

cause. I may here perhaps be allowed to say that I devoutly wish its advocacy had fallen into other hands than my own. As a delegate taking his seat for the first time in the last session of Provincial Synod, it was not my intention to speak on that occasion, but when, after listening attentively to several missionary addresses and reports, both in and out of Synod, I found that, while many valuable suggestions for increasing the Church's usefulness were presented, no reference was made to what I consider the most valuable of all missionary machinery, I then felt that a necessity was laid upon me to break the silence and plead the cause of Missionary Brotherhoods. This must be my apology for claiming so early as I did the attention of the Synod.

My idea expressed as a motion runs as follows: "That whereas it has been shown by members both of the Upper and Lower Houses of this Province that great difficulties exist in securing sufficient funds and men for missionary enterprise in new fields of labor, and whereas it has been proved by the past experience of the Church that the most efficacious, fruitful and economical method of bringing under cultivation new fields of labor is by missionary brotherhoods; and whereas such organizations call forth in an especial manner that Christian enthusiasm for which our Bishops often plead,—Resolved, that this Provincial Synod encourage by all means in its power the formation of such missionary brotherhoods for the pioneer work of the Church of England in Canada."

With regard to the first statement of the preamble, I need but remind those who were present at the last session, of the laments which resounded on all sides over the dearth of men and funds for new work.

The Rev. O. Fortin, one of a delegation from the Northwest Territory, rivetted our attention as he painted in glowing colors the splendid temporal prospects of that vast land, but he made our spirits burn within us as he depicted its spiritual destitution and its still gloomier outlook, in this respect, for the future, unless the older dioceses bestirred themselves more vigorously in its behalf. This Synod replied to his fervent appeal by a resolution worthy of the occasion, and eagerly (may I not say?) pledged itself "to use every endeavor to further its growth and development." In response to the eloquent laments and appeal of the Bishop of Algoma the Synod made ample promises to do all in its power, and was stirred up to energetic action. The reports of the Board of Management of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (now printed in the Journal for 1883), showed that there had already been a considerable increase in the subscriptions from the several dioceses during the past three years. We have just seen how far the fair pledges we then gave have influenced the funds, and what is far more important, the supply of energetic missionaries. The funds have somewhat increased, but not so the supply of missionaries. So far as I can learn from the reports of past Synods, and

also from the suggestions proffered at our last session, the idea seems to prevail that if only we can raise enough funds to offer good stipends, we shall be able to secure as many as we require of the best missionaries. At all events the Journal of last session shows that up to that time our provincial and diocesan promises and efforts resolved themselves merely into a scheme (an able one it is indeed) for raising funds. Now, although it is right for us to raise money, and good for the spiritual welfare of our people that they should contribute liberally to the support of missions, I believe we are guilty of a fundamental error if we depend upon our funds as the inducement which shall attract men to labor as missionaries.

I remember to have heard one bishop say (in other words of course), that his diocese was unjustly handicapped because he had no widows' and orphans' fund at his disposal, or any provision for incapacitated clergy, so that men would not pass into his diocese from another for fear of losing their interest in such funds as were already stored for their use. I adduce this as one sign among many that we are trusting to money to secure devoted servants of the Lord. And if I am right in this conclusion then I say we can expect little or no blessing upon our missionary efforts or any manifestation of apostolic fervor or power in our midst.

Can we imagine St. Paul or any of the apostles or great missionaries to the heathen world of old taking stipends and emergency funds into consideration, before starting upon their evangelizing tours? Can we picture them as inducing men to become their companions in labor by the promise of a comfortable provision for their wants and assistance for their families in the future? Nay, nay, we know well that they had but one offer to those who would share with them missionary toils—even the same offer which they themselves had already gratefully accepted at their Master's hands—the offer "to leave all and follow Him" in poverty, hardship and suffering. It was by the sword of self-sacrifice that Satan's power over men could be broken by Christ's followers even as it was by the self-same weapon that Christ Himself bruised the serpent's head. Are we to suppose then that the conditions of our warfare with the evil one have so changed that missionary enterprise can now be undertaken on easier terms? It is because the Church of England has practically held this to be the case and has misled her children into believing that a very little self-sacrifice goes a very long way that so many of her missions to the heathen have been such dismal failures as they are now seen to be when compared with those of the early ages.

We want men of great self-sacrifice now, *great* self-sacrifice I say, not merely the ordinary self-sacrifice which most of us priests exhibit in some form or other. We want missionaries who will be content with but food and raiment, content to live from hand to mouth, careless of what befalls them in the future, yea even on the morrow—men who will leave all home, father, mother, wife and all,