

THE VOCATION OF THE PREACHER. By E. Paxton Hood. Funk & Wagnalls, New York. The feast spread before the reader may be inferred from the table of contents. *Vide:*

"The Instinct for Souls; The Preacher's Vocation; Frederick William Faber; The Preacher of the Oratory and the Cloister; Mediæval and Post-Mediæval Preachers; The Great English Cardinal, John Henry Newman; Concerning the Imagination; Dr. Edward Andrews of Walworth; The Paper in the Pulpit; James Parsons; Billingsgate in the Pulpit; James Wells; The Pulpit of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries; Puritan Adams; The Preachers of Wild Wales; The Place of the Pulpit in Poetry and Fiction; Some Varieties of Clerical Life from a Preacher's Point of View."

Mr. Paxton Hood was an industrious gleaner in the field of homiletics. He was by no means eminent as a preacher; those discourses we heard him deliver we found somewhat tedious, being too full of quotations. This book begins, "Before we draw the curtain we will relate an anecdote," and when the curtain is drawn the show is chiefly an array of pleasant matter of this class. We should conjecture that the work is a compilation of short reviews written by Mr. Hood for the press, or of notes used for popular lectures. The writer has clearly acted on the advice he gives to preachers, "Be accomplished thieves; to know how to steal gold and work it up into jewels is only second to the art of digging the gold from the vast mines of thought." The metaphor is mixed, but Mr. Hood has collected in the "Vocation of the Preacher" a number of nuggets of gold from the pulpit mine, and though he has not turned them into "jewels," for such a miracle is beyond any literary chemist, still he has used them with ingenuity in constructing an ornamental work into which he has set "jewels" of thought. We dissent from Mr. Hood's estimate of Faber as a pulpit orator, it is clear that he never heard him preach. This flighty divine often talked rhapsodical, mystical nonsense, which was very irritating even to Romanists, save those prone to hysteria. A long chapter of 42 pages is given up to "James Parsons of York." He fails to note that this attractive preacher had a voice of singular intensity and sweetness, nor does he point out what all critics knew who ever heard Parsons, that while apparently preaching extempore, he was really delivering from memory a discourse showing severe preparation. Mr. Bright does so, so also did Sortain, who was the pulpit twin of Parsons in style, having, however, far more passion and action. Mr. Hood has a capital passage on what he terms "molluscous men," who appreciate a preacher according to the noise he makes.

The work is eminently readable, full of practical reflections of value to preachers, and of material which, taking the author's advice, they will find it useful to "steal" for sermonizing purposes, or addresses wherein anecdotes and spicy quotations "tell."

KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY for June keeps up its good reputation, the article on "Public Worship" by Rev. G. Robertson, B.A., is especially interesting. The condemnation of "pious mendicants" is timely.

PHILIP HAZELBROOK. By the Rev. Henry Faulkner Darnell. Published by Sherrill & Co., Buffalo. This story of clerical life gives a highly graphic, truthful, pathetic, and inspiring picture of work carried on amongst the poorest of the poor, the outcasts of society, by three devoted priests who have given up high social positions and all the charms of congenial society to minister to the semi-heathens who abound in London, that city of dreadful contrasts—of the highest civilization and utter barbarism. The story is skilfully woven with the art that conceals art by the simplicity of its construction, and a tenderness of sympathy with the characters which makes "Philip Hazelbrook" read like a personal narrative. Men like "The Rector of St. Swithens" are only bred within the Catholic-Apostolic Church! Such heroes of the Cross would as soon think of stealing the Church plate as attending a Synod to create a row, as a party zealot in Toronto recently did. But, poor

men! being "sacramentarians" they know no better than to take up their Cross and follow Christ! If they were only enlightened they would follow a party leader instead. For the bread of Heaven, the Gospel of divine love and the gospel of human sympathy, they would substitute as food for the sick and famishing flock, the sawdust of polemical "views."

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

QUEBEC.

KINGSLEY FALLS.—A new church was consecrated at this place by Bishop Williams on the 8th June.

Settled at Last.—During a recent visit to Quebec to attend a meeting of the Council of Public Instruction, Sir William Dawson, Principal of McGill University, had an interview with twelve Roman Catholic bishops in reference to the long-standing grievance of Protestant educators whereby graduates of English colleges are discriminated against on entrance to the liberal professions. Sir William urged that the fact of a man having taken the degree of B.A. at either McGill or Bishop's should be taken as evidence that he had received a liberal education, instead of making him conform to the same regulations, as graduates of Catholic universities. After a lengthened discussion the point was conceded, and hereafter graduates of English colleges will not be handicapped as in the past. Premier Mercier has promised to embody the concession in an Act the coming session.

QUEBEC.—The Synod met in this city on Friday, the 8th inst., morning prayer was held in the cathedral, there was a large attendance of the clergy and laity; the service was unusually hearty, the music was beautifully rendered by the choir under the direction of Mr. E. A. Bishop, organist. The Bishop preached a most eloquent sermon from St. Paul's admonition to Timothy, "Make full fruit of your ministry." After the service the Synod met in the Synod hall, his Lordship then delivered his annual address. In it he alluded to the completion of the 25th year of his episcopate, and said that since his consecration he had confirmed 11,176 candidates, ordained 47 deacons and 43 priests, and announced that there were now 16 self-supporting parishes in the diocese, whereas in 1862 there was only one outside the city of Quebec. The Bishop referred to the fact that he had been authorized by the fifth Synod of Quebec to appoint a Dean and Chapter for the cathedral. He was anxious that daily prayer should be held in the Cathedral Church, and in order that this should not fall too heavy a burden upon the rector and his assistant, he had decided to appoint from the clergy of the city and vicinity Canons who would each be responsible for a certain number of daily services. He would appoint the rector of the cathedral, Rev. Dr. Norman, Dean of the cathedral, and the Rev. Dr. Roe, Professor of Theology at Bishop's College, Lennoxville, Archdeacon of the diocese, as well as Bishop's Commissary during his own absence in England.

During the past year Inductions to rectories have been:—Rev. H. S. Fuller, to the parish of Bury; Rev. R. W. Norman, to the cathedral; Rev. F. Scott, Drummondville; Rev. G. Thompson, Lévis; Rev. L. W. Williams, St. Matthew's, Quebec.

Appointments to Curacies have been:—Rev. Robt. H. Cole, St. Matthew's, Quebec, Rev. R. J. Fothergill, St. Peter's, Quebec; Rev. H. Petry, cathedral.

I have ordained—

Deacons—Rev. Alexander Hume Robertson and Rev. Thomas Rudd.

Priests—The Rev. Alexander Hume Robertson, the Rev. George Thompson, the Rev. L. W. Williams. I have confirmed 1,099 persons, and I have consecrated three churches.

The Widows' and Orphans' Fund has been increased from \$18,440 to \$61,529. The Fund is now paying widows \$800 and each child \$50. And there is no doubt that these amounts can and will be increased at no distant date.

He intended to sail next week to attend the Lambeth conference, and purposed to return to Canada in September or October.

A number of reports were then presented.

Considerable gratification was expressed at the improved condition of affairs in connection with the Compton Ladies' College, which had been self-sustain-

ing for the last two years, and a strong appeal was made for the raising of a guarantee fund to permit the reduction of school fees, in order to extend its usefulness, and also for the subscription of the necessary amount to pay off the mortgage debt.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Roe, a committee was appointed "to draft and report to the Synod an address of congratulation to be presented to the reverend and beloved Bishop of the diocese on his having completed the 25th year of an episcopate so fruitful of good results both to this diocese and to the whole Canadian Church."

Dr. Hemming then moved the following report, which was adopted:—"That in the opinion of this Synod it is desirable that the organization known as 'The Association of Lay Helpers of the District of St. Francis' be extended so as to comprise the whole diocese of Quebec, and that his Lordship the Bishop be requested to name a representative committee for the purpose of drawing up the basis of such extended organization; said committee to report thereon at the present meeting of this Synod if possible."

Capt. Carter moved the following proposed canon which was referred to a special committee:—

Capt. Carter moved:—1. "Whereas the highest interests of the church require that clergymen, who are unequal to the adequate performance of their duties should retire; and whereas it is necessary that the Bishop should have the power of requiring such retirement; be it, therefore, enacted as follows:

2. "Whenever it shall appear to the Bishop that the spiritual interests of a parish or mission are suffering from the inability of the incumbent to fulfil his duties owing to old age or infirmity of mind or body, he shall require, by letter, such incumbent to resign. In the event of the incumbent declining to comply with this request, or not acting on it within . . . months after being called upon to resign, the Bishop shall submit the case, with such evidence as he may desire, to the Committee on the retirement of the clergy, hereafter provided for; and should that Committee decide that the reasons for the clergyman's retirement are good and valid, he shall cease to be incumbent of such parish or mission at the expiration of . . . months from the date of being notified of such decision.

3. "The Committee referred to above shall be called 'The Committee on retirement of the Clergy,' and shall consist of four clerical and three lay members, to be appointed at each regular meeting of the Synod; which Committee shall elect its own chairman immediately after their election by the Synod; five to form a quorum."

4. "The Committee shall meet at such time and place as the Bishop may intimate to the chairman, whose duty it shall be to notify the other members, and also the incumbent whose case is to be considered in order that he may be present, should he so desire, or submit any evidence he may wish, the chairman shall inform the Bishop and also the incumbent the result of the investigation."

In support of his motion he said that he hoped the Bishop would never have reason to enforce such a canon, but it was a fact with which all were acquainted, that in course of time we all grow old and incapacitated for work, and that it should be in the power of the Bishop to enforce the retirement of such clergymen as were unfit for duty, just as was done in the naval, military and civil service."

(To be continued.)

MONTREAL.

WEST SHEFFORD.—The annual meeting of the deanery of Shefford was held at this place on the 29th ult. All the clergy of the deanery were present except one. Only three laymen were present. The annual meeting is the important meeting of the year, and should be attended by the laity even at a sacrifice, which no doubt many of them would have to make at this season. The Holy Communion was celebrated at 10.30 o'clock a.m. in St. John's Church, the Rev. the Rural Dean and the incumbent officiating. The Chapter met in the dining hall of the parsonage for the despatch of business. A letter from Mrs. Henshaw, of Montreal, President of the Girls' Friendly Society, occupied some time and the subject was left over until the next meeting for further consideration. Christian Giving or Tithing also came up and was profitably disposed of. Mr. W. L. Davidson, of North Ely, was nominated as the representative of the deanery on the Executive Committee of the diocese. A Committee was appointed to consider the case of Warden. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the Rev. Wm. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson for the kind hospitality extended to the members of the deanery on this occasion. The next meeting of the deanery is to take place on the 28th day of August, 1888, at South Stukely.