

Circular Letter.

The subject we propose for consideration is, How can our Churches be made more efficient for the accomplishment of the divine purpose ?

Remembering whom we are addressing, we must regard out of place any attempt to prove that the divine purpose here referred to is the conversion of souls to God, and the maintenance of true piety ; or that it is the duty of every believer to give all the help he can towards rendering the Church as efficient as possible for that end. Nor can we presume that any intelligent christian requires to be convinced that, much as the church of Christ has accomplished, it is capable of doing far greater things for the glory of God, that there is in it a latent power mighty to the pulling down of the strongholds of sin as yet only partially developed and occasionally manifested ; and that this divine energy would be productive of far more glorious results were there more faith and zeal in the professed followers of Christ. We are not about to dwell upon the sad deficiency presented by the church as a whole as regards unity, charity, sanctity, and earnestness, nor even to discuss how nearly we as a body come up to the New Testament idea of "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people," but simply to consider in what way our Churches may be made better adapted to fulfil their appointed mission in the towns, villages and rural districts of this province. To secure this desirable result then we would suggest in the first place.