

B. C. M.

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"Ad profectum sacrosancta matris ecclesie et studii."

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

We feel that no apology is necessary for bringing to the notice of our readers the condition and claims of the D. C. Society. In a previous number we expressed ourselves as decidedly of opinion that it must in future be the main instrument for the support and progress of our Church, and we have as yet seen no reason to alter our views. The time is drawing near when the annual collections for its support are made in the different parishes: it appears a suitable opportunity for a few remarks in its favour.

The recent Meeting in Halifax, of which a brief Report appeared in our last number, fully recognized the necessity of additional contributions to its funds, and resolved that fresh efforts should be made to increase them. This necessity arises not only from the increasing demand for Missionaries in new districts, but also from the obligation assumed by the D. C. S. to make up the deficiency arising from the diminution of the grant from the S. P. G., which will amount to \$375 per annum.

That there ought to be little or no difficulty in meeting this demand must be evident to any one who considers the matter with attention. The sum contributed for general purposes as given in the Report for 1864, amounted in round numbers to \$3,500. The number of names on the list is about 5,000, a great number of these being the names of young children. Thus we see that at the most only one-tenth of the members of our Church give anything towards the support of the D. C. S. Why should this be the case? Why should the remaining nine-tenths be excluded from the privilege? A very few cents from each of them would more than double the income of our Society; one cent from each would more than meet the deficiency above alluded to. We are persuaded that nothing is required but a systematic, united effort, to put our D. C. S. in a far higher state of efficiency, than it has ever enjoyed.

Or to take another view of the case, the last Report of the S. P. G. gives the number of the communicants for Nova Scotia at very nearly 5,000. Might they not be requested on some particular Sunday, when the Lord's Supper is administered, to give a special donation, in addition to their regular subscriptions? A small sum from each, augmented, as it would be, by the contributions of non-communicants, would form a valuable increase to our funds. In our humble opinion this would be the best way to effect this increase. A circular from the Bishop recommending such a course, and suggesting one or more days for carrying it into execution, would be all that would be required. If it were not for the shortness of the notice, the approaching day of General Thanksgiving would have supplied an appropriate occasion for an offering of this kind.