

and prospective for half fledged young men of a certain stripe, who have not sufficient evangelical zeal and devotedness for hard missionary work such as the older clergy performed.

HALIBURTON.—A surprise party visited the Rev. George Leasingham on the evening of the 23rd December, 1881, and presented him with a purse, and the following address Mr. S. S. Peck, M.P., presided on the occasion.

Rev. and Dear Sir.—The undersigned have been appointed to perform the pleasant duty of presenting you with this purse containing \$34.10 as a slight token of the good opinion entertained of you by a large number of your parishioners and many other kind friends; and we beg of you to accept it in the hearty manner in which it has been given, and the earnest prayer of all is that you may be long spared to be in the future what you have been in the past, a faithful, devoted, and earnest worker in God's vineyard. Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New-year. We are, Rev. and dear Sir, yours on behalf of the donors. Miss Eva Sluman, Miss A. Lucas. Haliburton, Dec. 23rd, 1881.

The Christmas 1881 offering amounted to \$11.46.

WEST MONO.—The usual annual entertainments in connection with the Sunday-schools of St. George's and Herald Angel churches were held last month, and were by far the most successful gatherings ever held here. The school-house in which St. George's congregation held theirs was by far too small to hold all those who desired admittance. Dr. Henry, mayor of Orangeville, occupied the chair at St. George's, and the incumbent, Rev. Geo. B. Morley, that of the Herald Angel, in lieu of Wm. Jelly, Esq., M.P.P., who was prevented from attending by illness, the amount realized at St. George's was \$77.00, and Herald Angel \$111.25. These amounts go towards Sunday-school work and church improvements, St. George's has been all newly seated, and the last note due on the Herald Angel church was paid, which leaves this handsome little church free of debt. The Sunday-schools, four in number, have been closed for the season, but before closing prizes were distributed, costing about \$40.00. St. Matthew's Sunday-school has Wm. Lavery as superintendent. Herald Angel Hugh Bracken with J. A. Jackson as secretary, St. George's Wm. Allen with James Woodland as secretary, Camilla, Wm. Jackson with Thomas Robinson as secretary. The Church people here feel much pleased that their Church is in such a well organized shape.

WEST MULMUR MISSION.—A very successful Christmas entertainment was held in connection with Christ Church. The Christmas-tree was beautifully dressed. The children all received gifts, and amongst other gifts bestowed Miss Rooney was presented by the choir with a very handsome muff and work box, as a token of their appreciation of the great labour and pains she had taken in trying to improve their musical attainments. Miss Rooney thanked them for their kind and unexpected gift, putting in a disclaimer as to being worthy of any merit in the discharge of her duty.

PORT HOPE.—The St. Mark's church Sunday-school held their annual meeting in the Town Hall, on Wednesday evening, January 4th. A very large and handsome Christmas-tree was loaded with presents of all kinds, and lighted up with many coloured tapers. Several carols were sung, and the children were delighted with the excellent gifts they received. The incumbent, the Rev. J. B. Baker had invited the Rev. Mr. Bell, of Lakefield, to deliver at the same time and place, a lecture "A Tour through London England," which he gave, illustrating the same with a large number of photographic views, by the aid of a powerful sciopicon. The scenes thus depicted were exceedingly clear, and gave great pleasure to the very large audience who witnessed them.

HUMOROUS AND DRAMATIC READINGS.

ON the 26th and 27th of this month, Mr. Chas. Roberts, Jr., of New York, will give two of his select Recitals of Humorous and Dramatic readings, in Shaftesbury Hall, under the patronage of the Lieut.-Governor, and Mayor. On these evenings Mr. Roberts will interpret a programme from standard authors, thus affording the amusement-seeking public an entertainment of a refined literary character. Of Mr. Roberts's abilities as an elocutionist the New York press speaks very highly.

IIURON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PORT STANLEY.—A large and pleasant gathering took place in Christ Church, in the village, on the evening of Dec. 28th, under the auspices of the Sunday-school. The neat and handsome evergreen decorations arranged in the most attractive manner in the interior, together with the Christmas-tree loaded with presents, presented an appearance strikingly beautiful. After the usual singing and prayer, the present highly esteemed incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Strong, delivered an address suitable to the occasion. The scholars then sang in a sweet and joyous manner several appropriate sacred songs, after which the seasonable gifts on the tree were distributed. Mrs. Strong was, during the evening, made the recipient of a valuable and handsome pair of vases from Sheppard & Wilson, of St. Thomas. The Rev. Mr. Strong is himself superintendent of this flourishing school.

ST. THOMAS.—It is really pleasant to note the labour of love bestowed upon our churches at the great festival of Christmas. On Christmas-day, Trinity Church at its best in commemoration of the Nativity of the "Prince of Peace." A change of the position of the pulpit, and attention of the surrounding pews are decidedly an improvement. The acoustic properties have also been improved, so that now every word spoken by the officiating minister can be distinctly heard by every one. On Christmas-day the decorations were chaste and beautiful. Two circles of crimson cloth overlaid with evergreen leaves wound round each pillar. In the chancel a rood screen and reredos imitated with evergreen and Christmas decoration, had an excellent effect. The music at matins and evensong gave distinctive charms to the joyous festival. The Rector, the Rev. Mr. Ballard preached at both services to very large congregations, evincing the love borne to the solemn festivals of the Church. Even those who are not of her household delight in her sacred services. The congregation, morning and evening, entirely filled the large building, nave and aisles.

SIMCOE.—There were very large congregations at Trinity church on Christmas-day. At evensong especially the church was crowded. The decorations were truly beautiful. The young ladies and the gentlemen who assisted them richly deserve the praise awarded them. They were resolved to make the venerable edifice look its best at the last time, as ere next Christmas a new Church will have taken its place. The choir did good sermon in singing the hymns and anthem. The rector, the J. Gemley, took for his text in the morning Isaiah xi. 6, in the evening St. Luke ii. 13, 14. In the afternoon there was a short service and suitable service for the members of the Sunday-school. At the close the teachers gave Christmas cards to the members of their classes. The offertory of the day was \$100.

LUCKNOW.—The incumbent of St. Peter's church, the Rev. Jas. Currie, with many members of the congregation waited on Mr. D. C. Cameron, the efficient leader of the choir, at his residence and presented him with a handsome pair of vases, a silver cake basket and celery dish. Mr. Cameron has been leader of the choir since its organization.

FLORENCE.—At the recent Christmas-tree entertainment the Rev. Mr. Racey and Mrs. G. W. Racey were presented with a Christmas-box of \$42 to purchase carpets for their parlours and dining room, by some of the members of the Florence and Anghrim congregations. We are pleased to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Racey are highly esteemed by the parishioners.

LONDON.—St. Paul's: The choir of this church presented the rector, the Rev. Canon Innes with a portrait of himself, and to their organist, Mr. Geo. B. Sippi, they presented a beautiful liqueur stand of silver.

TYRCONNEL.—The high festival of the Saviour's Nativity was observed in this parish, with something more than the usual enthusiasm which was manifested by the more elaborate decoration of the church, by the large attendance at the services in spite of the inclement weather and bad roads, and especially by the large number of communicants who participated in the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The season too was marked by the increased liberality of a very liberal people towards their clergyman. The offerings on Christmas-day amounted to forty dollars nearly, and the previous presents in kind of the substantial of life were very large and valuable. In addition to these, the Christmas-tree, under the

cultivation of Mrs. Liberty and some other ladies produced a magnificent shawl for Mrs. Chance, the clergyman's wife; also a handsome and costly cruet, and a beautiful pair of slippers for the clergyman. At the suggestion of the Misses Bobier, who are always ready in every good work, a presentation was made of a very beautiful silver cake basket and butter dish to Miss Sarah Pearce, by the incumbent on behalf of the congregation, as a token of their appreciation of her services as organist of St. Peter's church.

ALGOMA.

From Our own Correspondent.

PORT SYDNEY.—The incumbent of Christ Church mission acknowledges with gratitude the receipt of three cases of clothing as Christmas presents from the C.W.A. Society, Toronto, for the Sunday-schools of Port Sydney, Beatrice, and Brunel. Also a barrel of clothing from Mrs. Grope, Craigdairloch, Dundas, for the sufferers by late bush fires.

PARRY SOUND.—The Rev. R. Mozley begs to acknowledge with gratitude the receipt of a box of articles for Christmas-tree from C.W.M.A.

ROSSEAU.—Mrs. Chowne acknowledges with hearty thanks a box of toys and books for the Sunday-school, from Miss Fannie Dixon, the rectory, Guelph.

The Rev. P. T. Rowe, B.A., desires to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of \$30.00, from the Rev. E. F. Wilson, towards the erection of a new church among the Indians of Garden River. Friends of this great cause come and help us in this greatly needed work.

S. S. Teacher's Assistant TO THE INSTITUTE LEAFLETS.

No. 9.

THE COLLECT, ETC.

The Collect for this Sunday is almost identical with the ancient one. It advances us one step further in the study of our Lord's manifestation or "Epiphany." Last Sunday the man Christ Jesus displayed His power as the Creator, turning water into wine, without even so much as the creative words, "Let there be wine." To-day He comes before us in the panorama of the Church's year, as the Great Physician, who heals the most difficult diseases by the exercise of His Almighty Will. To say that God knows our infirmities and weaknesses is only to say that He is God, omniscient, knowing all things. The prayer of the Collect is that He, being such, may notice, "look upon," regard favourably, the condition in which we are; and also by the exercise of His Majestic Power, cure all diseases. The expression "right hand" expresses here the energy of God's action in the matter.

The Gospel of the day gives two remarkable examples of this kind of Epiphany, viz., the healing of the leper, and the healing of the paralytic. We all know how little power, even after 1,800 years of science, mankind possesses over such terrible diseases as leprosy and paralysis. None can, indeed, cure these "living deaths" but God alone; and Christ proved His possession of the Divine prerogative, by healing these diseases with a touch, a word, a gesture.

The Epistle suggests as a parallel lesson for ourselves, the practice of meeting enemies with gentle demeanour: not returning evil for evil, or avenging ourselves. All these things—though we incur infirmities, dangers, and necessities—are to be left to God to manage for us with the right hand of His majesty. He will be our help and defence.

On this day, this year, occurs also the commemoration of St. Vincent, a deacon and martyr of the Spanish Church in the fourth century. He was starved, tortured on the rack, and burned to death on red-hot iron bars, and yet remained faithful. The Emperor Diocletian, who carried on this persecution, struck an inscription to the effect that "the Christian name was destroyed;" yet how wonderfully it has flourished over all the world.

On Wednesday, the 25th, occurs also the great festival of the "Conversion of St. Paul." There was something so singular about St. Paul's conversion to Christianity, something so remarkable in the world-wide work of this great missionary bishop, that it seems only right to take some emphatic notice of the