

ONTARIO.

SEELY.—A pleasant surprise awaited the Rev. J. W. Forster when a deputation consisting of Messrs. Abram Winters, Wm. M. Sexsmith and James McMath, called on him at the parsonage on Tuesday afternoon (Feb. 17th), and presented him with a fine fur overcoat and an address. The presentation was intended to have been made on Monday night, but the unfavorable weather and bad roads prevented the large number that would otherwise have called to surprise the Rev. gentleman and his lady.

ADDRESS.—To the Rev. J. W. Forster, Incumbent of the parish of the English Church of Selby, Salmon River and Kingsford. *Dear Sir and Brother.* We take this opportunity of meeting with you who have been amongst us over one year and have ministered unto us so kindly and have gained the good will of your parishioners, and by the affectionate manner in which you mingled and associated with us to that degree which we appreciate very highly. And also not forgetting Mrs. Forster, your kind partner, whom we hold in high esteem. And we do fervently hope that the Allwise Providence will give you both health and strength long to remain with us, and that the ties that have bound us together will never be broken, either in this world or in the world to come. And therefore the ladies kindly present to you this fur overcoat, as a small token of their respect for you, which we hope you will accept. And we also sincerely pray that the Lord will give you health and strength to wear it with comfort. Signed on behalf of the ladies of Selby, Salmon River and Kingsford. Abram Winters, W. M. Sexsmith, Jas. McMath.

Mr. Forster heartily thanked the deputation on behalf of the ladies of his parish for their beautiful present, as well as for the address which accompanied it. He hoped that God would help him to do his duty to his people, and that they would work with him in trying to do good. He thanked them for the kind wishes expressed for Mrs. Forster, and also for the kind way they had been treated since they came to the parish.

TORONTO.

A large number of the congregation of Grace church, Elm street, assembled in the schoolroom on the 10th inst. to welcome back Rev. J. P. Lewis, after an absence of six months spent in a tour of Europe and the holy land. After tea Dr. Morton, on behalf of the congregation, presented Mr. Lewis with a beautifully illuminated address, expressive of their thankfulness at his safe return and of the high esteem in which he is held by them. Mr. Lewis, after thanking the donors for the address and the kind wishes contained in it, delighted the audience with a vivid account of his travels through so many places of interest mentioned in bible history. Some good singing and music completed an enjoyable evening.

THE ST. JAMES RECTORY CASE.—There seems a possibility of this suit being again made to yield heavy fees for lawyers, as leave may be given to appeal by the Supreme Court. It seems to be the chief function of this court to disturb the judgments of other courts. To the non-legal mind it is a monstrous perversion of justice to be able to carry cases from Court to Court, and multiply costs so enormously.

CONCERT AND LITERARY ENTERTAINMENT.—A very successful concert and literary entertainment was held on the 16th, in the new school-house attached to St. Matthew's Anglican church, on the occasion of the opening of the school. The Rev. J. S. Howard, M.A., presided, Mr. Dean, organist of the church, directed the musical portion of the entertainment, and Miss Cleverdon presided at the piano. The programme, which consisted of songs, readings and recitations suitable for the occasion, was admirably rendered by some ladies and gentlemen from St. Peter's congregation, and other friends. There was a large attendance, the capacious school-room being crowded to the doors.

ASH WEDNESDAY.—This day received its name from the ancient custom of sprinkling ashes on the head. In the Roman Catholic churches the priest makes the sign of the cross with ashes on the forehead of the people, repeating the words, "Remember, man, that thou art dust, and unto dust shalt return."

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CHOIR CONCERT.—The choir of All Saints' church gave a very enjoyable concert on the 17th, in All Saints' school-house. In the absence of the Rector, Rev. A. H. Baldwin, through illness,

Rev. Canon Dumoulin presided, and previous to entering upon the programme made a happy speech. The members of the choir, under the direction of Mr. H. G. Collins, acquitted themselves creditably, the boys doing particularly well. The singing of "Vocal Lancers," made up of nursery rhymes, was loudly applauded, and a repetition was demanded. Several other pieces were deservedly encored.

A LIVE NEWSPAPER.—We desire to call the attention of all engaged in agricultural pursuits, especially all interested in breeding stock, to a journal published in their interest called "The Canadian Breeder and Agricultural Review." It is only \$2 per annum, and our old friend, Mr. Samuel Beatty, the publisher, will be glad to have his list of subscribers enlarged. The "Breeder" is the best paper of the kind in the market, it is "thoroughly sound in wind and limb," and as "handsome as paint from fetlock to ears," showing all the signs of being "thorough bred and well cared for." The reading matter is well selected, interesting as well as instructive, its illustrations are neat and effective, the printing makes us blush, and the paper is excellent at all points. The breeding of stock is now a very large interest in Canada, and those engaged in it should take advantage of this journal to keep posted on the markets and ways of the trade.

SPREADING DISUNION.—We understand that a second Mission room, to be controlled by churchmen, but unattached to any parochial organization, is about being built near the Church of the Redeemer. This seems a very wasteful business every way, for on the very street on which this building is to be erected there is already a room occupied by the Plymouth Brethren. Surely Mr. Howland and his friends at Wycliffe might have been satisfied with that accommodation? Within a stone's throw is also the mission room of the congregationalists, while within two minutes walk is a Methodist place of worship, a Baptist, and the barracks of the Salvation Army! Verily Mr. Rainsford was right in comparing this mission room movement to the zeal of Pharisees to secure one proselyte! When we reflect that all sin is rooted in self will and disregard of constituted authority, it does seem a strange proceeding for Churchmen to set their Bishop, clergy and all church order at defiance in an effort to teach poor weak men the duty of obedience to and respect for law and order. We are satisfied that as such erratic movements are rooted in self will, and disregard of lawful authority, that the Divine blessing can never rest upon them, their example tends to disorder and the substitution of man's fancies for God's laws, to use the Divine name in such movements is a profanity. We know this street well, and can testify that there is not a house unvisited by clergy and lay visitor, and more, the residents on this street as a rule are quite as good citizens, in sobriety, civility and order, and as good Christians also, as Mr. Howland and Mr. Blake, and their friends who are desirous of planting the venom of strife into this quiet district. Their effort is not even approved by the ministers of the neighbourhood.

ASHBURNHAM.—ROBERT DAVID ROGERS—*Obituary.*—By the death of Mr. R. D. Rogers, one of those who took an important part in the early settlement of the county and town of Peterborough has been removed from among us. Mr. Rogers was descended from one of the most distinguished of the U. E. Loyalist families, who settled in this district rather than remain in the United States when dissevered from the empire. His ancestors, serving in the Queen's or Roger's Rangers, had greatly distinguished themselves, both in the war with the French and the war of Independence. Mr. R. D. Rogers was born in Haldimand, Northumberland county, in 1809, and in 1834 he settled on a farm in the township of Otonabee. In 1842 he removed to Ashburnham, where he resided until his death. He erected there saw and flouring mills, and carried on an extensive business for many years.

Mr. Rogers, with the martial tastes hereditary in his family, took an active part in the suppression of the rebellion of 1837. He was one of the small band of brave men who accomplished the desperate service of "cutting out" the Caroline, which lay moored at Navy Island, a daring feat that was most successfully performed. Having driven off her crew and taken possession of her, they set her on fire and let her go blazing over Niagara Falls, Mr. Rogers himself having cast off the moorings. In 1862 he organized the Ashburnham company of volunteers. He continued to serve till 1866, when he retired, and was succeeded by his son, Col. J. Z. Rogers, the present commander of the Peterborough Rangers. He held till his death a commission as colonel in the reserve militia for East Peterborough.

Mr. Rogers rendered valuable public service in a

civil as well as a military capacity. He was appointed by Sir Peregrine Maitland among the first justices of the peace for the Newcastle district. For many years he was a member of the county council, and in 1871 was elected warden of the county of Peterborough—an office he filled for several years.

He married, in 1839, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. R. E. Birdsall, P.L.S., who laid out this town and surveyed many of the townships. Mrs. Rogers died several years before her husband, leaving a numerous family.

In politics Mr. Rogers was, like all his family, a staunch Conservative, but though zealously advocating his own views he never let them unduly bias him in his other relations in life. As an earnest member of the Church of England he was always ready to do his part as a layman whenever any effort was needed.

Mr. Rogers was regarded as one of our most enterprising, energetic, useful citizens. He had gained the respect and esteem of all who had dealings with him, and his loss will be very generally regretted.

GEORGINA.—We deeply regret having to record the death of Mrs. Nesbitt, wife of the Rev. — Nesbitt, of Georgina. The bereaved has the deep sympathy of all the district around.

NIAGARA.

HAMILTON.—The Bishop of Algoma delivered the principal address at the (Feb. 11th), annual Bible Society meeting in this city. A. Gaviller, Esq., was elected president for the ensuing year.

ST. THOMAS.—The members of the St. Thomas literary society and a number of guests, warm friends of the society, enjoyed to the highest degree, the annual supper of the society, which was held in the schoolroom of St. Thomas' Church. Rev. W. W. Curran, the ever popular president of the society, occupied the chair. About him were seated the guests, including Rev. Hartley Carmichael, Rev. Mr. Forneret, of Dundas, and Messrs. W. M. McMullin, of Buffalo; W. F. Burton, D. H. Charles, A. D. Stewart, E. N. Payne, C. J. Newman and H. A. Mackelcan. The vice chair was occupied by Mr. W. Acres, first vice-president of the society. There were present about sixty of the officers and members of the society.

HAMILTON.—On Quinquagesima Sunday, the Bishop of Algoma preached at All Saints' Church at the morning service, and at the Church of the Ascension in the evening. The congregations were very large at the latter church. In appealing for assistance to the work in Algoma, Bishop Sullivan said he was aware that there were at present strong home claims to be met. The people of this diocese had responded to the call recently made on them in connection with the episcopal endowment fund. They had reason to rejoice over the result—the securing of such a man as Dr. Hamilton to fill the episcopal chair of this diocese. "He is a man," said Bishop Sullivan, "of whom I can speak freely, from long observation and personal experience and acquaintance. He is a warm-hearted, genial man, with a cool head, a well-balanced mind, and a strong, firm hand. Though he holds his own opinions firmly, he is too just and impartial to interfere with the opinions of others, but is perfectly willing to leave full room for the play of that sovereign law of individuality which in matters of theological opinion, must be allowed in all churches if they are to be kept from dwindling into mere sects."

THE EPISCOPAL ENDOWMENT FUND.—The balance required for the completion of this fund seems in a very fair way, and likely to be fully made up before our next meeting of the Synod.

THE MISSION FUND.—Let us not fail to remember our late Bishop's urgent appeal in behalf of this fund. If times are dull, let us not think of neglecting to care for those districts which need the fostering aid of the Mission Board. It is more incumbent upon us to sustain and to encourage the hearts of our faithful missionaries in times of apparent financial depression. We fear that many of our parishes are deficient in their returns. We trust that our new Bishop will not have cause to lament the state of this fund at next Synod, but to rejoice at its prosperity.

ASH WEDNESDAY.—Services were well attended in Hamilton, and especially in the country churches, notwithstanding the severe cold and drifted snow roads. Several roads in every township are so blocked with snow that new tracks are necessarily