

Taking the income of the last two years at £4,000, it is evident that when out of the fourth of this sum, (or £1,000) the salary of its officers and the necessary expenses of the Society are taken, and the £1 5 for each clergyman in the Diocese has been transferred to the Widows and Orphans' Fund, there can be but a very trifling sum left, to be devoted to strictly Missionary purposes, even when to the balance thus remaining is added the proceeds of the usual collection made on behalf of Traveling Missionaries. Indeed it may be safely stated that the united sums expended within the Diocese, through the medium of the Church Society, for the relief of those who really are in spiritual destitution, does not greatly exceed £750, the contributions of the District Branches towards the support of traveling Missionaries not doing more than making up for the necessary expenditure of the Parent Society.

This then seems really to be ALL that is done for ORPHANS, even by those 68 missions within whose limits the 81 Parochial Committees are in operation, the remainder of their contributions being altogether expended upon their own wants.

Small, however, as appear the sacrifices which even they make to relieve the wants of those who are in spiritual need, it is matter of deep regret to find that in 61 other Missions, nothing whatever is done (in the way of annual contribution to the Church Society) either for themselves or others.

To extend any of the benefits of the Society to such parishes, appears to your Committee manifestly unjust to those who exert themselves upon its behalf, and hence it is that they feel compelled to recommend their exclusion from any claim to such benefits, until they comply, to the extent of their ability, with its just and reasonable requirements.

Your Committee has already adverted to the fact of 23 Parochial Committees being in operation within 10 Missions,—and 5 of the 23 are embraced within the charge of a single travelling Missionary. This shows that even in those parishes where the present Parochial Committees exist, their number might be very considerably increased, because in every rural Mission there are usually several churches or important stations entirely independent of each other, in connection with each of which a separate Parochial Committee might be formed. That these separate congregations are not, as a general rule, included in one Parochial Committee for the Mission at large, is, (your Committee think) capable of proof from the records of the Society.

If, in addition to the increase which is thus considered practicable, there was, in those parts of the Diocese where no action whatever has been taken on behalf of the Institution, further than making some of the appointed collections, if there a strenuous effort was made by clergy and laity to extend the ramifications of the Society, it is evident that its resources might at once be almost doubled. Your Committee confess themselves unable to see any difficulty in making this effort when those who are called upon to make it are not held responsible for the measure of success which may attend it; and they cannot believe that any, whether individuals or Committees who decline to do so, can deem themselves unjustly treated if, in consequence thereof, the Society excludes them from any benefits it may be able to confer.

The mere multiplication of Parochial Committees, however, although an object of the very greatest importance, does not appear to your Committee to be sufficient to meet the evil intailed by the very limited sum, which, by the present rules of the Corporation, is confided to the Parent Society, for carrying out its general purposes.

The extension of the Parochial Committees, must necessarily increase the number of applications for aid, which your Committee firmly believe it will be impossible to meet, unless a larger proportion than one-fourth of their contributions, be appropriated to the Parent Society for such purposes.

At present it is the wealthy parts of the Diocese that are assisted by the Church Society, while the poorer Districts are left unaided in their poverty, and this must of necessity be the case as long as three-fourths of all annual subscriptions are allowed to be expended upon local objects in the parishes where such subscriptions are raised.

This is a state of things forbidden by the rapidly increasing population of the country—by the pressing spiritual wants of our brethren in the remotest settlements, and by all the principles of Christian love and liberality. When it is remembered also that there is not a Mission in the Diocese where the people do not receive from some extraneous source, such as from the Clergy Reserve Fund, or from the liberality of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, at least the half, and frequently nearer the whole sum, required to sustain their own Pastor, it must surely be felt that they who themselves receive such benefits, are bound by every principle of gratitude as well as duty, to aid their brethren who are less highly favoured.

Such considerations have induced your Committee to recommend that, with certain exceptions to be hereinafter provided for, the Parochial Committees be called upon to pay into the Treasury of the Parent Society, the one-half, instead of the one-fourth of their annual subscriptions.

To the subject of the Widows and Orphans' Fund your Committee have given their gravest consideration.

While participating in the apprehension that unless very energetically supported, it will ere long be unable to meet the demands likely to be made upon its resources, your Committee are not

prepared to advise any material change in the general principles of its management and appropriation.

It appears to your Committee, that the prosperity of this Fund is—like all the other objects of this Society—dependent to a great degree upon the general extension and support accorded to the Society itself; and it is this consideration that has induced them to recommend that no application for relief from the Fund in question be entertained, unless the Clergyman deceased shall have complied, not only with the requirements of the Society touching this particular object, but with all such rules and bye-laws as are already in force or shall be from time to time enacted by this Corporation.

The ability of the Society to redeem its pledge, of paying to this Fund, for every parochial Clergyman in the Diocese the sum of £1 5s. annually from its general resources, must of course depend upon those general resources being well sustained. In addition, therefore, to their previous recommendation of one-half of all annual subscriptions being paid to the Parent Society, instead of the present proportion of one-fourth, your Committee would further suggest the necessity of requiring that the amount of the Clergyman's subscription be paid to the Treasurer of the Parent Society, to be by him transferred to the credit of the Widows and Orphans' Fund, instead of into the hands of the parochial Committee, which is at present the custom wherever such Parochial Committee exists.

For the Society to continue annually to transfer to the Widows and Orphans' Fund, from its general resources, the sum of £1 5s. for every Clergyman in the Diocese, while the majority of such Clergymen contribute to those resources only one-fourth of that sum, 6s. 3d., must eventually injure its prosperity, and cause the very extension of the Society to tend to its disruption.

Your Committee would further suggest the equity of requiring "a fine" from those who shall hereafter be received into the Diocese, on the ground of their participation in the benefit of a fund already accumulated; and they would further recommend that a fine be likewise required in the case of second marriages.

The proceeds, then, of the general collection made on behalf of this Fund—the special donations which may be made towards its augmentation—the dividends accruing from its vested capital—the £1 5s. per annum paid from the General Purposes Fund for each Clergyman in the Diocese, and the fines above suggested, appear to be all the sources to which we can legitimately look for the purpose of sustaining this most important object.

Your Committee are deeply sensible that, regarded upon any principle of Life Assurance, the proceeds arising from the various sources just enumerated, must be pronounced inadequate to secure for the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy the sum which is at present assigned to them.

To adopt the principles of Life Assurance, would be indeed to render safe whatever amount of income might be warranted thereby; but it would at the same time so reduce that amount, as to render it insufficient to answer, in any adequate degree, the object for which the Fund was originated.

Your Committee are therefore brought to the conclusion, that it is impossible, with due regard to the object at which it aims, to reduce the Widows and Orphans' Fund to a matter of simple Life Assurance; and they are convinced, that the best practicable method of attaining the object of the Society, is to disregard the apparent hazard of the step, and to go on in FAITH, regarding the proceeds of the annual collections as income—to be expended, if the demands upon the Fund shall so require—to be invested as permanent capital in whatever measure such demands shall leave it uncommitted.

But while your Committee are impressed with this conviction, they are equally impressed with the vital necessity of adopting every legitimate means in order to maintain the largest possible capital, for the purpose of securing as far as practicable the safety and efficiency of this most important Fund.

Since there is, unquestionably, great danger of the Widows and Orphans' Fund being eventually unable to meet the demands hereafter to be made upon it, your Committee are disposed to think that the Clergy at large are bound to consider whether or not from their own resources, or by the assistance of their parishes, they could not contribute a larger sum to this object than £1 5s., if such payment will tend to secure to their families so great a boon as the pension at present paid from the Widows and Orphans' Fund.

Your Committee are aware that many of the Clergy pay from their very limited incomes to various Life Assurance Companies an average of about £15 per annum, for the purpose of securing to their families the sum of £500; a sum which, however well invested, can hardly be expected to produce a larger return than £35 per annum. If therefore, to secure an income of £35 to their families, they readily pay a yearly premium of £15, your Committee are disposed to believe that they would gladly pay a larger sum than £1 5s., if it can be shown that by so doing they would in any considerable degree add to the ability of the Widows and Orphans' Fund to assign a pension of £50 to their widows and their orphans.

It will naturally be said, however, that the very fact of many of the Clergy, struggling amidst much self-denial to pay this annual premium to the Assurance Companies, renders it vain and unreasonable to expect them to do more on behalf of the Widows and Orphans' Fund.

Your Committee are deeply sensible of this difficulty; but the question appears to them to resolve itself into a choice of difficulties. If the Clergy are required to pay a much larger contribution, it is to be feared that it will add materially

to the many trying and harassing anxieties by which they are often surrounded, in consequence of the scantiness of their means. On the other hand, if from their own resources, or through the assistance of their parishes, a large measure of unfluctuating support is not given to the Widows and Orphan's Fund, there is but too much reason to apprehend that, after having laboured during life in the service of the Church, after death their families may be left in poverty and perhaps in destitution.

It does not appear to your Committee that their language is too strong, when they say that this is a prospect which is in truth appalling. In order to avoid it, they find that many of the Clergy continue to pay to the Life Assurance Companies at the rate of £15 per annum, because such payment is absolutely necessary, in order to enable those Companies to secure to their widows and children a yearly sum of £35. If, therefore, it can be demonstrated, that to enable the Widows and Orphan's Fund, with anything approaching certainty, to pay £50 annually to their families, it is equally necessary to pay a larger sum than the £1 5s., which is at present contributed to the General Purposes Fund, your Committee are disposed to think that the Clergy would gladly do so, even although they were thereby compelled to lessen the amount paid to the Assurance Companies, or to practice more self-denial, if possible, in their daily lives.

Your Committee have felt called upon them largely to discuss the nature and necessity of this suggestion which they have to offer, because they feared that if they simply embodied them in a series of resolutions, they might appear to be advising a stringent and high handed course, entirely inconsistent with the character of a voluntary association which this Society is confessed to be.

They again repeat that they have never for a moment forgotten or overlooked the fact that the Church Society has no intentions to lay any authoritative obligations upon the clergy. The course which they respectfully recommend can be adopted only on that principle, which they before alluded, as inherent in every corporate body, of restricting the benefits it confers to those alone who comply with the conditions it imposes.

This point being thoroughly understood your Committee cannot doubt that every one who will duly reflect upon the facts they have brought forward and the statements they have moved, will feel that if the Church Society is to fulfill the object for which it was originated, some vigorous and energetic step to place it upon a proper footing ought to be taken without delay.

Your Committee find from the subjoined document, marked A., that there has been collected from the 3rd to the 10th year inclusive, for the Widows and Orphans, £3,480 9s. 11d. Of this sum there has been invested and disbursed £2,552 15s. 0d.

A reference to the abstract, (marked C.) will show that the investments of the above Fund amount to £2,808 16s. 2d.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

That in Article XVII of the Constitution of the Church Society, in the 28th line after the word respectively that the following words be introduced, and do form part of said Article, together with the full sum of one pound five shillings for each duly recognized clergyman within the district, or, in case of life membership the sum of £12 10s.

2 That in third Clause of the By-Law to provide for the due administering and improving the widows and orphans fund of the diocese of Toronto.

3 At the ninth line, the words from "on" to the end of second said Clause be omitted and the following inserted "under the provision of the XIX Article of the Constitution of this Society, shall have established a Parochial Committee of this Society under the provision of the XVIII Article of the Constitution thereof reporting to and in communication with the parent Society, shall have remitted the required share of the annual subscriptions made therein to the same Parent Society, shall have conformed to all the requirements of the said constitution generally, unless upon the omission of such requirement a special written dispensation had been granted by his Lordship the President, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Society for registration within three months after the date thereof, and also shall have paid the fine or fines or the instalments of the same to which he may have been liable as herein after provided." Provided nevertheless that it shall at all times be competent for the President to recommend to the Standing Committee any case which in his Lordship's opinion may require special consideration, and should the Standing Committee report favourably thereon, that then the Society may grant such proportion of an annuity as to said Society may seem fit.

to his widow or orphans: and that every clergyman of the diocese remarrying and desirous of availing himself of the provision of the By-Law be required to pay to the credit of the widow and orphans fund the sum of £10 in one payment within three months after said remarrying.

4 That in the seventh clause, first line, the word Treasurer be omitted, and the word Secretary be inserted in lieu thereof.

5 That in the eighth clause, tenth line, and all other places in this By-Law where the personal subscription of the clergyman is alluded to, after the words "one pound five shillings per annum" there be inserted, "or shall have become a life member under the third Article of the Constitution of this Society."

6 That whereas after eleven years working of this Society, it has appeared that the proportion of one-fourth of all moneys collected in the Parochial Committees now required to be remitted to the Parent Society, is not sufficient for fully carrying out the object of the Society, Be it therefore resolved, that on and after the general annual meeting of the Society, which shall be held in June 1855, the proportion shall be one-half, and that after said meeting the words one-fourth, in the twenty seventh line of the eighteenth clause of the Constitution thereof be omitted, and the words one-half inserted in lieu thereof.

7. That the following be among the Standing Orders of the Society.

#### First Standing Order.

That after the adoption of this report no application for a grant, loan, or other assistance, be entertained from any Rectory, Incumbency or Mission, in which there shall not have been established a "Parochial Committee" of this Society, under the provisions of the article of the Constitution thereof, reporting to and in communication with the Parent Society, and in which all the requirements of said Constitution shall not have been complied with, unless upon the omission of such requirement a special written dispensation had been granted by his Lordship the President, and forwarded to the Secretary for registration within three months of the date thereof; and further, that accompanying such application there be a distinct and accurate description of the object towards which aid is sought, together with a detailed account of the sums of money collected in the locality or elsewhere towards the same object, and how applied: Provided nevertheless, that it shall be at all times competent for the President to recommend to the Standing Committee any case which in his Lordship's opinion may require special consideration; and should the Standing Committee report favourably thereon, that the Society may in such case grant the assistance so sought, or any portion thereof.

#### Second Standing Order.

That after the adoption of this report, no application be entertained from the Widow or Orphan or the guardian of the orphan, of any deceased clergyman of this Diocese who shall not have conformed to the provisions and requirements of a certain By-law entitled a "By-law for the due administering and improving the Widows and Orphans' Fund of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto," and also of any amendments to the said By-law, which may be enacted from time to time according to the provisions of the constitution of the said Society unless upon the omission of any of the said requirements a special written dispensation had been granted by his Lordship the president and forwarded to the Secretary for registration within three months after the date thereof. Provided nevertheless, that it shall be at all times competent for the President to recommend to the Standing Committee any case which in his Lordship's opinion may require special consideration, and should the Standing Committee, report favourably thereon, that then the Society may grant such proportion of an annuity as to said Society may seem fit.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN LETT, Chairman.

P. B. DEBLAQUIERE,

D. E. BLAKE

W. STEWART DARLING,

THOMAS S. KENNEDY, Secretary C. S.

THE EIGHTH REPORT OF THE LLOYDTOWN PAROCHIAL BRANCH OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

January 20th, 1853.

The great Apostle of the Gentiles, St. Paul, endeavoured to impress on the minds of those who had been baptized into Christ, the fact that they were members one of another, "For as we have many members in one body and all members have not the same office, so we being many are one body in Christ, and every one members, one of another." As the body naturally suffers even when the most insignificant and apparently useless portion is injured, and rejoices when the cause of that pain is withdrawn, every member having a care over and an interest in the other members; so should it be in the Church of Christ, so should it be among us, for we are a portion of the body of Christ, we are members in particular. The Church has from the beginning, been called on to contend against innumerable adversaries. Her mission was, and still is, to wage war against sin and wickedness, and to bring the nations to the obedience of faith. In her endeavours to fulfil her mission her course is not always smooth, nor is her sky always bright, but the promise of her God is always the same, "Lo! I am with you always even unto the end of the world, and no weapon formed against thee shall prosper." She may at times in some portion of the battle-field, seem as if altogether in the power of her adversaries; and her faint-hearted children think they need struggle no longer in her behalf, but to