

Now it happens, in God's providence, that in the district of St. Francis, for several years past, there has been arising the beginning of just such an organization, as we have now tried to describe; for as far back as December 1888, it had been agreed that there should be a Lay Helpers' Association for the district of St. Francis; and a Constitution had been formed, which has since been amended, first in December 1892, and again in December last year. This Constitution stands now as follows:—

I.—NAME.

The Association shall be called the Association of the Lay Helpers of the District of St. Francis.

II.—BISHOP'S SANCTION.

The Association is formed with the sanction of the Bishop, and the Bishop is *ex-officio* President of the same. All proceedings of the Association are subject to his approval.

III.—MEMBERSHIP.

i. All laymen within the District, being communicants now actually engaged in the work of the Church, with the sanction of the Incumbent of the Parish or Mission in which they reside, or desirous of giving a portion of their time, under such sanction, to the working of the Church, shall be invited to join the Association.

ii. All women within the District, being communicants actually engaged in the work of the Church, with the sanction of the Incumbent of the Parish or Mission in which they reside, or desirous of giving a portion of their time, under such sanction, to the work of the Church, shall be invited to join the Association.

2. Any person desirous of becoming a member of this Association shall apply to the Incumbent of his Parish or Mission for his sanction, and if such sanction is given, the name of such person shall be sent in by the Association to the Bishop for his sanction in writing. On the Bishop withdrawing such written approval, such member shall cease to be a member of the Association.

IV.—OFFICERS.

The following shall be the officers of the Association: the Bishop, *ex-officio*, President; two Vice-Presidents, one Lay, one Clerical;

a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Committee of Management of six persons, viz., three clergymen and three laymen, with the officers of the Association, of which Committee five shall be a quorum.

The Secretary and Treasurer and Committee to go out every year, but to be eligible for re-election by the Association.

The first named member of the Committee, who shall be a layman, to act as Convener and Chairman, *pro temp.*, until a Chairman (who shall be a layman) is chosen.

V.—MEETINGS.

1. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Association. At such annual meeting the officers for the ensuing year shall be elected and the general business of the Association transacted.

2. Special general meetings of the Association shall be held from time to time at the call of the Bishop or upon the requisition of seven members.

3. Meetings of the Association for prayer, receiving the Holy Communion together and conferring upon Church work, shall be held from time to time, at least once a year, as may be arranged by the Committee of Management.

VI.—BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS.

The members of the Association resident in any Parish or Mission may be formed into a Parochial Association at the invitation of and with the sanction of the Incumbent of such Parish or Mission. The Incumbent shall be *ex officio* President of such Association, and all the proceedings of the Association shall be subject to his sanction.

At a first annual meeting, moreover, held in the Parish Room of St. Peter's Church, Sherbrooke, on Wednesday, December 12th last, at 11.30 a.m., officers were elected and arrangements made for the enrolment of members. The officers for the present year are: President (*ex officio*), the Lord Bishop of the Diocese; Vice-Presidents, R. W. Hencker, Esq., D.C.L., the Rev. Canon Thorneloe; Hon. Secretary, A. Dorey, Esq., of Sherbrooke, (to whom the clergy and others should address all their communications upon this subject);