

of misinterpretation in the statement of the subject as before him. The catechism he held to be, not properly speaking, a *basis*. He saw danger in allowing our own people and those that are without to think of the catechism as the *basis* of S. S. instruction. He could call it rather an index to the great *basis*, which is the Bible.

"The point," he said, "is this: The catechism is the means to the end—which end is, beyond all question, the knowledge of Holy Scripture." He entered a protest against the method very often employed in imparting the catechism. He thought there was far too much of a mechanical system introduced when we go over the catechism just as it stands. "We have no right," he said, "to cram a child's head full of lots of things of which he cannot grasp more than 10 per cent. of their real meaning. We ought rather to teach him things that he can understand at least 50 per cent. of." He, therefore, believed that we should teach the simpler parts of the catechism first, such as the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Creed. He did not believe it at all necessary to teach it as a connected whole, but instead, the simpler parts ought to be taught first, then afterwards the more difficult parts, and finally to go over it all as it is written, and explain the connection between each part fully. *i.e.* to say, it should be taught *practically* and not *mechanically*. By this method he thought the catechism would be realized by the children in its true light as an epitome of the Holy Scriptures, giving the fullest reflection to the most essential truths of the inspired word. The result, he said, would be more intense spiritual knowledge in the souls of those we teach, who in the Church of England, are slowly and carefully finding their way to the throne of grace. Rev. Canon Forsyth followed in a short address, in which he objected to the Rev. Mr. Lloyd's view that the catechism should be taught out of its appointed order. He maintained that the practice of religion is always founded upon a right belief. We must, therefore, teach a child the creed, which tells of God, before we can expect him to obey the precepts of the Law of God in the Ten Commandments. It was, he said, most wisely ordered that the child should be instructed in the Baptismal Covenant before we proceed to inculcate the duties which result from that changed state with God, and which by it become so greatly necessary to the saving health of the child's soul.

*To be Continued.*

#### MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The closing exercises of the Diocesan Theological College were largely attended. Bishop Bond presided. The annual report of Principal Henderson stated that there were thirty students in attendance. References were made to the legacies of Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Oxenden to the college. He expressed the hope that some of the students would take the whole of the Arts course at McGill. The changes at McGill in regard to fees would make a substantial difference to poor students. As an example towards the endowment of studentship the Rev. C. C. Waller, classical instructor, had endowed one for three years, and promised, if possible, to renew it at the end of that time. He gracefully alluded to the elevation of the Rev. J. A. Newnham to the Bishopric of Moosonee, to which he will be consecrated on August 6 at Winnipeg.

Bishop Bond spoke of the good work of the college and of the assistance rendered by Mr. A. F. Gault, and said that the class was the largest yet graduating.

The prize-winners were Messrs. Lackey, Ereaux, Pratt, Hunter, Lewis, Wilson, Mariott, Graham and Thompson.

The graduating class was composed of Messrs. Lackey, Mariott, Hutchings, Ball, Strong, Elliott and Macfarlane. The latter was the valedictorian.

The Executive Committee met in the Synod office May 9th. There were present the Lord Bishop, Archdeacon Lindsay, Revs. Rural Dean Nye, Dr. Norton, Canon Mills, Archdeacon Evans, J. F. Renaud, Rural Dean Sanders, J. H. Dixon, L. N. Tucker, T. E. Cunningham, Chancellor Bethune, Dr. Johnson, Dr. L. H. Davidson, Messrs. Richard White, Walter Drake, W. H. Robinson and George Hague. The mission fund showed a deficit of \$951.36.

Mr. Walter Drake was appointed acting treasurer (in consequence of the serious illness of the treasurer), with power to sign cheques on bank, deeds of discharge, mortgages and other documents requiring to be signed by the treasurer of Synod.

A report was presented referring to the sale of the church lot and parsonage at Laprairie. The title allows the property to be sold, and as the price offered is a fair one the executive committee expressed its approval of the sale.

The annual value of the parsonage property occupied by missionaries was requested from each rural dean by Nov. 1, next; also amount of any endowment paid in connection with any mission in his deanery receiving aid from the mission fund.

*St. Philip's.*—The Rev. George Johnson, incumbent of this Church, had a public reception accorded to him by his congregation, under the auspices of the "Ladies Aid." The gathering took place in the church, not yet consecrated, which was suitably decorated for the occasion. Several ladies and gentlemen gave selections of vocal and instrumental music which were well received. The Rev. W. A. Mervyn, late incumbent of the church, now assistant minister at Christ Church Cathedral, was present, and made a few graceful remarks introducing his successor. The Rev. Mr. Johnson expressed his deep appreciation of the kind reception tendered him, and hoped that his congregation would unitedly and harmoniously work together with him, so that the Church might keep pace with the progress of this growing and beautiful suburb of the city.

MONTREAL.—A well attended and very interesting meeting of the "Diocesan Sunday-school Association" was held in the Synod Hall last Monday evening. The Rev. L. N. Tucker read a paper on "Child life, and how to train it." The essay began by stating that no new information was to be given, but that certain facts in the history of child life were to be dwelt upon. In the work of training the young, we cannot begin too early. The mind of childhood is as a clean slate, or an unwritten page. First impressions are so strong that they remain fresh in the mind at the close of life, when the memories of later times have faded. Childhood is the period of life when the career of the man or woman is often fixed for good or evil. The experiences of childhood have an ineffable charm during all the rest of life, a charm that increases as life is prolonged. Childhood is a veritable golden age. Its memories become transfused with the lapse of time until they catch some of the hues of heaven itself. God has prepared a highway for His truth in the curiosity that is natural, and so strongly marked, in childhood. Knowledge can be so imparted as to cause the curiosity to grow by that whereon it feeds. This natural interest, which makes learning a pleasure to the scholar, makes teaching a pleasure to the preceptor. But to realize this condition much time, thought, and prayer must be bestowed on the matter of the lesson and on the best mode of conveying the instruction. The great aim of the teacher must be to interest the children. When the interest flags the lesson becomes a task, and a penalty. Lack of interest in teaching accounts for many seeming paradoxes in the church. Children of religious parents often hate the Sabbath and religion, because the Sabbath was made a weariness of the flesh, because God was made a frowning and cruel judge. Another mistake made is in supposing that very young children are able to reason. Their imaginations and feelings are very active, but their reasoning powers lie dormant. Teaching should be pictorial rather than argumentative, and should, if possible, be cast into the form of a story. The Church has not yet received its greatest teachers in this department. A Christian Esop who could soberly and judiciously convey the living truth of God by the mouth and actions of the lion, the lamb, the wolf, the hare, the oak, the rosebush, etc., would be the very best disciple and most successful follower of Him who took up children in his arms, and who addressed to all men the incomparable teaching of His parables. When abstract truth has to be taught, it should be cast in a simple and positive form. The teacher should have in his own mind very clear ideas of the truth he is teaching. Truth should be taught in the fewest and plainest words possible. Children might be taught the essential truths of religion in short, simple and expressive formulae. These would bring the revelation of truth to their minds when they began to meditate and reason. But in children these formulae of doctrine should be only the text for the pictorial and illustrative teaching of the same subject; that is, a child might be taught the text: "The Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." From this teach him of inherited sin. Teach him to mistrust himself; to dread temptation; to trust in God. Then tell him the story of Peter's denial and fall, following upon his bold assertion. The doctrine of the text will then be imbedded in the story. It will be all the more profitable for him if he draws the lessons for himself. God has given us in the child's life a virgin soil in which to sow the seeds of eternal life. And this seed can be sown through the teaching of the written word of God. Professor Huxley, who is no believer in the Bible as a "revelation" from God, admits that it cannot be replaced or superseded, and that it is needed to teach morality, if not

religion, to our children. The Spirit of God alone can make the dry bones live. But He is ready to do this at all times; surely then with innocent children to teach, with the Bible to instruct them with, and the Spirit of God to bless our efforts, we ought to be able to do something more for God and the Church among the young children. After the reading of the paper, a short discussion followed on points connected therewith.

#### ONTARIO.

OTTAWA.—The gift of \$1,000 from Lord Derby towards the fund for a new Anglican Bishopric of Ottawa is a generous parting donation to a worthy object. The new Metropolitan of Canada, Dr. Lewis, is exerting himself with exceedingly good prospects to make this diocesan scheme a brilliant success.

KINGSTON.—Monday evening, at St. George's hall, the ladies of the auxiliaries to missions of the Church of England in Kingston assembled to do honor to one of their number about to devote herself to the work of medical missions in Japan.

About four years ago Miss Smith entered the Church under the ministrations of the Rev. S. Tighe, now of Amherst Island. She afterwards became a worker under the Rev. G. Scantlebury, of Sharbot Lake, and being impressed with the service she could render, owing to the advantage of health and zeal, she resolved on offering herself as a working missionary. She came alone, introduced herself to the Rev. Rural Dean Carey, and was taken before the board of foreign missions of Canada, then in session in Kingston. The volunteering of her services was a surprise to the board, which, while it was undertaking a heavy load of work in Algoma and the Northwest, was doing its foreign work chiefly through the English societies by handing to them their funds with that confidence which the Church in Canada, as well as in England, entertains for these old and benevolent bodies. The board felt somewhat embarrassed by the offer. It was almost afraid to venture on a new work, having already as many of its own workers in the far eastern lands as it felt capable of supporting. However Bishop Hamilton, who is endowed with true missionary zeal as well as with other graces of character, supported Miss Smith's application, and the board undertook to accept her as its representative, providing she would spend two years in medical training in Kingston. She preferred the Kingston general hospital, though the work would be harder than at the medical college, that she might have the greatest possible experience for her station. Her course as a nurse has been very creditable, full of energy and nervous desire to be always doing something. The meeting was presided over by the dean of Ontario, who spoke with pride of Kingston's new representative. E. J. B. Pense was first called upon, as being deeply interested, through the church, the hospital and the ladies' medical college, and spoke very highly of Miss Smith as a nurse and of the encouragement her missionary spirit gave. The Rev. W. B. Carey then followed on behalf of the clergy, speaking of the great pleasure it gave them to have in Miss Smith so able a worker. He concluded by presenting her, on behalf of the gentlemen and ladies who take an interest in medical mission work, with an elegant Gladstone travelling bag, fitted with a complete set of toilet accessories. R. T. Walkem, Q. C., spoke on behalf of the foreign and domestic mission board of Canada, giving a cheering account of the constant progress in work and contribution, and adding the great pleasure it has given them to know that they had made no mistake in accepting Miss Smith's services. Rev. S. Tighe added his personal congratulations to Miss Smith upon her successful career. He lauded trained hospital work and also the spirit of medical missions, to supplement the work of preaching with that of humanity, so that the hearts of the people might be more easily reached.

Tuesday morning at ten o'clock a special communion service was held in St. George's Cathedral, and prayers said for a blessing on Miss Smith's work; at 12.30 she left for her home near Perth, and in a few days will be on her way to British Columbia to embark for Japan. Her first destination is Kiobe.

From this beginning of the Church of England in this diocese it is hoped that excellent results will follow. Both energetic and devoted, Miss Smith is certain to make a good record of her work in the east.

The executive committee of the diocese of Ontario met last week. The parish of Smith's Falls was granted the privilege of mortgaging church property. Cordial congratulations were voted to the diocese of Quebec upon the centennial of its existence. The chancellor reported for the investment committee. The receipts and reinvestments during the year amounted to \$77,775, all in mortgages. The overdue interest was \$9,134, a decrease from last year of \$800, and not 10 per cent. of the mortgages have