

from the statistics of this Deanery we are doing this at present; and therefore the Rural Dean would feel justified in speaking in encouraging terms of the state of the Church work, which comes under his superintendence.

We have still seventeen Parishes or Missions, presided over by an equal number of Clergymen in priest's orders, together with a Deacon, Assistant Minister in the Mission of Potton and Bolton. In these Parishes or Missions we have twenty-six churches together with one in course of erection at Abercorn, in the Mission of Sutton. Five of these are built of stone, eleven of brick, and ten of wood. The total value of nineteen of these Churches, as it is returned to me, in answer to the questions sent, is \$35,000. Of this amount \$20,235 is covered by insurance on fifteen churches, either in the "Royal" of Liverpool or in the local mutual Insurance Companies. Three are not insured, and one, the value of which is given, is not returned under the head of insurance at all.

There are in the Deanery twelve Parsonage-houses, and two in course of erection in Brome Woods Mission and in the Mission of Ely. They, like the Churches, are of different material, and different degrees of value. By the returns made they appear to be in good repair. The total value of nine of these twelve Parsonage houses is \$13,500, of which amount \$6800 is covered by insurance. We have also belonging to the Church, glebe lands valued at \$6715.

Thus it will be seen that the Church possesses, in real property in this Deanery, the gross amount of \$55,215; and this is understated, because we have, from two Parishes, no return at all, and the returns are not complete from another.

This is a matter of vital importance to our future success. If these Churches and Parsonage-houses had now to be built we should find our present resources inadequate to the twofold object of building them and sustaining our Missions at the same time. But having them, and having them almost wholly free from debt (\$600 upon one parsonage being the only debt worth mentioning in the whole Deanery) we can devote our energies to the sustaining our present institutions in a vigorous and growing condition, and creating local endowments. And with regard to this latter subject, I may mention that we have at present in this Deanery, nine