

the poor man's friend, Jesus. They go to those crushed under the burthen of abject want and wretchedness and tell them the sweet words of the Saviour's invitation, "come unto me all ye who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." And who can tell what blessings had descended on thousands of poor souls thus sought out by city missionaries and redeemed to God's service! The resolution recognised the benefits to be derived from the labours of city missionaries among the sick in the hospitals and seamen coming to this port. The hospital, that garner-house of human suffering and deep distress! It was indeed a good work to visit the sick there and speak to them of the change which was perhaps just before them, or of the gracious design of God in sending sickness and its bowing down the soul's health and strength might be secured,—that so, if spared longer upon earth, they might become instruments of His glory. Yes it was the best work to visit the sick and minister to their spiritual needs, to tell them of their Saviour and invoke His blessing on them, and if possible, at the last, ere they passed away, to administer to them the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood; fitting them, and strengthening them for their great change; or if they were spared to acquire renewed strength to fit them and induce them to live better christian lives. This was the most blessed work in which a missionary could be engaged. He might say he hoped without appearance of egotism, that the most precious moments of his ministerial labours had been found in visiting the sick poor and administering to their spiritual needs; and those who had engaged in similar work would say that the most pleasing though painful moments of their labours were spent at the bedsides of the sick and dying, that their souls were there most strengthened, and new accessions of grace were there most plentifully vouchsafed to them such as were granted them in none other. Yes, they should encourage such men to do this work at the hospitals. There they would find the afflicted of the household of faith longing for the ministrations with which they had been familiar, strangers perhaps, from another land, cut off from intercourse with family or friends, yet longing again to hear the familiar sound of the prayers of the Church in which they had been reared. They had reason to believe that if the Saviour himself were again to come among us and renew his earthly labours this was one of the works he would be foremost in doing; for when he did walk upon earth he laboured constantly to comfort the sick and afflicted—may we learn that he did carry his ministrations to the only hospital they read of in that land and that day, the pool of Bethesda. The resolution spoke also of the labour among the seamen resorting to this port, and all would now readily confess the necessity for this work. Yet he remembered when such a mission was first proposed among the seamen resorting to his native city of New York, the merchants connected with the shipping trade and captains of vessels looked on it as a hopeless enterprise, as labour and pains to be thrown away. But the effort had been made and they knew it had been blessed of God. Many souls among these had been brought to Christ. What class of men had they the right to pronounce so hardened as that labour spent to bring them to God would be bestowed in vain? None, for God's spirit could as easily work upon the heart of the poor mariner, could as richly enlighten him with divine grace and awaken in it as true a love of His Maker, as tender a sympathy for his fellow-men as in the heart of those esteemed the most refined. He would say to those engaged in it "May God prosper this work of yours and give you many crowns of rejoicing in the great day!"

We depend so much on seamen for the comforts of our lives, those who traverse the ocean depend so much upon them for safety in crossing the great deep, that a mission for their benefit must surely commend itself to the heart of every man. He was much pleased to hear in the report, of the children the society were educating and of the teachers they were training for the work, but he was especially glad to hear of this work in the hospitals and among the seamen. He prayed God to bless all their efforts and thanked them for the kindness and courtesy extended to him during the meetings he had attended here. (Applause.)

Mr. HENRY BANCROFT seconded the resolution. He said that the resolution declared the city mission deserving of the support and encouragement of those who loved God—and as he understood it such a declaration pledged them to support it. It spoke of the various agencies employed. What had they been? Some of them had been already pointed out—religious services among the seamen in port and visiting the sick at the hospital. There had been abundant proof of God's blessing resting on these efforts of their missionary. But these were not all. The report speaks of services held for the poor. The activity of the lay element in the religious efforts of the day had been spoken of as one of the marked features of our generation; and he almost regretted, he must say, that so soon as these laymen doing duty as city missionaries gave evidence of their usefulness, they were obtained members of the clergy and lost to the effective ranks of the lay workers. He almost regretted to learn that Mr. Seaborn was to be ordained, though he rejoiced at the gratification it would afford him, as a mark of his faithfulness and a change congenial to his wishes. Yet they needed some such lay agency, and it seemed hard that so soon as a layman had proved himself useful, nay almost indispensable to the work, he was taken from them. They heard a great deal about the necessity that all the mission work should be directed by the Church—but surely they were perfectly right to support any agency whatever, which did the work of the Lord and Saviour. Therefore, when they marked the great labours being performed in London and Edinburgh, and the cities of Ireland, and found there the lay element doing God's work, and stirring others up to do His work, why not frankly accept them and their work as God's? They said by the resolution that the city mission deserved encouragement and support. Were they affording all the encouragement and support it deserved? Were they using the lay element as effectively as they might to build up this mission? Were they coming up to the aid of the people as it was their duty to do? They had now a special service for the poor at St. George's; they had a free service each Sunday at the Cathedral, and better than either, they were about to have opened—thank God—a chapel altogether free. This showed some activity in the cause for which they should thank God and be glad. But, were they doing all they could? They must ask themselves this question, and earnestly determine never to be satisfied till they had done all they could in the cause. (Applause.)

The resolution was then put and carried by acclamation.

A collection was then taken up, and the Hymn sung.

"There is a fountain filled with blood," &c.
The Rev. CANON BANCROFT, in moving the last resolution read it as follows:—

"That the general work of the Society is regarded with great interest by this meeting; and this meeting would bless God for the success with which the efforts of the Society have been attend-

ed. It would also thank the Right Rev. the Bishop of Montreal for the kindness which he has manifested in presiding at the meetings of the Committee, and on this occasion."

He said that His Lordship in presiding there that night as in presiding over the annual meeting of the Church Society on the previous evening must experience profound gratification. When they looked back a few years and recalled the struggles which they had then to make, when they reflected how few used to attend the meetings, and the small collections made, which almost caused them to hang down their heads for shame, they must rejoice to see the crowded audience of last night, the largest ever gathered on a like occasion, and the manifest tokens of the Society's progress to which the report had borne witness. Meantime this Church and School Society had been growing up beside it, and enjoying also its share of increasing prosperity, tending to add another honour to His Lordship's unwearied labours in the Diocese. He intended to leave the second part of the resolution, the expression of thanks to His Lordship, to be dealt with especially by the lay gentlemen who was to succeed him, but he could not forbear, in leaving the subject, to tender to His Lordship on his own behalf, and that of the other members of the Committee, their hearty thanks for the uniform kindness and unwearied assiduity with which he had presided over and assisted their labours. (Applause.)

(To be Continued.)

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