

INTRODUCTORY.

Among the principal instrumentalities employed by the Church of England Young Men's Society to effect the objects for which it was formed, is the delivery, from time to time, of Public Lectures. The Members have thankfully to acknowledge the kindness of the Clergy, and other friends, who have already favoured them with a number of highly interesting and instructive Addresses.

They are especially indebted to The Lord Bishop of Fredericton, for the kind and ready manner in which he has twice responded to their request to promote the interests of the Society in this way. His Lordship's last Lecture was so much appreciated and admired, not only by the Members themselves, but by the large audience who were present when it was delivered, that the Society, at its first meeting afterwards, determined by a unanimous vote to request its publication; and, His Lordship having acceded to this request, the Society has much pleasure in thus being enabled, in the following pages, to give it a wider circulation, and a more permanent character.

The members of the Society avail themselves of this opportunity to invite young men belonging to the Church of England, to join them in their efforts to increase and extend the vital religion and personal holiness, which the principles of their Church so eminently inculcate. The Society has been in existence about three years—it numbers 49 members in active connection with it, besides several who have left the City—it has a spacious and handsome room in Judge Ritchie's Building, where Meetings are held every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, for studying the Scriptures, reading essays and engaging in other exercises for mutual edification and improvement. This room is also open on Wednesday and Friday Evenings, from 7 to 9 o'clock, as a Reading Room. A Library of carefully selected Books has been commenced, which will be increased as rapidly as funds can be obtained for the purpose. It is the desire of the Members to open this Library, generally, to members of the Church as soon as it becomes worthy of their attention; and other means of usefulness will be adopted as the Society acquires strength and influence. Its members ask the countenance and aid of all their fellow churchmen in this City—while they do not cease to pray that under the Divine Blessing their Society may grow to be a useful adjunct of the Church to which they belong, and instrumental in the advancement of the glorious Gospel of its supreme Lord and Head, JESUS CHRIST.