

Paul stood alone in the city. Within a dozen or so of years the six other churches have been built by her, almost unaided. Outposts were occupied as branch Sunday schools. The branch Sunday schools grew into churches; and this was done without diminishing the aid given to other diocesan work. The church of St. Paul at present contributes one-twelfth of the whole amount contributed to the diocesan funds. Such are the advantages of possessing one strong centre of operations. Such the blessings of faith in that presence that was covenanted to be for ever.

PARIS.—*Christmas and New Year.*—The Venerable Bishop Strachan used to say of the town of Paris that it was the most prettily situated village in Canada; its fine river, high lands, with the cultivated and English scenery around it, make it certainly a fair spot. And since the good Bishop's days it has much improved in its trade and manufactures, as well as in its great railway facilities, the Great Western and Grand Trunk (Buffalo and Lake Huron branch) both passing through it. It is still small as a town, however, with about 8,000 population.

As a parish it has much to struggle with, the population in the town and adjacent country, being chiefly Scotch Presbyterians, American Congregationalists, and Cornish and Devonshire Methodists. The English Church, which is a somewhat plain structure of cobble stone, is finely situated, and within the last few years has had a thoroughly ecclesiastical chancel added, 20x24 feet, in fact one of the handsomest in the country, with a transept for the organ and vestry; also a large eastern window, indeed all the windows of the church are now tinted with stained glass, borders, and emblems.

The Rev. Adam Townley, D.D., Canon of Huron, has been its incumbent for close upon 22 years, and for some months has been assisted by the Rev. Robert O. H. P. Cooper.

On Christmas day last the Church was as usual very prettily decorated. The incumbent was alone, Mr. Cooper having been absent some time from ill health. The sermon was hearty, the congregation larger than ever on Christmas day before, the offertories above the average, and the communicants 32.

Dr. Townley has for some years now held a Watch-night on New Year's eve, with the administration of the Holy Communion immediately after midnight, thus seeking to commence the New Year at the feet of Jesus. It has been a service in which both the incumbent and many of his people have taken much interest, and he has generally been able to secure the assistance of one or two clergymen. This year, however, falling on Sunday evening, he was alone. Still, the service was happily, even universally solemn and satisfactory; the choir full and well prepared; the sermon and second address, both of course by Dr. Townley, he being alone, were at least earnest and attentively listened to. The congregation was over 130, and 39 communicants.

The choir is very satisfactory for so small a parish; it has lately been largely recruited from the Sunday-school.

By the way, there is a small Sunday-school and lecture room under the chancel; it is, however, much too small for the flourishing Sunday-school, numbering an attendance frequently of from 80 to 95 as last Sunday; some of the classes have therefore to be taken into the Church, which is always undesirable. The incumbent has long been wishful to build a new Sunday-school, collecting a small sum towards it when last in England (\$175), but the congregation is at present too small and poor to feel able to undertake it.

If we could only secure such congregations, from 480 to 500 persons, as the Rev. Dr. had lately when preaching in opposition to the Dunkin Act, etc., the three principles of temperance as taught by the Holy Scriptures and enforced by our blessed Lord's example, we might be able to devise more liberal things in many ways.

Paris, Ont., January 31, 1877.

ALGOMA.

To the Editor of THE DOMINION CHURCHMAN.

SIR,—Perhaps a few remarks from a layman, respecting the position of the Church in this part

of the diocese of Algoma, might be interesting to your readers.

Many years ago on emigrating to this district of Muskoka, I found, (and in speaking of myself I believe I echo the sentiments of many) the greatest drawback to complete happiness was the want of Sunday services. We had then no church within many, many miles, no clergyman, no means by which we could congregationally worship God in the good old way to which we had been habituated from childhood. We were assuredly as "strangers in a strange land," and what was the result? Many good and godly families joined one of the many societies whose ministers were working through the land; some ignored the Lord's day altogether, and a few placing one of their number as lay-reader continued in the best way they could, to keep their Church together. But times have changed. Since the formation of the Diocese of Algoma and the appointment of our beloved Bishop, under his earnest supervision the work has wonderfully progressed. Churches have been built, and in many sections the people again rejoice in having the glorious service of our Church decently and properly conducted. Much has been done, but there is much yet to do. Some of the Churches are yet unfinished, and what seems harder still, there is only occasional service in most of them. We want help both in money and labourers. The cry of a people destined to be an important part of a great nation is going forth; now is the time to respond. The minds of the rising generation are ready for being moulded, whether for good or evil is in the hands of those who can help in the work. When we think of the large sums, yearly expended in older countries in adornment of Churches, and then turning to our own home, see there a people spiritually suffering for the want of but comparatively little help; we can only comfort ourselves with the assurance that God in his own good time will put it in the hearts of his people to help.

Yours truly,
LAYMAN.

British News.

ENGLAND.

BRISTOL.—A movement is going on to restore the Bristol bishopric.

EXETER.—The Dean and Chapter have thrown open the Cathedral library for the use of the clergy of the Diocese, on the Fridays in every week. Some beautiful and interesting paintings have been discovered on the walls of the aisles and of the west end.

PADDINGTON.—The *Church Review* states that Dr. West, of St. Mary Magdalene, is threatened with a prosecution, but that hitherto the "Persecution Company (Limited)" has failed to procure the "three aggrieved parishioners."

CHESTER.—Two ancient altar candlesticks have been presented to the cathedral by Mr. D. Sherratt, and accepted by the Dean on behalf of the Chapter.

ENGLISH CHURCH UNION.—The organizing secretary, Rev. T. O. Marshall, states that the roll of members includes 7 bishops, 2,501 clergymen, 5,792 men and 5,925 women communicants, making a total of 14,225, against 13,280 on the 1st of January, 1876.

WESTMINSTER.—Canon Farrar, preaching at St. Margaret's, stated that on mature consideration and consultation with those best able to advise him, he had come to the conclusion not to have evening Communion service, because it was at entire variance with the traditions of the Church of God for at least sixteen hundred years.

IRELAND.

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, in its review of the past year, says there is an increasing observance of the feasts and fasts of our Church; Advent and Lenten seasons are kept as they never

were kept before; attendances at the Holy Communion are larger, and there are few churches now where the great Festival of the Ascension is not duly observed, with its attendant celebration of the Holy Communion. "We are glad to notice also a large increase of harvest festivals, which are so calculated to strengthen the spirit of thankfulness, liberality and belief in a Divine Providence amongst our people. The services at such festivals are for the most part choral; and the choral unions now becoming so common in our various dioceses, will be found a material help in improving the quality of our Church music. In every direction we read of churches being built and restored. The foundation-stone of a new church at Dundela was laid by the Primate in October, and adds one more to the network of churches now spreading in every direction through the populous diocese of Down and Connor. The city of Limerick has also seen most of its churches restored and beautified; the ancient church of St. Mary's, Kilkenny, has also undergone renovation; and the beautiful cathedrals of St. Mary, Tuam, St. Finbarr, Cork, and Christ Church, Dublin, will soon be altogether out of the workmen's hands. Satisfactory progress attends the restoration of St. Bridgid's Cathedral Kildare. When will a similar good work be done for the Cathedrals of Limerick and Killaloe? Confirmations were held through the year in most of the dioceses, notably those in Kilmore and Armagh. In the latter the venerable Primate made an extensive tour through the united dioceses of Amagh and Clogher, and confirmed a larger number than we ever remember to have been recorded before."

Correspondence.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

FAIR PLAY.

To the Editor of THE DOMINION CHURCHMAN.

DEAR SIR,—The annexed letter has been declined insertion in a paper which contained a violent personal attack by a minister of the "Reformed Episcopal Church," at Ottawa. That attack was made in consequence of a statement of the undersigned touching Dr. Cummins and his movement. And that statement was made solely because of an article wherein the writer openly demanded "Revision," under threat of finding "a congenial abiding place in the 'Reformed' Church." Had it not been for that article, the undersigned would never have put pen to paper on the subject; but he had recently come from a southern diocese, where he had heard so much of the same kind of threats as to make him heartily sick of the very sound of "Revision;" and none the less so at finding it, to his great disappointment, mooted among his fellow-countrymen in Canada. Now, sir, since the aforesaid paper has denied me the common English "fair-play" of replying to an abusive letter of a schismatic, I look to you to award that favour to a *Churchman*. And although my whole ministry has been devoted to the maintenance of the Protestant character of the Church of England, yet I certainly can no longer give my poor countenance to that type of evangelicalism which favours the sects, whilst treating with indignity a communication of a clergyman of the Church. Respectfully, HENRY WALL, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Clinton, Ont.

To the Editor, &c.

SIR,—In the introduction to my sermon on last Sunday night, I found occasion to use the not very original, nor yet very pert, observation, that there is nothing men hate like *Truth* which tells against them. As an eminent illustration of this, your paper of December 28th has an irascible and intemperate communication from H. M. Collissor, Ottawa, in reply to my last strictures, which, but for this most unwarranted attack, should have been my last—on the late Dr. Cummins.

Into the reply of your correspondent I shall not enter at any length. I shall merely refer to one or two points which he doubtless meant for wit, but which—to borrow a figure from "The Gregson Letters"—like an arrow shot straight up