

McGuire's Reports and related topics from the Annual Convention Report, Diocese of Virginia 1814-1862

1862

No report

1861

St. George's Church, St. George's Parish, Fredericksburg.

Rev. A. M. RANDOLPH, Rector.

Baptisms—adults, white 4; infants, white 11; total 15. Communicants—formerly reported 288; added, white, C. T. 14, confirmed 18; removed 9; withdrawn 1; suspended 2; died 3; present number, white 300, colored 1; total 301. Confirmed, white 18. Marriages, white 9. Funerals, white 15. Sunday Schools—teachers 66; scholars, white 170, mission school 60; colored 166, infant school 40; total 430. Contributions—

Objects within the Parish, not including regular expenses :	
Rectory.....	\$825 00
Female Charity School and town charities.....	819 00
Communion Alms.....	176 80
Objects in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church :	
Diocesan Missions.....	511 67
Domestic Missions.....	100 00
Foreign Missions.....	155 00
Education Society and Scholarships in Theological Seminary.....	290 00
Diocesan Fund.....	800 00
Objects not in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church :	
American Tract Society.....	100 00
Virginia Bible Society.....	120 00
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Total contributions.....	\$3,897 47

Post Office, Fredericksburg.

SPOTTSYLVANIA COUNTY.

St. George's Church, St. George's Parish.

Rev. A. M. RANDOLPH, Rector.

Baptisms—adults, white 7, colored 1; infants, white 20; total 28. Communicants—removed 14; died 3; present number, white 283, colored 2; total 285. Confirmed, white 23, colored 1; total 24. Marriages, white 4. Funerals, white 11. Sunday Schools 2, superintendents 2, scholars, white 250, colored 150; total 400. Contributions—

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church at Harrisonburg. We name Rev. Mr. Conby has been invited by the congregation.

gham Parish was formed from a agents, in the year 1776, and at that

were within its bounds within the Parish, not including regular expenses :

Established Church—Communion alms \$183; Charity School and other charit-
situated about objects \$696; Sunday School Fund \$95..... \$974 00

Objects in connection with the P. E. Church :

Diocesan Missions \$343 23; Evangelical Knowledge Society \$40; Foreign Missions \$440 07; Contingent Fund \$283; Domestic Missions \$250; Education Society \$77 53; Meade Hall, Theological Seminary \$450; 1,883 83

Objects not in connection with the P. E. Church :

American Tract Society \$95; Virginia Bible Society \$130 225 00

Total contributions..... \$3,082 83

Post Office, Fredericksburg.

APPENDIX.

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St. George's Church, St. George's Parish.

Rev. A. M. RANDOLPH, Rector.

Baptisms—infants, white 12. Communicants—added 102; removed 4; died 5; present number, white 251. Confirmed, white 11. Marriages, white 2. Funerals, white 9. Sunday Schools 3, superintendents 3. Contributions—Objects within the Parish, not including regular expenses : Contingent Fund, \$251; Communion alms, \$266 68; Charity

School, \$510. Objects in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church : Domestic and Diocesan Missions, \$330; Foreign Missions, \$356; Interior Station, China, \$457 75; Education Society, \$225; Evangelical Knowledge Society, \$50. Objects not in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church : Colonization Society, \$140; American Tract Society, \$73; Virginia Bible Society, \$113 25. Total, \$2,772 68. Post Office, Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania county.

FREDERICKSBURG.

St. George's Parish, St. George's Church.

Rev. E. C. McGURAN, Rector.

Baptisms—adults, white, 20; infants, white, 8; total, 28. Communicants—added, white, 9; removed 7; died, 4; present number, white, 158. Confirmed—white, 93. Marriages—white, 4. Funerals—white, 13. Sunday Schools, 3; teachers, 25; Scholars, 180. Number of families in the Parish, 112. Contributions, \$800. Post Office, Fredericksburg.

REMARKS.—A signal blessing has been extended to this Parish during the present year by the God of all grace. A remarkable religious interest made its appearance amongst us in the month of March and occasions of divine worship and preaching the word being multiplied in answer to the growing demand on the part of awakened souls. These services were continued

with still increasing interest, kept up and kindly supplied by the labors of brethren in the ministry from various parishes, during the sickness of the Rector, lasting some weeks. The operations of the Holy Spirit were very marked and glorious in their results. The word was quick and powerful as dispensed by earnest and zealous preachers, and the hardest hearts did melt, and many cries were heard, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" About 80 persons have been the subjects of the blessed work, and whilst that number, or thereabouts, were confirmed by the Bishop on the 12th instant, many more remain to be gathered in by pastoral care and diligence into the fold of Christ.

St. George's Parish, St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.

Rev. EDWARD C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Baptisms—infants, white, 22. Communicants—added, white, 28; removed, 5; died, 4; present number, white, 160. Confirmed—white, 30. Marriages—white, 3. Funerals—white, 19. Sunday Schools, 3; teachers, 25; scholars, 150. Contributions—Missions, Foreign, \$115; Domestic, \$115; Diocesan, \$70 64; Disabled Clergymen, \$100; Convention Fund, \$160; Sunday Schools, \$50; Communion Alms, \$169 91; Bible Society, \$60; total, \$850 91.

St. George's Parish, St. George's Church.

Rev. E. C. McGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—added, white, 6; colored, 1; removed, 3; died, 3; present number, white, 140; colored, 1. Baptisms—white, adults, 2; infants, 8. Marriages, white, 2. Funerals, white, 7. Sunday Schools, 3; Teachers, 20; Scholars, 150. Contributions for Church purposes, \$1,000; for Missions, \$312 48; domestic, \$57; foreign, \$202; Diocesan, \$53 48; Communion alms, \$131; general objects, \$250; total, \$1,693 48. Post Office, Fredericksburg.

REMARKS—The past year has been one of adversity, in some respects, with this Parish. We had scarcely gotten through with the repairs of the church, burned as it had been with fire about eighteen months before, when the loss of our fine bell and serious damage done the roof by violent winds, called for new and heavy expenditures, to replace the one and make the other secure. But, in other respects we have had a prosperous year. In that time many lively stones have been added to the living temple, to be presented to the Bishop for confirmation at the present season, as believed to be subjects of God's converting grace.

St. George's Parish, St. George's Church.

Rev. E. C. McGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—added, white, 7; died, 5; removed, 16; present number, white, 140. Baptisms—white infants, 5. Confirmed, white, 6. Marriages, white, 2. Funerals, white, 9. Sunday schools, 3; teachers, 25; scholars, 150. Families, 110. Contributions for church purposes, \$950. Post Office, Fredericksburg.

REMARKS.—Though the bread of adversity has been given us the past year, yet has the Lord dispensed amongst us also the bread of life. Our Church was partially consumed by fire in July last. It has, however, been repaired with renovated beauty and convenience. Spacious side galleries have been erected, furnishing, with the ground floor, sittings for about 800 persons. In this time souls have been added to the Church, of such as, we trust, will be forever saved.

FREDERICKSBURG.

St. George's Church, St. George's Parish.

Rev. E. C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—added, white, 16; removed, 7; died, 2; present number, white, 152. Baptisms—white adults, 1; white infants, 7; total, 8. Confirmed—white, 18. Marriages—white, 8. Funerals—white, 7. Sunday Schools—Teachers, 20; scholars, 160; families, 112. Amount of contributions to the cause of religion and the church, \$750. Post Office, Fredericksburg.

St. George's Church.

Rev. E. C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Baptisms—adults, 3; infants, 11; total, 14. Communicants—added, 12; died, 1; removed, 18; withdrawn, 8; present number, 145. Confirmed, 6. Marriages, 3. Funerals, 6. Sunday-schools, 8; teachers, 22; scholars, 150. Families, 110. Amount of contributions to the cause of religion and the church, \$810.

1852

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.

REV. E. C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—last reported, 163; added, 8; died, 6; removed, 16; present number, 150. Baptisms—infants, white, 10. Confirmations, 4. Marriages, 9. Funerals, 15. Sunday Schools—male teachers 10, female teachers 15; total teachers, 25; male scholars 70, female scholars 135; total scholars, 205. Amount of collections for the different institutions connected with the cause of religion and the Church, \$800.

1851

FREDERICKSBURG.

St. George's Church.

REV. EDWARD C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—added, 13; removed, 8; died, 3; total, 163. Baptisms—infants, white, 10. Marriages, 8. Funerals, 14. Number of families 112, adults 340, infants 220. Amount collected for the different institutions of the church, \$800. Bible Class and Sunday Schools in a prosperous condition. Post Office, Fredericksburg.

1850

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.

THE REV. EDWARD C. MCGUIRE, Rector.

Communicants—added, 20; removed, 8; died, 6; total, 160. Baptisms—adults, white 2; infants, white 8; total, 10. Confirmations, 13. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 12. Number of families, 110. Amount collected for the different institutions of the Church, \$1,500.

1849

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. MCGUIRE, Rector.
—Communicants: added 10; removed 9; died 5; total 152; baptisms: adults, white, 2; infants, white, 13; confirmations 12; marriages 1; funerals 12; number of families 100; amount collected for the different institutions of the Church, \$750 00.

There is still reason for acknowledging the good hand of our God, in the condition of this parish. We have shared the encouraging tokens of his grace and goodness. The undertaking reported to the last Convention has issued in the completion of a new

Church, large and commodious, gratifying the taste in its architectural beauty and promising much advantage to us in prosperity and growth. The builders have been paid, leaving us without debt.

1848

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGUIRE, Rector.—
Communicants: added 3, removed 2, died 2, total 150; baptisms: a-
dults, white 1, infants, white 17, total 18; marriages 3; funerals 12;
number of families 90; amount collected for the different institutions
connected with the Church, \$800.

1847

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGUIRE, Rector.—
Communicants, added 9, chiefly from other cures died 3 removed 7
—total 152, baptisms, adults 1, infants 21—total 22 marriages 8; fu-
nerals 13. Sunday Schools 5, scholars 399, teachers 30. Two of the
schools are for oral instruction of colored children. Contributions to
religious and benevolent objects about \$1000.

1846

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGUIRE, Rector.
—Communicants, added 10; died 1; removed 14—total 150; baptisms,
adults 3, infants 16—total 19; marriages 11; funerals 10.
Sunday Schools 5; scholars 335; superintendents 4; teachers 30;
libraries 2; 1 bible class. Two of the above schools are composed of
colored children. The domestic servants of the congregation number
about eighty, male and female. Being often taught by the Rector

himself, he can say that the service has proved pleasant and profitable;
the instruction imparted, though entirely oral, having been ea-
gerly received and seemingly well understood. Whoever will under-
take so excellent a work will no doubt find himself agreeably disap-
pointed in the fruit of his labor, in this neglected field of pastoral du-
ty.

Contributions to religious and benevolent objects:	
Missions, Foreign, Domestic and Diocesan,	\$520 84
Theological Seminary of Virginia,	63 50
Church building in the West,	60 00
Colonization Society,	22 00
Rector's Library,	400 00
Contingent Fund,	150 00
Charities, sundry,	180 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,375 50

1845

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, added 8, in part from other cures, died 2, removed 1—total 155; baptisms, adult 1, infants 11—total 12; marriages 10; funerals 12, of which seven only belonged to the parish: Sunday schools 3, scholars 250, superintendents 3, teachers 30, libraries 2. Contributions to religious and benevolent objects \$800.

1844

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, added 13, died 1, removed 10—total 150; Baptisms, adults 4, infants 12—total 16; Confirmations 13; Funerals 10; Marriages 9; Sunday schools 3, scholars 150, teachers 25; Bible classes 2. Contributions to religious and benevolent objects \$1,100.

1843

St. George's church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, added 16, died 5, removed 18, withdrawn 2—total 150; Baptisms, adults 2, infants 22—total 24; Confirmations 15; Funerals 16; Marriages 8; Sunday schools 3; scholars 150; Bible classes 2; members about 60. Contributions to various benevolent objects, about \$1,000.
The Lord has sent down upon the congregation, through the past year, the healthful spirit of his grace, whereby a number have been quickened who were dead in sin, and others have been

enabled to persevere in holy living. It is also mentioned, with pleasure, that an unusual religious sensibility seems at this time to prevail among the people, from which, as some good fruit has already been realized, so more, it is humbly hoped, will be gathered in due season.

St. George's parish, St. George's church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, D.D., Rector.—Communicants, added 21, deaths and removals 7—total 167; Baptisms, adults 4, infants 26—total 30; Marriages 2; Funerals 15; Sunday schools 3, superintendents 3, teachers 28, scholars 150. Amount collected for different purposes connected with the Church \$1,500.

Encouragement in the work of the Lord has been vouchsafed us through the past year. Those have been added to the Church, whom we believe will be saved.

St. George's church, Fredericksburg.—J. A. Massey, Rector.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants added 8, deaths and removals 7, total 143; Baptisms, adults 4, infants 8, total 12; Confirmations 13; Marriages 7; Funerals 9; Families 100; Religious and Charitable contributions \$600. A new organ has recently been purchased at an expense exceeding \$1100. Our parochial associations are attended by an encouraging measure of usefulness. Sunday School and Bible Class institutions are especially exerting a happy influence in promotion of youthful piety amongst us:

St. George's church, Fredericksburg.—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, added 6; removed 1; died 1—total 142. Baptisms, adults 2, infants 19—total 21. Confirmations 2; Marriages 3; Funerals 8. Number of families about 100. Amount contributed in behalf of religious and charitable objects, about \$500.

There is nothing in the general state of the parish which admits of any very special notice. The congregation is large—too large for our space—and the appointed services have been attended with little interruption, and have not been without some encouraging marks of fruitfulness. Whilst those who have been added bid fair for perseverance in faith and good living, there is also among the members at large, as far as I can see, an undiminished devotion towards God, and unabated zeal in those good works which are profitable to men.

1839

St. George's church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, 138; Baptisms, 19; Marriages, 7; Funerals, 13.

The loss of members has been considerable by deaths and removals—additions few, and those, in part, from other parishes. There is much, however, to encourage in the large congregations, filling a church now to small; and in the prosperity attending our Bible-classes, Sunday-schools, and other religious and charitable associations.

Amount contributed to various objects connected with the cause of the Redeemer, about \$500. One of our members has recently entered the Theological Seminary of this Diocese, and another been led, as we trust, by Divine Providence, into the field of Foreign Missionary labor.

1838

St. George's church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, added, 7—removed, 7—died, 3—total, 150; Baptisms, 12; Marriages, 7; Funerals, 13; number of families, upwards of 100; amount collected for different institutions of the Church, about \$600.

1837

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants, 15

Baptisms, 14; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 13; number of families, 106; amount contributed for religious objects, about \$600.

During the past year no very marked indications of religious sensibility have appeared in this congregation. There is every thing however to encourage, in a full and punctual attendance on the services of the sanctuary. We are unable to accommodate many in their applications for pews.

The Missionary cause is regarded with peculiar solicitude. Our communion has supplied the Mission to Cape Palmas, Western Africa, with a devoted Missionary, and given effectual aid to the same in their sympathy with the enterprise and its agent. With others equally devoted, Mr. Minor sailed within a day or two past for his destination.

Our Sunday Schools are generally conducted with a proper sense of their useful tendency and influence.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants—removed 9; died 1—total 150. Baptisms 33. Marriages 6. Funerals 13. Number of families 100. Amount collected for the different institutions connected with the church, about \$400.

But little remains to be added to these statements. The attendance upon the services of the sanctuary has been constant, devout, and encouraging. Of the efficacy of the word and ordinances we have had satisfactory assurance. Those who have heretofore united themselves to the Lord, in a covenant never to be forgotten, have given good evidence of growth in grace and perseverance in good works. The power of the Spirit is as conspicuous in preserving, as in giving life to the soul.

There are in operation three Sunday Schools, male, female, and infant. In the conduct of these there is a commendable degree of zeal, and the promise of good fruit in reward of the faith and patience of those who labor in this important field.

The Missionary feeling with us is strong, and the contributions made in behalf of that great cause are regular and liberal.

Our Prayer Book and Tract Society continues its noiseless but effectual efforts in advancement of its useful ends.

The Temperance cause, impeded for a season by the ultraism of some of its friends in other sections of our land, has not been so influential as formerly. The course of the Society in this place having been moderate and judicious, it continues to exercise a salutary influence, and we trust will improve more and more.

Our labors in behalf of the colored people have been sadly interrupted through the past year. This has been effected by causes, so well known and understood, and so generally deplored by the real friends of the African race, that we need not recount them here. We do not, however, lose sight of their spiritual interests, and intend to do all in our power for their real good.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. E. C. McGuire, rector. Communicants, added nine, removed six, died three, total one hundred and sixty—baptisms, adults two, infants fourteen, total sixteen—marriages twelve—funerals seventeen. Number of families one hundred. Adults and infants five hundred. Sunday School teachers thirty-five, scholars two hundred. Members of Bible class fifty.

Amount contributed to various institutions, charitable and religious, \$1,000, besides \$1,040 subscribed in April to the Theological Seminary of Virginia.

In the state of the congregation there is nothing worthy of special notice. Our condition is very much what it was at the period of our last report.

There is an encouraging amount of zeal and activity with us in behalf of our religious and benevolent institutions.

The Prayer-Book and Tract Society is operating advantageously to the church in our section of the country. The Female Missionary Society have had a useful missionary in their employ for the last five months.

The temperance reformation has many friends with us. Monthly meetings are held by its members for the public discussion of subjects connected with this important cause, and a growing interest in its behalf seems to prevail. The claims of

the coloured population have been regarded by us to some extent.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. Edward C. McGuire, rector. From various causes, the number of communicants has diminished, though it is not believed that the piety or zeal of the people has declined. Our religious and benevolent societies received their usual share of attention. Through our Sunday Schools and Bible classes, we endeavour faithfully to sow the good seed of the divine word, while our Auxiliary Missionary and Education Societies are labouring to advance the important interests contemplated in their formation. The Prayer and Tract Society is yet highly useful in its operations. Our Female Missionary Society is alone inefficient, and that altogether from the extreme difficulty of procuring missionaries. Something has been done of late for the spiritual improvement of our coloured population. The time seems to have arrived with us for successful efforts in their behalf. Recent endeavours to instruct them by preaching have been attended by the most encouraging indications of usefulness. The word preached has been most gladly received, and much gratitude expressed for the sympathy of the church, and her care for them in their destitute and neglected condition.

Baptisms twenty-five—communicants one hundred and sixty—marriages eight—funerals twelve.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, Va.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. The minister of this church has nothing of especial interest to report concerning its present state. If he should say that the religious sensibility of the congregation is not so great as at some former periods, it is what all would be prepared to hear who know any thing of the history of religion in this unfriendly world. There is, however, nothing of which we can seriously complain, but, on the contrary, much to inspire confidence and awaken gratitude to God. However unfaithful we may have been, there is still continued cause for recording the loving kindness and tender mercies of the Lord.

Religious institutions command a general respect among us. The numbers filling the sanctuary proclaim the influence and ascendancy of divine truth. We do what we can to prevent the people from mistaking the "form" for the power of religion.

There has been no abatement of active zeal in the cause of Christian benevolence. Much has been done in this way through the past year. The people do not only love in word, but in deed, and in truth.

The congregation has erected since the last Convention a commodious vestry-room. One scholarship in the Theological Seminary of Virginia has been endowed for five years, and a second is in a fair way of being soon completed. A promising youth, taken from the Sunday School, has been sent to college by the liberality of a few, in order to his ultimate preparation for the ministry.

Our Sunday Schools (male, female, and infant) contain about two hundred and fifty children, instructed by upwards of fifty teachers. Our Bible classes contain from sixty to seventy persons. The rest of our societies continue to receive their share of patronage, and to exercise a salutary influence on the interests of the church.

It may here be proper to mention the favour which has been recently shown our Female Charity School—a legacy amounting to \$10,000 having been left it by the late Miss Sophia Carter, of Prince William county.

Baptisms eighteen, one adult—confirmed fourteen—communicants one hundred and eighty-five—marriages nine—funerals seventeen—families about one hundred.

EDWARD C. MCGUIRE,

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, Va.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. The minister of this church has the happiness of reporting the prosperous state of his pastoral charge.

The grace of God has been extended to us in an unusual measure through the past year.

Subsequent to the period of the Convention in Norfolk, there was a manifest increase of religious sensibility among us. An unusual solemnity pervaded our places of worship, while the welfare of the soul became the absorbing theme of meditation and conversation with an unusual number. The good seed which had long been sown in reluctant hearts began to spring up. One and another evinced deep concern, giving vent to feelings which had been long, more or less, restrained. Occasions of religious worship were now eagerly sought, every place of meeting was speedily filled, presenting often scenes of subdued but deep spiritual distress, mingled with those of calm but rapturous delight and joy in the Holy Ghost.

The result of this visitation of mercy has been, as we believe, the radical conversion of upwards of eighty individuals. Of these, Bishop Meade confirmed seventy-five in September last—more than fifty of whom united for the first time in commemorating the death of their Saviour. Since that period about thirty more have been admitted to the holy communion, making the whole amount of increase since the last Convention about eighty-five members.

A great blessing has this merciful visitation been to us. It has added much to the influence of true religion. Our congregations have increased, a fresh impulse has been given to the activity of members, and the fruits of faith have been realized in holy living and in all the deeds of practical benevolence and Christian charity.

The several parochial associations reported to the last Convention still continue in a prosperous state. Our Sunday Schools, Bible classes, Prayer-Book and Tract Society, Education Society, and Missionary Societies, are well sustained and eminently useful. Baptisms forty six (thirteen adults)—marriages five—funerals twenty-four—communicants one hundred and eighty-eight—twenty-two lost by death and removal.

EDWARD C. M'GUIRE.

St. George's parish, Fredericksburg. The rector of this church is still permitted, through God's abounding mercy, to report the favourable state of the congregation committed to his pastoral care. The divine blessing has been vouchsafed us during the past year to an encouraging extent. We have rarely enjoyed more manifest proof of the faithfulness of Him who has said, "My word shall not return unto me void, but shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." So efficacious has his word been, that fifteen or twenty members have been added to the communion, bringing with them a large accession of religious and moral influence, auspicious in a high degree to the progress of divine truth among us. There is a laudable attention paid to the important duties of family and public worship. The increasing number of those who, around the family altar, offer the sacrifice of prayer and praise with "morning light and evening shade," is a source of great satisfaction, as it is of great advantage to the cause of truth and godliness among us. So much has the number increased of those who go up to the house of God, that the vestry have the enlargement of the church edifice now under consideration. There is also the same zeal and devotion evinced in behalf of our several religious and benevolent institutions. Our Sunday Schools (three in number) contain about two hundred and fifty scholars, diligently instructed by more than fifty teachers; one of these is an infant school, containing children between the ages of three and seven years, and considered by us as our most interesting charge. Our Bible classes are still continued, with every favourable prospect of extensive and lasting usefulness. The Prayer-Book and Tract Society is doing much good. The Female Missionary Society is well sustained, and anxious to be more actively engaged than their recent want of missionaries would admit. The claims of the General Missionary Society have also been duly regarded by us, the contributions to its funds having in the last two years exceeded the sum of \$800. Baptisms twenty-seven (five adults)—marriages six—funerals eighteen—communicants one hundred and twenty-five. EDWARD C. M'GUIRE.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. There is nothing remarkable to be communicated in regard to the state of this parish. With some experience of the appointed trials of his church, there has also been through the past year an experience of the unchanging love which the Saviour bears towards her; unequivocal proofs of his faithfulness have been given us in some important accessions to his cause, while the gradual increase of that cause in moral ascendancy promises the best results in the present and final salvation of those intrusted to our care.

The zeal of the congregation is unabated in sustaining those parochial institutions which have for their object the good of mankind, temporal and spiritual, at home and abroad. Our Sunday Schools are cherished with peculiar interest; of these there are three, one of which is an infant school, and is especially interesting and useful. We have also three Bible classes in operation, one for females, and two for males; these have been most useful in promoting religion among us. Two pious youths from this source will soon be added to the list of our theological students. The Sunday Schools contain about 225 scholars, the Bible classes about fifty. Communicants about 112, baptisms seventeen, marriages eight, funerals nine.

EDW. C. M'GUIRE.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. The rector of this church, in presenting his 16th annual report to the Convention, is happy in being able to say that the last, like the preceding years, has been marked by many cheering indications of the continued goodness and favour of God the Saviour. There has been in that time the usual attention of the people to the means of grace, and an unusual number have been added to the church of such as, he trusts, will be saved. There has also been a fruitfulness in those good works which ever distinguish and adorn the real followers of the Redeemer. The various associations among us for religious and charitable purposes have been actively engaged in furthering their several designs of benevolence towards the souls and bodies of men. The Prayer-Book and Tract Society, the Female Missionary Society, the Bible Society, the Sunday and Charity Schools, and especially the Bible classes, have greatly flourished, and diffused the choicest blessings. Marriages seven—funerals eleven—baptisms twenty-five (five adults)—communicants one hundred and fourteen.

EDW. C. M'GUIRE.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. This church is in a state of undiminished prosperity. Through the past year many tokens of the kind and gracious remembrance of the Lord have been vouchsafed us. There has been a very general attention among the people to the things of God. A deep impression was made on the minds of our community, by the services and ministrations of the last Convention, and some fruit has been gathered into the church, of which the seed was no doubt sown at that season. While there have been some valuable additions to the communion since that period, there are also others who give good evidence of "repentance towards God," and of a sincere desire to know what they "must do to be saved."

The several religious and benevolent institutions connected with the church, viz., the Common Prayer-Book and Tract Society, the Female Education Society, the Charity School and Bible classes, are in a state of prosperity, but especially the Female Domestic Missionary Society, which is still dispensing rich blessings around us. During the few years of its existence it has engaged in its cause *five missionaries*, whose labours have been instrumental of good in many places, but especially in the settlement of three useful ministers in as many destitute parishes.

The Sunday Schools are in a flourishing condition—the number of scholars registered is 250. Baptisms twenty-nine (one adult)—marriages five—communicants 104.

EDWARD C. M'GUIRE.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg. The minister of this church has pleasure in reporting it as being in a prosperous condition. The congregation during the past year has always been large, regular, and attentive; and is still increasing in numbers. The influence of the gospel has been realized to a very encouraging extent during that period. For the greater part of the year, but few indications of a beneficial ministration of the word and doctrine gladdened our hearts; but He who has said, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand," at length in his faithfulness remembered us, and granted us some reviving proofs of his grace and love. Several of our number being thus graciously visited, have been called out of darkness into marvellous light, while others are anxiously inquiring what they must do to be saved.

There are two flourishing Bible classes under our care. From this method of religious instruction we have found much important advantage to arise, and think that no small share of the recent spiritual improvement of the congregation may be ascribed to it.

The Sunday Schools belonging to the church are still in a most flourishing state. The number of scholars, male and female, amounts to two hundred and fifty.

The Fredericksburg Common Prayer-Book and Tract Society is still in active and successful operation.

The Female Education Society, auxiliary to the Education Society of Virginia and Maryland, is still zealous for the object of its formation, and contributes its proportion to the funds of the parent institution.

A Female Domestic Missionary Society has existed among us for several years. Several missionaries have in that time been employed, and the gratifying assurance enjoyed of much important good done by them in some of our adjoining parishes. The society is now anxious to employ a missionary.

The Charity Schools connected with the church are of a highly interesting character; they are two in number, one of males, the other of females. About forty-five children are educated in them, some of whom are clothed and boarded. These excellent institutions share largely of the spiritual care and pecuniary assistance of the congregation, while, as objects of general favour and of general good, they derive from other sources a part of their support. Baptisms during the past year sixteen (one adult)—communicants one hundred—marriages twelve—funerals nine.

EDWARD C. M'GUIRE.

The Episcopal Church of Fredericksburg. This church is in a prosperous and flourishing state. The numerical increase of the congregation has been considerable during the past year. The services of the sanctuary have been more fully attended, especially in the afternoon, than at any previous period of the rector's ministry among this people. Of the increase of real religion, the rector cannot speak so confidently—some, indeed, have been added to the church during the past year, whom he has good reason to believe will be eternally saved—but there is much reason to regret that so few out of so large a congregation have given themselves up to the Lord.

Much zeal is shown by the people of God in promoting the interests of virtue and piety. The several charitable institutions connected with the church enjoy a large measure of their care and attention. The Sunday Schools are especially cherished by them with warm and affectionate concern. Baptisms twenty-five—marriages twelve—funerals thirteen—communicants upwards of 100.

The committee on "the fund for the relief of distressed widows and orphans of clergymen," have, according to order, had the subject committed to them under consideration, and beg leave to report, that the account of the treasurer, rendered to the Convention, has been examined by them, and found to be correct.

The committee would beg leave to call the attention of the Convention to the importance of this fund, and the duty of cherishing it. Some years ago, it was resolved by the Convention that the subscribers should be released from their past arrearages, by paying up the ensuing current annuities. Very few subscriptions, however, have since been received, and a general indifference, it would seem, prevails upon the subject. The committee would therefore recommend, that some one person should be appointed, whose business it shall be, at each Convention, to make a personal call on the subscribers for their dues, and to obtain further subscriptions to the fund.

It appears also to your committee, that the constitution of the society requires some modification, adapted to the present state of its concerns. They would therefore recommend to the Convention the adoption of the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the Rev. Edward C. M'Guire be appointed to aid the standing committee, as agent for obtaining and collecting subscriptions to "the fund for the relief of distressed widows and orphans of clergymen."

Resolved, That the standing committee to whom the management of this fund is committed, be requested to revise the constitution of the society, and to report to the next Convention whether any, and if any, what amendments, are necessary for the better effectuation of the objects of the society.

St. George's parish, Fredericksburg. The congregation in this place is still favoured with the smiles of the great Head of the church. Many signal proofs have been vouchsafed of God's merciful care and gracious presence. Every evidence prevails of a true love for the church, and of a growing devotion to the precious truths of the everlasting gospel. The people are careful to maintain good works. They cherish with much zeal and affection a large and flourishing Sunday School, from which much precious fruit has been realized. An auxiliary Education Society exists, and a Female Missionary Society, which promises essential benefit to a destitute section of the diocess. Baptisms fourteen—communicants one hundred and three—funerals nineteen.

COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

OFFICE OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

Washington, 12th May, 1825.

To the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Virginia.

The managers of the Colonization Society respectfully solicit the attention of the Episcopal Convention to the great objects of their institution. Their success has already exceeded their expectations. The colony at Liberia is in a prosperous and improving state. The interest in its favour is more deep and extensive than ever before, and a thousand urgent motives are addressed to every virtuous mind, especially to Christian ministers, to prevent their neglect of this encouraging crisis, and to excite to renewed exertions in this sacred cause of justice and religion.

It is through the clergy that the board believe they may act most successfully on the public mind. Much, therefore, do they desire the sanction of the several ecclesiastical bodies in the United States to their plans and proceedings.

They beg leave, therefore, to suggest to this Convention a measure which they intend to propose to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches.

That a resolution be adopted, recommending to the congregations under the care of this Convention collections in behalf of the Colonization Society, to be made on the 4th of July, or on the Sabbath immediately preceding or succeeding that day.

By order of the board,

R. R. GURLEY, Resident Agent.

On motion, Resolved, That this Convention have witnessed, with the deepest emotions of gratitude to God, the degree of success with which it has pleased him to bless the efforts of the American Colonization Society: they observe with pleasure an increasing interest in its prosperity everywhere manifested throughout this Union, and particularly in the proceedings of the last Legislature of this state, and they recommend continued and increasing exertions in its favour to the charitable and patriotic in this diocese.

Resolved, therefore, That it be earnestly recommended to the different clergymen and vestries of the Protestant Episcopal Church within this diocese, to have collections made in their respective churches on the Sabbath either preceding or succeeding the 4th of July, in aid of the funds of the Colonization Society.

1824 no report. McGuire not present?

1823

St. George's parish, Fredericksburg. The plentiful showers of divine grace have fallen, during the past year, with blessed consequences, upon this portion of our Lord's vineyard. It has been, indeed, a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Several have been painfully convicted of sin, and anxiously inquiring what they must do to be saved. The number of anxious inquiries has continued to increase, and the deep and painful convictions of some have terminated in the enjoyment of a peace which passeth understanding. Others yet remain, who, weary and heavy laden, are earnestly seeking that rest which is prepared for the penitent. The rector anticipates, in the end of this good work, a valuable accession of piety and influence to the cause of evangelical truth among us, and the addition of an acceptable mite to that revenue of glory which is accruing to the glorified Head of the church from the progress of his cause upon earth. Though the subjects of revivals, in other parts of the Lord's vineyard, may have been more numerous, there are few instances in which a revival has been characterized by more genuine or decided cases of conversion. Baptisms in this church during the last year amount to forty-one, three adults—communicants one hundred and six, nine lost by death and removal; one Sunday School, containing one hundred and twenty-six scholars.

The Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg. This church continues to enjoy the fostering smiles of God the Saviour. The congregation is large and increasing, and growing in devotion to the cause of God. Communicants upwards of 100—baptisms 23—funerals 16.

Seminary in Williamsburg

The Rev. Mr. Wilmer, from the trustees of the Theological School, reported as follows, viz. :—A committee was appointed to draught an address to the members and friends of the church, which was printed, and circulated very generally throughout the diocese. A correspondence was entered into with the dioceses of Maryland and North Carolina, which resulted in some difference of opinion as to the usefulness of the contemplated school, and its location at Williamsburg, by the diocese of Maryland; but was deferred, as to any definitive step, until the meeting of their Convention in the present year. From the State of North Carolina, no reply whatever has been received.

Mr. John Nelson, jr., who was appointed to solicit subscriptions throughout the diocese, has industriously prosecuted the object committed to him, and met with success beyond the most sanguine expectations of the trustees and friends of the measure, as will more fully appear by the annexed statement of the amount obtained in the different places he was able to visit personally, viz. :—

In Fredericksburg,	\$1,082 00
" Alexandria,	770 00
" Berkeley county,	150 00
" Frederick,	1,185 00
" Jefferson,	515 33
" Norfolk and Portsmouth,	1,334 00
" Petersburg,	454 00
" Richmond,	1,920 00
" Mecklenburg county,	2,026 00
" Scattering,	863 00
	<hr/>
	\$10,268 33

Making an amount of \$10,268 33, the existing state of which is shown by the account thereof rendered by the agent, and hereto annexed. In presenting this report to the Convention, the trustees cannot refrain from felicitating the friends of the church on the favour manifested towards this very important measure by the people at large, and from expressing their sanguine hope, that the future applications which will continue to be made will enable them, at an early day, to put in operation so desirable an institution. The delay of another year, however, is inevitable, because the subscriptions were taken payable in three instalments, the first of which has only become due; a measure judged prudent from the very depressed state of the country in its money concerns.

In the church in Fredericksburg—there are communicants 100, baptisms 13, deaths 6, marriages 11. Something has been done for the episcopal fund, and it is hoped more will be done hereafter.

Prayer Book Society

The managers of the Prayer-Book and Tract Society of Virginia report, That in consequence of the establishment of auxiliary societies throughout the diocese, the friends of the parent institution have been so much abridged as to paralyze its efforts. The annual collection usual at the meeting of the Conventions was not made the last year, and the managers have felt authorized, under these circumstances, to solicit the contribution due from subscribers. Only a small amount of money, therefore, has been received during the last year. With this one hundred prayer-books have been purchased, and three thousand tracts printed. Twenty prayer-books and several hundred tracts have been sent to the Female Auxiliary Society in Accomack, from which the sum of ten dollars was received on the 10th instant. Twelve prayer-books and an assortment of several hundred tracts have been sent to Christ Church parish, in Middlesex; and such other distributions have been made as the exigences and demands have seemed to require. The remaining prayer-books and tracts are now in Norfolk, at the disposal of the Convention.

Under the present circumstances, the managers submit it to the wisdom of the Convention, whether it be better to dissolve the society, or whether it be possible to incorporate with it the subordinate societies, and thus to secure that harmony of sentiment and action which is essential to the vigour and prosperity of such institutions.

WILLIAM H. WILMER, Chairman.

On motion, Ordered, That the said report be laid upon the table.

The following resolutions were proposed by the Rev. Benjamin Allen, viz. :—

Resolved, That the existing Common Prayer-Book and Tract Society be extended to the promotion of Christian knowledge in general, the funds to be apportioned among the respective means made use of, as the managers may determine.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the friends of the church, in the different sections of the diocese, to organize branches auxiliary to this society, which branches, after supplying their respective districts, shall throw their surplus funds into the treasury of this society.

Resolved, That the officers of all such auxiliaries shall be *ex-officio* managers of this society.

Resolved, That each member of this society be entitled to two prayer-books and ten tracts per annum.

On motion of Mr. Meade,

Resolved, That the further consideration of the said resolutions be indefinitely postponed.

The committee on the state of the church, taking into consideration the deficient condition of the diocese as respects the means of theological instruction, and the importance of retaining among ourselves, for education, those young men who may be disposed to devote themselves to the sacred office of the ministry, recommend to this Convention the establishment of a theological school in Williamsburg; it being understood that the society of the college in that place is willing that such a step should be taken, and that the faculty have generously offered to afford gratuitously, to all *bona fide* students of theology, a course of lectures for the support of such school.

It is therefore recommended, that a board of trustees, consisting of the following clergymen and laymen, to wit:—the Right Rev. Bishop Moore, the Rev. John S. Ravenscroft, the Rev. William H. Wilmer, the Rev. William Meade, the Rev. Reuel Keith, and Dr. Augustine Smith, the Hon. Burwell Basset, the Hon. Bushrod Washington, Colonel Hugh Mercer, and William Mayo, Esq., any three of whom shall constitute a quorum, be appointed to adopt the most efficient means for establishing the same, by raising funds and selecting one or more professors; the proceedings of which board shall be subject to the decision of the next Convention.

It is also recommended, that the Board of Trustees enter into a correspondence with the standing committees of the dioceses of Maryland and North Carolina, in order to ascertain whether the members of our church in those states are disposed to co-operate with us in this important measure.

In recommending these resolutions, the committee think proper to declare, that they do not intend any opposition to the General Seminary established by the General Convention. On the contrary, we cordially desire to see the prosperity of an institution so vitally connected as that is with the reputation and interest of our church. But as there are peculiar circumstances which render it necessary to cherish a seminary in the southern district, we consider the duty of attempting it as coming within the scope of the resolution made by the House of Bishops, which declares its intention "not to interfere with any plan now contemplated or that may be hereafter contemplated in any diocese or dioceses for the establishment of theological institutions or professorships."

Therefore, Resolved, That Mr. John Nelson, jr., delegate from St. James's parish, Mecklenburg county, be appointed to solicit subscriptions throughout the diocese for the above purpose.

The said resolutions and preamble thereto being twice read, were, on questions severally put thereupon, agreed to by the Convention.

A motion was made by the Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, that the following resolution be adopted:—

Resolved, That in amendment of the last clause of the 10th canon of the church in this

state, the words, "within three years," be inserted after the words, "at any time."

And the question being put thereupon, was determined in the negative.

In 1824 decided to locate in Alexandria

1820

The church in Fredericksburg still enjoys the gracious presence and agency of God the Holy Ghost, restoring fallen man to happiness and God. Communicants one hundred—baptisms thirty-three—funerals fifteen—marriages fifteen.

1819

The church in Fredericksburg still enjoys the converting and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, to an extent eminently encouraging. Communicants ninety-four—baptisms twenty-eight—marriages ten—funerals twelve—Sunday Schools three, containing 225 scholars, and one parish library.

*To the Hon. Bushrod Washington, President of the
American Colonization Society.*

PETERSBURG, May 14, 1819.

Dear Sir,—We, the committee appointed by the Convention to carry into effect the foregoing resolution, have great pleasure in fulfilling this duty.

The object of the society over which you preside, is one which cannot fail to awaken the sympathy of every humane mind. The forebodings of the politician, the regrets of humanity, and the prayers of Christians, have long been turned upon the question of providing a remedy for the evils growing out of the slave population in this country. To ameliorate the condition of that portion of society, and at the same time to secure an exemption from any tendency to licentiousness and insubordination, are objects which have been considered irreconcilable; and which have served to perplex and discourage both the politician and the philanthropist. The plan and views of your society, as far as they are understood by this Convention, appear well calculated to effect and harmonize these objects; to rescue this unhappy class of our fellow-creatures from the ignorance, vice, and degradation to which the habits and sentiments, if not the necessities, of the present social state, will for ever doom them while they remain in this country—to restore a people whom “God hath made of one blood” with ourselves to their natural birthright of human beings; and, by a process so gradual as to guard against the effects of too abrupt a termination of long-established habits, to deliver our land from a calamity which, in its present progress, is portentous of incalculable misery and disaster. Nay, more; your sphere of benevolence takes a still wider range, and proposes, by colonizing this people on the coast of Africa, to diffuse thereby the blessings of civilization and Christianity throughout the vast extent of that benighted region. May it not be, that the great Disposer of events designs thus to vindicate the mysterious dispensations of that power, which can render that which was itself an outrage upon every principle of humanity and religion, subservient to the great purposes of his providence and grace? Like the captivity of Joseph, which was meant, indeed, for evil by the perpetrators of the crime, may not the affecting history of this people prove, that their misfortunes were permitted in order “to save much people alive,” and to render their own destiny ultimately more glorious than it otherwise would have been.

These views and hopes are confirmed by the remarkable synchronism of events and circumstances. The simultaneous efforts that are in preparation on every part of the globe for the furtherance of humanity and religion; the unanimity with which the Colonization Society has been cherished and supported, even among those who might have been supposed to be hostile to it; and the patronage which our general government seems disposed to afford to it, are flattering indications that these are the mighty doings of Him “who turneth the hearts of men as rivers of water.” The time appears to have come, when “the isles shall wait on Him,” and “Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God,”—when the poor negro on the banks of the Sherbro, the Niger, the Gambia, and the Senegal, shall behold their waters whitening with the sails of commerce—when he shall behold cities spreading around, and temples lifting up their heads,—when he shall hear his valleys and rocks resound with “the church-going

bell," which shall call him to worship, in the beauty of holiness, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind. To labour in this work is to co-work with God. For your encouragement to persevere, you require not our approbation. You have a more elevated source of satisfaction, a nobler reward, in the consciousness of doing good, and in the high prospects which your labours have already unfolded. But we deemed it matter of justice to ourselves, to assure you of our best wishes and prayers. In the name of God and of humanity, we wish you good luck. May Heaven prosper and reward your labour of love!

For yourself, sir, individually, be pleased to accept the assurances of our high esteem. Long may you live to preside over the American Colonization Society, and to extend to other lands the blessings of a life which has already conferred important benefits on your own country.

We are, very respectfully,

Your friends and obedient servants,

WILLIAM H. WILMER,

ROBERT PAGE,

NEEDHAM L. WASHINGTON.

1818

The church in Fredericksburg is still in a flourishing state, increasing in numbers and piety.

No numbers presented

1817

The report from St. George's parish, Fredericksburg, states, that there are ninety communicants in the Fredericksburg church—marriages eleven—baptisms forty-five—deaths sixteen.

From Robert C. Moore

After remaining in my own parish a few weeks, I visited this city (*Fredericksburg*), in which place I officiated as usual to a numerous and devout people. (Here I think it my duty to remark, that from all the observations I have made, the labours of Mr. M'Guire have received the sanction of his God. He lives in the hearts of the pious people of his charge, and merits this expression of my pastoral approbation.) Here I was joined by the Rev. Mr. Hawley and Mr. M'Guire, who attended me to Port Royal, and on my route through the Northern Neck of Virginia. At Port Royal Mr. H. and myself preached to a large assembly, whose attachment to the church of their fathers was evinced, not only by their devout behaviour, but also by their perfect acquaintance with the liturgy. The responses were audibly made, and excited in my mind the most pleasing sensations. I

The report from Fredericksburg is highly favourable. A large neat church has been completed. Communicants ninety—baptisms thirty-four—marriages eight—deaths ten—catechumens forty-five.

6th and 7th canon

The Rev. Edward C. M'Guire laid before the Convention sundry resolutions of the vestry in the town of Fredericksburg, disapproving of the 6th and 7th canons adopted by the last Convention; and, the same being read, he made a motion that the 6th and 7th canons be repealed; whereupon, on a motion made and seconded, the Convention resolved itself into a committee of the whole house to take the said motion into consideration, Mr. Hugh Nelson in the chair:—and, after some time spent therein, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. Nelson reported, That the committee of the whole Convention had, according to order, had under consideration the motion for repealing the 6th and 7th canons, and agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he delivered in at the secretary's table, where the same was read, as follows:—

Resolved, That the 6th and 7th canons for the government of the church of this diocese, adopted by the last Convention, be repealed; and that the following canon, which, in substance, was passed in May, 1805, be revived and established in lieu thereof, viz.:—

Whereas the present state of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia has experienced many and great inconveniences from the want of such regulations and provisions as the good and wholesome government of the said church required, and from the nonperformance of existing canons: Now, in order that such inconveniences may be removed, so far as lieth in this Convention, and that the rules and canons of the said church, and also those of the General Convention, may be strictly observed and enforced in all time to come; that all the members of the said church, whether clergymen or laymen, may be excited to the most zealous and commendable exertions to further, by all justifiable means, the future prosperity of the church;—

Be it ordained, That any lay member of the church, being a communicant thereof, conducting himself in a manner unworthy of a Christian, may and ought to be admonished by the minister and vestry of the parish or congregation; and if such member persevere in such conduct, he shall be suspended or expelled by the ministry and vestry; in which case he may appeal to the ordinary, who shall have power to confirm or reject the sentence.

The said resolution being read a second time, was, on the question put thereupon, unanimously agreed to by the Convention.

CANON VI.*

Offences for which a Layman may be presented and tried.

Drunkenness, incontinence, profane swearing, general neglect of public worship, Sabbath-breaking, irreverent behaviour during divine service, gaming, extortion, and any other open viciousness of life, are crimes and misdemeanors for which lay members who are communicants of this church may be reprov'd, publicly censured, or repelled from the holy communion, according to the degrees of the offence, and the age and other circumstances of the offender.

CANON VII.*

Manner of proceeding against a Layman.

If a lay member, being a communicant, shall offend in any of these respects, the minister of the parish in which the offender shall reside shall, upon receiving information thereof, take cognizance of the offence; and if he shall have sufficient evidence of the guilt, he shall privately admonish the person; and if this shall not have the desired effect, he shall then convene the vestry and wardens; first giving the party reasonable notice, in writing, of the nature of the offence alleged, and of the time appointed for the meeting of the minister, vestry, and wardens, for the purpose of inquiring into it; who shall thereupon proceed to inquire into the charge; and, if they shall be of opinion that it is substantiated, the minister shall pronounce such sentence as the offence may deserve; which sentence shall be either reproof before the vestry and wardens, public censure in the church, or repelling him from the holy communion. But if the person accused, being duly notified, shall

refuse to appear, the minister, vestry, and wardens shall, notwithstanding, proceed to inquiry and sentence: Provided, That every minister so repelling any as is herein specified, shall be obliged to give an account of the same to the ordinary, as soon as conveniently may be, who shall decide thereupon.

The report from the church in Fredericksburg, from Shelburne parish, from Hamilton parish, from the congregations of Dumfries and of Aquia, from the parishes of Norborne and St. Andrews, from the church in Winchester, from the parishes of Hardy and Hampshire, and from St. Martin's, is favourable. The spirit of religion is increasing; many are zealously attached to the Episcopal Church, and are making exertions to support her ordinances. The state of the church in Antrim

The number of communicants is twenty. In the church of Fredericksburg the number of communicants is upwards of sixty; the baptisms last year

are fourteen, the marriages four, and the number of funerals ten. Since the induction of the Rev.

2d.—A Canon concerning Conventions.

1st. There shall be a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this commonwealth on the fourth Tuesday of May in every year, in such place as shall be agreed on by the Convention. A Convention shall consist of two deputies from each parish, of whom the minister shall be one, if there be a minister, and the other shall be a layman, to be annually chosen by the vestry; or, where there be no ves-

try, by persons who may, with propriety, be considered as members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, duly notified; and the election shall be certified by at least five respectable members of the church. If there be no minister in any parish, two lay deputies shall be chosen. Nine deputies, thus qualified or appointed, shall be a Convention. Provided always, That for the altering or framing of a canon, fifteen members at least shall be necessary. Provided also, That if a sufficient number to form a Convention shall not attend on any day, any five members then assembled shall have power to adjourn.

No parochial reports

NOTE.—The first Convention of this Diocese after the Revolution, was held in Richmond, on the 18th day of May, 1785; and annual Conventions were held for several years successively in that city. It would appear from Hawks' Ecclesiastical Contributions to Church History, Vol. I, that the Convention did not meet more than twice between the years 1799 and 1812. In the year last named a special Convention was called, and from that period to the present the Convention has assembled annually. From information derived from Dr. Hawks' valuable History of the Church in Virginia, above referred to, the secretary is satisfied that the Convention last held was the 55th annual Convention of this Diocese.