the best illustration of Christian temper and spirit, but what we want for our journalism what



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C. L. March Co., Ltd., Corner Water and Springdale Streets.

Dr. Arnold desired for books, that it should deal with common subjects in a religious spirit.

### FINANCE.

The financial position of our outpost clergy calls for our most careful and sympathetic consideration. In this respect the contrast between their status and that of the clergy in England is striking. In an endowed church the clergy have security for tenure, and consequently independence of action and poor congregations have a certainty of spiritual ministrations being provided for them which are lacking in a Church almost wholly dependent on voluntary effort. On the other hand there can be no doubt that one tendency of endowments is to check enthusiasm and interest on the part of the laity, who are further in danger of forfeiting the privilege that is theirs to minister in worldly things to those who sow into the ear spiritual things.

The "golden mean" is perhaps the best for both, endowment sufficient to enable a man to feel free, if need be, to go counter to public opinion when it is clearly in the wrong, and yet not enough to free the people from their personal obligation towards those who labor for them in the Lord.

Into this question, however, I do not desire to enter further. We have to deal with facts as they are. We are not an endowed church. Now that the old system under which the S. P. G. guaranteed a stipend of £100 or more to each missionary, has been

abolished, and even the block grant which has taken the place of that system, is rapidly approaching extinction, our clergy are practically dependent on the freewill offerings of the faithful laity. Let us look these facts squarely in the face.

We should all be agreed that it is essential our own clergy should receive an income suitable to their position, and sufficient for their simple needs, and further, they should have some security that their income will not sink below a "living wage" if they feel bound in duty to our Lord to take what may be an unpopular line on some particular occasion. I have given the matter very careful thought, and I speak from personal experience inasmuch as I have again and again visited and enjoyed the hospitality of every clerical home in the diocese, and so know the manner of life of the Parish Priest and his household. I have no hesitation in saying that our clergy, if they are married men with families, do, as a rule, find it no easy matter to "make both ends meet." Most certainly there is no margin of receipt over expenditure at the end of the year.

Again, there is this circumstance for which I regret to say, we make no provision whatever. As a rule it is well, certainly in such a diocese as this where the life is often so isolated and lonely, that our outboard clergy both ends meet. Most certainly I must remember that a married Priest with a wife and children cannot live on the same income as a bachelor.

Other religious bodies take this into consideration when deciding what a minimum annual income of their ministers should be. Why should not we do the same? Why should not we make an allowance for each child under, say, eighteen years of age, and an educational allowance during the year that the child is at school?

I would claim for our clergy that as a body they are rendering right good service to the community, and that they ought to be free from those anxieties, which press so heavily on some, as to how they are to provide for the education of their children. We should remember that those Parish Priests are educated men, and it is hard for parents to know that their children will receive a less liberal education than they themselves enjoyed. Nothing takes the heart and spring out of work so much as the haunting thought that the children are handicapped in the race of life.

I have referred to this subject because, as you will have seen by the Agenda paper, the Executive Committee intend to introduce a bill dealing with it, and because I consider it to be one which demands the immediate and most serious consideration of the Synod.

Reference was also made by His Lordship to the destruction of the Nova Scotia Cathedral, the Pan-Anglican Congress Thank-Offering, and the work of the A.P.C. which we regret we have been unable to get in type in time for publication in this issue. We hope to print it to-morrow.

SYNOD NOTICES.

The afternoon session will meet from 3.20 to 5.25 o'clock, and the night session from 8 to 10 o'clock. The election of the Executive will most probably take place on Tuesday at 5 o'clock, and the Executive report be presented on Tuesday afternoon. The session will most likely last until next Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock.

We have seen a good deal written lately about "the fatal opulence of Bishops," and possibly some persons are still under the impression that all Bishops are "wallowing in wealth." I will not say anything about myself, but I am quite sure that this is a malady with which my successor is not likely to be afflicted. Nay more, I venture to predict that if steps are not taken by the Synod to provide against their reduction, it will not be an easy matter to find a successor at all. It must be remembered that I have said as to the increasing cost of living in this colony applies

at least as much to the Bishop as to anyone else.

CAPE REPORT.

Special to Evening Telegram. CAPE RACE, To-Day. Wind north, fresh, weather dull. Schr. Carl E. Richard passed in, bright, Gale and steamer Oppurg west and Malen Head East, and an unknown Belle Isle ore boat passed in at 3 a.m. Bar, 29.58, ther. 50.

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