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REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY, OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, *For the Year* **1847.**

THE SEVENTH Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Church Society, of Prince Edward Island, took place at Charlottetown, on the First Tuesday in August, 1847, His Honor the Chief Justice took the Chair,

The Rev. L. C. Lloyd, Secretary of the Society, read Prayers.

The Chairman then called upon the Rev. L. C. Lloyd, to read the following Report :

REPORT.

Since the last Annual Meeting, the Society has been called together on the occasion of a visitation made by the Bishop of the Diocese in this Island. It will be remembered that His Lordship addressed a Meeting of the Society in August last, and advocated, as a means of raising and strengthening the Society, its adoption of a system which He had on a former visit recommended, viz: That of enrolling the names of all members of families attached to the Established Church, and asking their Subscriptions—and the suggestion was promptly responded to by the Meeting, and a Resolution passed, embodying the design as proposed. Your Committee have to report that the project has been acted upon in some instances, but not generally, and that consequently the result is small. The funds of the Society have been applied during the past year in conformity with the grants voted. Whence it appears, that a sum of Ten pounds was handed by the Rev. Mr. Read towards the erection of a Church at Bedeque; that a further sum of Ten pounds was handed to the Rev. M. Lally for the expenses of a School in Georgetown; and that £3 15s. 1d. was appropriated for closing the account connected with the Rev. Mr. Cooper's support while at Windsor College. After the payment of these sums, a balance of £7 4s. 3d. remained, which added to £25 5s. 8½d., the sum collected during the present year, makes the whole amount in hand, at the preliminary Meeting of the Committee, £32 9s. 11½d.; out of this sum, a grant of £5 was made by your Committee to reimburse Mr. Fowle, (a Catechist Licensed by the Bishop) for his expenses in making Nineteen visits on Sundays to New London, and holding Services there. A balance now remains of £27 9s. 11d. in hand; taking into consideration, the circumstance, that three Churches on the Island are comparatively destitute of Services, although abundant means of filling them are at hand. It appears to your Committee that the Island may be said to feel the want of an itinerating Missionary, who would devote his time exclusively to the Services of Religion in localities which were not before in the enjoyment of regular means of worship, according to the forms of the Church of England. This impression is the more strengthened by remembering, that there are many places where the services of a Clergyman would be highly esteemed, although no Church has been erected. There are few situations, in which many settlers are located without a School, and the District School Houses are available for the pur-

poses of worship; and your Committee think it a matter of more importance, if possible, to provide for the profitable use of those Churches which already exist, and to extend, as far as may be, the wholesome forms of divine worship, than to build new Churches, uncertain whether the means of serving them may be afterwards attainable, more especially as it is conceived, where a congregation shall be formed by the exertions of an itinerating Missionary, it will not be long before such congregation will bestir itself in the erection of a building to meet its wants. In the great movements which (under divine grace) have taken place beside the Eastern Missions, our Church has not derived its success from the existence, or the commencement of a number of buildings, but by the Missionaries in their vocation, as preachers of the Gospel, uttering the words of divine truth, and finding a glad attention given to the word preached, so that their work has visibly prospered in the hands of God, and the Spirits teaching has been seen to shed upon the darkness of a Heathen Land, the light of a Saviour's Gospel. While the great work which Christ has enabled the Church of England to carry on in British India, shall be acknowledged, we ought not to despair of success attending our Missionary efforts we may ourselves originate, if they be carried on in humble dependence upon God, and although our field is not among the Heathen, we have ample scope for a useful, and indeed, a needful exercise of our talent in this Island. The same truth which convinces the understanding, and frees the soul of the Heathen, ought certainly to find at least a corresponding value with men who have at times been favored with the means of grace. It may easily be imagined how a neglected congregation will melt away, and it would be a subject of unfeigned joy to your Committee, could they see some good prospect of the Churches now unserved, and the stations at which the sound doctrines of our Church would be received, possessing the advantage of a steady superintendence. Although your Committee observe with regret, a decrease in the number of those who subscribed, of their abundance, to the Society, they feel gratified in recording that where its wants have been made known among the poor, it has not been denied the humble mite—an offering however trifling in the eyes of men, of great price in the sight of God; not the refusal of the people, but our own apathy will alone cause us to decline and fail of our purpose. If the object for which we contend be found worthy of support, it will be supported, pre-

vided we desert not our own cause; but if our labors appear comparatively without result, and our professed objects not effectually carried out, we can hardly hope to be maintained. While noticing a decrease in one class of subscribers, your Committee would congratulate the Meeting, upon the formation of a new instrument, by which their work may be carried on with fresh life and hope. During the present year, an association has been formed by the Ladies of Charlottetown and its vicinity, in furtherance of the great object pursued by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and consequently in every respect acting in co-operation with this Society. The basis of its arrangement is formed upon the Bishop's recommendation of enrolling names, and its object is understood to be the promotion of the Missionary cause in this Island; with such an ally, your Committee deem it not improbable that, a fresh stimulus being given to the work, something of importance may yet be done. In the month of June, the books for which a grant was made in 1845, came to hand, and were deposited at Mr. Stamper's store, to be sold at the prices of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, from which they were imported. The Society acknowledge your claim upon them, by forwarding the books at subscribers' prices, and, according to their liberal terms, allowed a discount of 10 per cent. upon the parcel for ready money. The sum granted was £15 currency, and the value of the books sent, was £9 1s. 1d. sterling, the remaining sum of 18s 11d sterling, besides the discount, being swallowed up in Freight and Insurance. The aspect of the affairs of the Church of England in this Island have exhibited some pleasing features. A Missionary, partly maintained at Col-

lege by this Society, has been settled under the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, at Richmond Bay, and another Clergyman has arrived, to aid in the duties of Charlottetown. The Missions of the Church are understood generally to be in a prosperous state, and your Committee trust, that, under God's mercy, they will still continue to prosper and to multiply. It would carry your Committee beyond the limits of their duty to dwell upon the circumstances of the Church of England throughout the world; they will therefore content themselves with congratulating the Society upon the appearances of God's manifold goodness, in many respects displayed towards their communion. Your Committee conceive it a subject of thankfulness, that the borders of the Church have been enlarged by the sending forth of new Missionaries, and the new Bishops to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation, and that in the mother country, additional exertions to a great extent have been made to render the Church more efficient, as compared with the immensity of her responsibilities, and above all would they praise God, that men have been found to stem the current of error, wheresoever it has striven to rush in and overflow the land; proving that as long as the pure doctrines of our Articles and Liturgy shall be maintained, the honor of Our Lord shall be asserted, and the truth will keep us free. With an earnest desire that this Society may become more and more useful in promoting the great interests of Christianity within its sphere, and that Jesus Christ may be glorified in every section of His Church. Your Committee resign into your hands the trust which they have held during the past year.

The Report having been read, the Accounts of the Treasurer, the Hon. J. M. Holl, were passed.

1846—1847.

1846—1847.

Diocesan Church Society, in Account with J. M. Holl, Treasurer.

				£	s.	d.	
To Cash	J. Rev. Mr. Read, grant			10	0	0	By Cash, Balance of 1846—1847,
	for Church at Bedeque,						
"	Pd. Rev. Mr. Lally, grant			10	0	0	" pr. Rev. Dr. Wiggins, Dis-
	for School at Georgetown,						trict of St. Eleanor's,
"	Pd. Mr. Ings, for Printing			4	0	0	" pr. Rev. Charles Lloyd, Dis-
	Report,						tricts of Milton and Rustico,
"	Pd. by order of Rev. Dr.			1	1	0	" pr. Collector of Subscriptions,
	Jenkins, for Books on						in arrear for 1846,
	Confirmation, 17s 6d Hx.Cy.)						" pr. do. do. for the current year,
							" pr. do. Subscriptions for do.,
							" pr. Rev. Mr. Lally, District
							of Georgetown,
							" pr. Rev. J. H. Read, District
							of Crapaud,
Balance—				42	14	5½	£ 67 15 5½
£				67	15	5½	
				By Balance, 31st July, 1847—£			
				42	14	5½	

Correct,
WM. CUNDALL.

JOHN M. HOLL.

After which, the following Resolutions were proposed and adopted :

1. Moved by the Hon. C. Hensley, seconded by Capt. Swabey ;

That the Report now read, be adopted and printed under the direction of the Committee.

2. Moved by Capt. Cumberland, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Lally.

That this meeting offers its thanksgiving to Almighty God, for His goodness in supporting and extending His Church upon earth.

3. Moved by the Hon. J. M. Holl, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald.

That this meeting acknowledges with gratitude the liberality of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, towards this Island.

4. Moved by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Read.

That this Society gladly avails itself of the permission of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, to obtain Books from their Stores at Subscribers' prices.

5. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Wm. Jarvis, Esq.

That this Meeting hears with pleasure of a kindred association, formed by the

Ladies of Charlottetown and vicinity, during the present year.

6. Moved by Capt. Swabey, seconded by R. E. Smith, Esq.

That the Officers of this Society and the Committee for the ensuing year, shall consist of such of the former Committee as are qualified, with the addition of Theophilus Desbrisay and Henry Haszard, Esquires ; and that the Hon. G. Hensley be appointed Auditor, in place of the Hon. J. Brecken.

7. Moved by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Read.

That this Society gratefully acknowledges the gift of One hundred acres of Land, from Capt. Cumberland and his Lady to the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

8. Moved by Mr. W. B. Swabey, seconded by Rev. Mr. Read.

That the resignation of the Rev. C. Lloyd be accepted, and that the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, be appointed Secretary.

9. Moved by the Attorney General, seconded by Mr. H. B. Swabey.

That the thanks of this meeting be returned to the Honorable the Chief Justice, for presiding on the present occasion.