

SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL IN FOREIGN PARTS.

Extracts from a Speech by the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, at Bristol (England) in behalf of the Society.

A calculation carefully made has shewn that if only half a crown were obtained as an annual contribution from every family in the kingdom, who profess to be members of our Catholic and Apostolic Church, an income sufficient to meet all the present demands from our Colonial Possessions, would at once be obtained. And nothing is so likely to procure this regular annual income, as the early formation of Parochial Associations to aid this work of the church, by enrolling all her members as constant contributors, according to their means, to the funds of our Society. The experiment, if it were to be regarded as such, has already been made, and with the most encouraging success. There are even small parishes in which nearly an hundred permanent subscribers have been enrolled in a single day; and the intention is to enrol every individual whose character and conduct are consistent with such holy undertaking, beginning with the communicants, and extending to all who ought to be communicants. It is hardly necessary for me to observe to such persons as I am now addressing, that it will be incumbent upon them to measure their gifts to this holy object, not by the trifling sum which has been named, but by the extent of those goods of their heavenly Master, which have been committed to their stewardship. When the amazing wealth of this great nation is considered, with the unnumbered blessings which she possesses, and the facilities with which millions of money are obtained for every attractive object of usefulness, or of speculation, it is sometimes disheartening to reflect upon the difficulty with which a few hundreds of pounds appear to be obtained for those high and holy objects which have especial reference to the glory of God, the extension of His Church, and the salvation of immortal souls.

His Lordship next adverted to the encouragement which may be derived from the happy influence obtained by sending the Church in all her integrity to the several Colonies in different parts of the world. He observed that he lived so long ago, as clearly to remember when there was not a single Protestant Bishop in any of the British Colonies, although they then contained the United States of America. He also remembered the influence of that unfounded prejudice, which for more than a century had defeated the efforts of some of the most distinguished Prelates, and other pious members of the Church of England, to send forth Missionary Bishops. It had pleased God to preserve his life, until nearly twenty zealous and excellent Bishops were actively engaged in the American States, and until ten had happily been appointed to take charge of the Church in the present Colonies. He felt a difficulty in any enlargement upon the advantages of these appointments, lest in magnifying that holy office, he should seem to attempt to magnify the persons who were appointed to it. He could, however, safely assure the meeting, that no persons could so deeply feel their insufficiency as those who were called to the awful responsibilities of so great a trust. They could not for one moment forget that which the experience of every hour forced upon their notice, that the treasure was contained in earthen vessels, but he would be forgiven if he declared the full conviction upon his mind that it was a treasure still.

As he had been present at the Consecration of his father, who was the first Colonial Bishop in the British History, he had been spared to witness and to assist in the Consecration of the two new Bishops, one of whom would relieve him from a part of the great labour which had hitherto borne upon him, from the extent of a Diocese, all of whose Churches could not be visited without journies and voyages over ten thousand miles of land and water. He had not complained when the necessity for such labour was laid upon him; but he could not fail to rejoice in the advantages for which the Church and her members might hope from the division of this labour, and the zealous co-operation of a fellow labourer in work which could never be rightly performed by any individual. And this led him to a very pleasing part

of the duty of the day, in presenting to their kind notice an able and exemplary brother, the Bishop of Toronto, who had been recently consecrated, and was now proceeding to Upper Canada, the scene of his past labours as an Archdeacon, which offered a wide field for his episcopal superintendence and most zealous exertions. That excellent Missionary—for such he still would be—was about to step from his room to the deck of the noble vessel the *Great Western*, which had even increased the fame of Bristol, and in which many of its inhabitants were warmly interested. She had probably often excited many a wish for her prosperous voyages, and he hoped he might be excused if he now asked for something more substantial than a wish, for their prayers, that the protection of a gracious Providence may be extended to her, and that abundant blessings may continually attend the servant of God, whom she is now to convey to his distant, but most important charge, that God may be glorified, His Church extended, and the salvation of many souls effected.

THE RIGHT REV. THE BISHOP OF TORONTO.

Who was received with every mark of kind and affectionate interest, said—I feel it necessary to request the indulgence of the company, as I am not fluent in speech, and have never before addressed an assemblage on matters such as those which engage your present attention.

It is now forty years since I left this country for Upper Canada; the population was then thin, being little more than fifty-five thousand scattered over the face of the country, and scarcely in any one place was the population sufficient to afford a decent congregation. There were at that time very few Churches and only four Clergymen, I made the fifth; but since then the population has so much increased, that it now is nearly five hundred thousand, and the Church is increased also and nearly in the same degree, for there are now sixty-six Clergymen, and the number of Churches is one hundred and fifteen—but they are scattered over a large extent of country, the wants of which exceed belief. It is divided into three or four hundred townships of about one hundred square miles each, and in most of these an active Clergyman will find ample employment, and yet the whole Province contains only sixty-six. There are many whole Districts without a Clergyman, but still the people are anxious and willing to build Churches and contribute to the support of the Clergy, although they are not able sufficiently to sustain them. The number of members of the Church of England form a very large portion of the population.

FIRST BISHOP INGLIS.

Soon after the American Revolution, it was discovered that members of the Church of England, almost without exception, were faithful to their King; and there was hardly a Clergyman, indeed I remember only one, who did not adhere to his King, and sacrifice all temporal advantages rather than renounce his allegiance. It was this which induced the British Government to appoint the venerable father of his friend (the Bishop of Nova-Scotia) and to him under Providence was to be attributed the success of the Episcopal Church in that Colony, for he was indefatigable in his labour, devoted to his profession, and regarded no trouble in travelling in all directions in that extensive Diocese. To him we are greatly indebted for any provision for the Church, and his memory ought to be held in the highest estimation in North America. The appointment of a Bishop for Canada, which he earnestly recommended, was a great step; but another of great importance was made, when support was given as we hoped to the Protestant Clergy.

The people in the Colonies are not backward in supporting their Church when they are able. My own parish affords a favourable instance. There several Churches have been built which were found to be too small; and it was determined to erect a central Church of more capacious dimensions, which was done at an expense of £10,000, towards which the Government contributed £1,000, as an equivalent for the privilege of the troops having been allowed for forty years to sit in the Church which preceded it. This Church was destroyed by accidental fire. The congregation though large was not rich, but they e-

vince such spirit, that in eight days preparations were made, contracts entered into, the foundation stone was laid, and I trust to see it completed with many improvements before next Christmas.

DEFERRED ARTICLES.

MELANCHOLY EVENT.

The dwelling of Mr. Levi Stephens, near the village of Almond, N. Y. caught fire in the night of the 25th. Mr. and Mrs. Stephens, with three children, were from home. Six of the younger children were left at home with Mr. Wygant, the village schoolmaster, who was boarding with Mr. Stephens. When Mr. Wygant awoke, the whole interior of the house was mostly on fire, and it was with much difficulty that he succeeded in rescuing a son of about sixteen, who was confined by severe lameness, a daughter aged about fourteen, and two sons, of the ages of ten and seven years, who lodged in the second story; one of whom leaped from the head of the burning stairs, through the flames, into Mr. W's. arms, whilst the other ran down the stairs, through fire flames, and fell exhausted, at Mr. W's. feet. But the most melancholy part of the story remains to be told. In the bed from which the lad of ten escaped, lodged two other little sons, of the ages of nine and five years. On the alarm being given, the eldest awoke and appeared in the flames, at the head of the stairs, with the two lads mentioned above, and might have taken his chance of escape with them, but, unwilling to leave his little brother behind, he returned after him, and, while in the act of helping him from the bed, they were both enveloped in a dense and furious flame, and were consumed, locked in each other's arms, as was evident from their remains found among the ruins of the house.--*Chris. Witt.*

THE CROSS.

Blest sign of man's redemption! I adore
Not thee, but Him who did not fear thy pains;
Who, though in light where the Eternal reigns—
He loved to live, yet loved his people more,
And, therefore, thus on thee their trespass bore.
I do not o'er thee worship; but I ne'er
Would join with those, who, through some sickly fear
Of rite idolatrous, on thee would pour
Contempt and scorn, and level with decay
God's finger-post, that points the narrow way.
But when I see thee, this soul doth bless.
Love's cheering token in the wilderness;
Recalling, ever at the well known sign,
Sad thoughts of mortal guilt—glad thoughts of love
divine. *Ulster Churchman.*

WHY ART THOU SO VEXED, O MY SOUL.

Why should my soul indulge complaints,
And yield to dark despair?
The meanest of my Father's saints
Are safe beneath His care.

Why should I thus desponding bow,
Or why with anguish bleed?
Though darkness veils my passage now,
Yet glory shall succeed.

Grace, like a fountain, ever flows
Fresh succors to renew:
The Lord my wants and weakness knows,
My sins and sorrows too.

'Tis He directs my doubtful ways,
When dangers line the road;
Oh! then His holy name I'll praise;
And trust a gracious God—*Ban. of Cross.*

It is the safest course in every affliction, to lodge the adequate cause of it in our own deserts.—*Isaiah 64. 6, 7.—Ch. Abn.*

It is the glory of a Christian not to be faint-hearted under trials.—*Isaiah 40. 31.—Ib.*