

haughty ambition, too, in the order; while the care with which history blazons the dereliction may lead to some suspicion, that, in the darkest age, a priesthood thus venal and debased was the exception rather than the rule—the spots, and never the disc wholly obscured. But among us, in the reality of our present, there must be, for such a charge to lie, a change so revolutionary in the entire condition of the amount and mode of maintenance—the work as well as the spirit—the whole being of society around them—that it is now scarcely within the scope of imagination to realize the existence of such a state of things. But their position is rendered sadly false; and poverty may create evils strangely akin to wealth and its lusts. Extremes meet in many social and moral problems. The intense exigency of the situation forces them into “thought for the morrow,” and brings the inconveniences and evils of this forbidden solicitude in spite of themselves; from which none reluct more than the sufferers, and are more reluctantly dragged into that whirlpool of moral contradictions and bewildering claims; of false positions, unmerited suspicions, and even direct impeachment. As a Western Bishop, my experience convinces me that the inadequate support which ministers receive, should be regarded as the great cause of that portion of hindrance which the Church is now bewailing in all her borders—of deficiency in the numbers and capacity of her clergy, and the restless spirit of her pastorship.

I beg them to urge, as of paramount, incalculable importance, faithful exertions in the parishes and stations to provide a more liberal and surer maintenance for the clergy; solemn care in making offers of support—unbending honesty in pledges of salary—and resolute fidelity in exact and punctual payment. Some dioceses have required by canon that each minister shall state, in his annual report, whether the pecuniary obligations have been thus fully and punctually met. The object of this provision is, to shield the delicacy of the minister; to make the whole a matter in which the corporate honour of the Church is concerned; to elevate the stipend to its graver form of debt due to God; of which the Church is the trustee, and the balance is in the Sanctuary; to gather round the lonely and oppressed brother whose isolated wrong the unthinking world brands with odium, and perverts into misdemeanour of his.

It is said to work well. I do not venture to recommend it, or any specific course, for present action; though some provision of the kind is embodied in the proposed Canons. Anything that can give the defenceless minister, who would, and does suffer most deeply, rather than complain; who would die, rather than treat this sacred debt—on record with acknowledgment in God's book—as a question for an earthly suit;

anything that can make him officially protected by the Church's sentiment and inquiry, will be of deep use and expanding effect, in its ramified influence for the purity and progress of the Church in our land.—Convention Address of the Bishop of Illinois.

Church Funds.

CANADA.—A meeting to the Subscribers of the Episcopal Endowment Fund was held in London on the 20th November, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Deputation, which had been charged with the duty of visiting the different parishes in the proposed Western Diocese, and of soliciting contributions towards the Fund. The Deputation stated that they had collected a sum exceeding £10,000. A very small portion of this amount was paid in cash; of the remainder about one sixth is in notes of hand payable in six months, and five sixths are secured by mortgage on real estate. The report further expressed the firm conviction of the Deputation that an additional sum of £2000 might easily be raised. And the correctness of this opinion cannot be doubted, when it is known that (with the exception of £140, which has been collected in small sums in the town of London) the whole fund has been contributed by less than three hundred and fifty subscribers. Six or seven parishes have not hitherto been canvassed at all, and in almost every one of those which have been visited, there are churchmen who may be supposed to be willing and able to aid in the accomplishment of this important object, but who, on account of absence from home, or other circumstances, have not yet been applied to. Another fact deserving mention is, that £1,385, being $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, or more than one eighth of the whole sum, has been contributed by twenty-eight clergymen. Surely it may be expected that the rich and numerous laity will subscribe at least ten times as much as the few clergy have given out of their scanty incomes.

At the meeting on the 20th a resolution was adopted, that the chairman be requested to call upon the Bishop of Toronto to take such steps as may be necessary for proceeding to the election of a Bishop. The Deputation in the meanwhile were requested to resume their labours, as it was admitted on all sides that the income of the fund already secured is very inadequate to