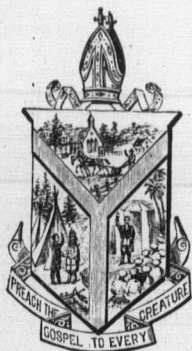


1890. Epiphany

Bishop of Toronto



DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN
MISSIONARY SOCIETY

OF THE

Church of England in Canada.

EPIPHANY APPEAL, A. D. 1890.

All persons who are members of the Church of England in Canada are members of this Society.
See Canon XIX. Provincial Synod.



EPIPHANY APPEAL, A. D. 1890.

REVEREND SIR,—It is our desire that this address, from the Board of Management of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada be read, as a sermon or otherwise, in the hearing of every congregation in our dioceses on Sunday, January, 5th, 1890, and that the offerings of the people on the following Sunday be given to Foreign Missions.

JOHN FREDERICTON, Metropolitan.

J. T. ONTARIO.

J. W. QUEBEC.

W. B. MONTREAL.

ARTHUR TORONTO.

E. ALGOMA.

MAURICE S. HURON.

CHARLES NIAGARA.

F. NOVA SCOTIA.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

Once more, in the light of an approaching Epiphany-tide, when all true hearts should be stirred with a sincere desire for the manifestation of Christ as a living Saviour to those who know Him not, the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, of the Church of England in Canada, addresses you in love, reminding you of the duty which rests upon us as a branch of God's Church to take our part in carrying out the blessed words, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Brethren, the danger of the day, even to Christian people, is that of spiritualizing and toning down the distinctive realism of divinely inspired commands. The foregoing words admit of no possible rendering save that which inculcates a plain, unmistakable duty. We, as a branch of God's Church are not to confine our efforts to extend the Gospel to our own dioceses within our Dominion; but in some practical and vital sense we are to "go forth" and we are to "preach the Gospel." This is our plain duty—a duty that cannot, and ought not to be avoided, inasmuch as it is one of the practical notes of our legitimacy as a branch of the Catholic and Apostolic Church.

There are three distinct ways in which the Church of England in Canada can more fully obey this divine command. One method has already been partially adopted, that of forwarding to the great Anglican missionary societies centered in England the offerings of the Canadian Church. The second method is now being inaugurated,

that of nominating to the great Anglican societies, those earnest children of the Canadian Church, who may freely offer themselves as missionaries for Christ in foreign lands, and through these societies to support such missionaries in the glorious work for which the Spirit of God has moved them to offer themselves.

The third method is that which the Canadian Church will adopt when it rises willingly to its God-ordained mission, and sends forth its own messengers to plant and build up in selected spots of the heathen world, the Kingdom of the everlasting Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The first of these methods has been followed by the Church in this country during the last six years through the formation of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada. Whilst we cannot say that even according to this method the Church has done all that it might have done in generous and open-handed gifts, still we have every reason to take heart and courage as we notice that there is a steady growth in the number and amount of such gifts, testifying to the fact that the Church in this Province is realizing more, clearly its duty to the wide mission field in which the great Anglican Societies carry out their magnificent work. It is cheering to notice that whereas the Report of the Board of Domestic and Foreign Missions for the first three years, stated that the sum of \$16,453.27 was offered for foreign missions, the Report recently laid before the Provincial Synod for the last three years shows the offerings at the advanced sum of \$35,740.98. A large portion of this amount has been forwarded directly to the great missionary societies of England, and we feel thankful that even in this small way the Church of this Province has done something towards acknowledging in a practical way the debt which she owes to these faithful Societies who sustained her in her first struggling years.

In this our annual appeal to you on behalf of the Church's work among the heathen we now solemnly intreat the members of the Church to realize more than ever they have done, the sacred duty of placing our efforts in connection with Foreign Missions on a more definite basis. We feel that the time has come when, through either the second or third method, the distinctive stamp of the Church in Canada should be placed on our efforts in the foreign field.

The Board has arranged with the great English societies to place on their lists Canadian missionaries representing the Canadian Church in the foreign mission field. This method will prove a marked step in advance of our present position; but it will also prove to be a rash and ill-advised step unless the Board is supported by generous and liberal offerings of the united Church of the Province. We do most earnestly urge on you, brethren, the prayerful consideration of the blessing which this step forward in supplying both the men and the money for foreign mission work will bring upon us as a Church, and the impetus which it will give to the growing faith and missionary zeal of our children, who, we earnestly hope, will take up the Church's work in the world with more love and zeal and unsparring devotion than our generation has manifested.

We feel strongly that the arrangement now made with the English societies to place our missionaries on their lists is only a step towards the point at which we should aim—namely, the sending forth from the Canadian Church a Canadian bishop with his staff of missionaries fully equipped and generously maintained to represent it in the field which God calls all branches of His Church to work in. This certainly should be our ultimate aim, bearing in mind that neither the poverty nor the paucity of members will excuse us if we fall short of what we recognize to be our duty—if we drop out of the place we should occupy as the Church of England in Canada, in the wide mission field of God.

We pray you brethren of the clergy and laity to realize the responsibility that rests upon our Church as an agent of God in the conversion of the world, and to rise thankfully and joyfully to a share in this glorious work. We realize to the full our own Diocesan and Provincial needs. We know indeed, full well, the power of the anxious voices within our own fold that plead with us for a wider extension of Church privileges. We know how little we are doing in comparison with

what we might effect, if only God's Treasury were more bountifully filled. We know all this and feel it, and yet we urge you to look beyond yourselves, to help others—to follow in the blessed steps of Him, who as the Shepherd of the folded sheep—is ever ready to follow into the wilderness the lost, the dying and the weak. We know our own needs, but we also know that in the last great day that branch of God's Church which has gone most out of itself to the help of others, will surely see of the travail of its own soul, and be satisfied, as it hears the words of divine and blessed commendation, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these ye have done it unto Me."

We therefore commend the cause of Foreign Missions to your most serious consideration, and we pray God that the united gifts of the Church in this Province at the season of the Epiphany may awaken us to the fact that the latent power of the Church in Canada, when once aroused, can do and by Divine help will do, great things for God and the glory of His holy name.

NOTE.—It is recommended that the offerings for this purpose be sent at as early a date as possible to the Secretary-Treasurer of each Diocese, to be by him transmitted to Mr. J. J. Mason, General Treasurer of the Society.

GHAS. H. MOCKRIDG, D.D.,
General Secretary,
Windsor, N. S.

THE Secretary-Treasurers, in each Diocese, to whom all moneys are to be sent are as follows:—
Nova Scotia, Rev. Dr. Partridge, Halifax, N. S.
Quebec, George Lampson, Esq., Quebec, P. Q.
Toronto, D. Kemp, Esq., Merchants' Bank Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

Fredericton, G. Herbert Lee, Esq., St. John. N. B.

Montreal, Rev. Canon Empson, Montreal, Que.

Huron, E. Baynes Reed, Esq., London, Ont.

Ontario, R. V. Rogers, Esq., Kingston, Ont.

Algoma, D. Kemp, Esq., Merchants' Bank Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

Niagara, J. J. Mason, Esq., Hamilton, Ont.

TRIENNIAL REPORT.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—

With this Appeal I send you three copies of the Triennial Report (1889) of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada with the request that you will be so good as to hand two of them to your church wardens or other influential men of your parish as you may think proper.

Yours truly,

Charles H. Mockridge

Secretary.