

Missions or Parishes, in which such endowments have been commenced, amounting, in the aggregate, to \$15,141 68.

As regards the daily work of the Church, which is carried on among the living members of Christ's flock, and the unpledged and unattached multitude abounding in these Townships, matters can hardly be said to wear as encouraging an aspect. Comparing the Church accommodation afforded and the average attendance in our Churches scarcely one-third of those who might avail themselves of that accommodation, are found habitually to do so. In fact, it is to be feared, that the laxity respecting attendance upon public worship is hardly realized as it should be or made the subject of special effort. The attention of our Churchwardens and vestry-men, as well as the communicants of the Church generally, is called to this important and painful fact. Again, it appears from the official returns, that of our registered communicants in all our parishes very nearly alike, about one-half only are habitual attendants on the Lord's table. This can hardly be considered a satisfactory proportion. And therefore earnest prayer and earnest effort should be employed to endeavour to awaken our people, at least to a deeper sense of the life-giving power of that Divine Ordinance, that they may become more and more living witnesses for Christ and evidences of the power of true religion.

The Rural Dean believes that no apology is needed for introducing these remarks amidst the dry details of an official and statistical report. For in vain shall we congratulate ourselves upon the possession of a well-ordered material in our parishes, and a flourishing financial position if we have not, at the same time, evidence that the Church is really doing the work which her Divine Master committed to her; that her Clergy, by the zeal and earnestness with which they enter upon their sacred duties, and her members by the consistency and holy blamelessness of their lives, are exerting a healthy and improving influence upon the mass of the unbelieving world, by which they are surrounded.

In concluding this Report, the Rural Dean is certain that he does but express the unanimous feeling of the whole Ruridecanal Chapter, in giving utterance to the deep regret and sorrow, which we all must feel that, meeting here in Dunham, we have no longer the privilege of the genial and kindly pres-