

The Committee takes for granted that the Association and the Colonists can have but one common object in view, namely, to construct a sound and durable basis of religious and educational administration, such as shall neither bear the marks of rude and hasty workmanship, nor contain within itself the germ of its own dissolution.

This is in effect one of the great objects for which the Canterbury Association was originally designed and founded. It can be accomplished only by mutual confidence, co-operation, unity of purpose, between the Association the Bishop and the Colonists; by a species of cautious and prudent legislation (so to say); looking mainly to the future rather than to the present; to the welfare of the children of the Colonists as much as to that of the Colonists themselves; by taking into account remote and even extreme contingencies; by a desire fully to provide for the spiritual and moral exigencies, not of an insignificant community, but of a large and virtuous Colony.

Having regard to the efforts made by the Association and to the sacrifices submitted to by the Colonists in order to found a Colony upon religious, true, enlightened and statesmanship ^{like} principles. The Committee would hardly be justified in taking other than this broad view of the minute of the 8th August which has been submitted to their consideration.

Assuming the religious and educational wants of the first small body of settlers to be met for the present by existing arrangements the Committee will perfect as soon as possible an outline of a scheme for the regulation of the temporalities of the Church founded on the principles already expressed. For the present they forbear to do more than to rest upon a few points which suggest themselves most prominently.

Without attempting to discuss the specific case alluded to in the minute of the 8th August (that of the Church Building Societies at home) but speaking generally, the Committee are disposed to recommend to the Association that the administration of "The Ecclesiastical and Educational Fund" should be vested in a body hereafter to be designated which shall represent the Laity no less than the Clergy, subject of course to the acknowledged Headship of the Bishop.

With regard to Ecclesiastical organization The Committee submit the propriety of adhering, in all respects so far as altered circumstances shall allow, to the outline of the System which obtains in England. They under this head, in general terms, advert to a recognition of the Episcopal functions of rule and discipline to a proper degree of independence being guaranteed to the parochial Clergy: to the necessity of territorial limitations of parishes: the Election of Church wardens with all the functions appertaining to that important office.