

HEARTY SERVICES.

THE Church will never gain upon a community; never impress upon it the beauty of holiness in its almost inspired liturgy, while the laity sit idly by to be preached to, sung to, and prayed for, instead of praying and singing themselves with the clergy and the choir. There is no stronger obligation laid upon the clergy than upon them, by the rubrical law, to take their appointed part in the public worship. It is common prayer and common praise; appointed, that is, to be said and sung by priest and people; "common" to both. What idea would a stranger to the church obtain, concerning the advantages of common worship in some of our congregations, where a response is scarcely heard—an audible and loud Amen, never?—Bishop Talbot.

Diocesan Intelligence.

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ABBOTSFORD.—On Tuesday, the 29th ult. remains of one, the early part of whose active life was witnessed by a generation long past away, were laid in the quiet grave yard of the church he loved so well, beside those of his partner, who entered into rest nearly forty years ago. The name of the Rev. Thomas Johnson is well known to those who have given attention to the history of the Eastern Townships. He was born in the year 1789, in Cumberland, England. He was ordained to the ministry by Dr. Vernon Harcourt, the Bishop of Carlisle, and afterwards Archbishop of York, and was sent out to this country by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. His first charge on this side of the Atlantic, was that of the Mission of Hatley, in which he succeeded the Rev. Dr. Stewart. Here he laboured for twelve years, and held the position of Inspector of the schools established by the Royal Institution, which numbered in those parts some nineteen or twenty. From Hatley he was removed to Abbotsford; and from that place as a centre, he extended his operation to Granby, Milton, St. Hyacinthe, Rougemont and West Farnham. Through his efforts, the church edifice at Rougemont was erected, and that at Abbotsford greatly improved. The endowment fund of the latter place was largely increased by his liberality. In 1851 ill health necessitated his retirement from active duty, but he continued to reside in his old parish, promoting every good work. He died on the 27th ult. in the 98th year of his age. The clergy who took part in the funeral offices were the Venerable Archdeacon Lindsay, the Rev. Rural Dean Mussen and the Revs. L. Constantine, T. W. Fyles, L. C. Wurtele, P. De-Gruchy and W. B. Longhurst.

ONTARIO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

STAFFORD.—Since October 1879, this mission has been supplied with a regular Sunday service, both in St. Stephen's Church and St. Patrick's, in the township of Stafford, which together with the surrounding district of Cobden, Beachburg, Front Westmeath, Wilberforce and Rankin make a very labourous field of mission work for any one clergyman. There has been, however, a great revival among the Church workers. The church buildings are much improved. St. Stephen's congregation have erected a handsome porch to the main entrance, and also built a very large shed, with a commodious room over it suitable for holding social gatherings in connection with the Church, two of which were held at Christmas, and consisted of Christmas Trees, for the benefit of the Sunday school children, the proceeds paying all expenses. St. Patrick's congregation have almost rebuilt their church, having moved the building from its former site, underpinned it with stone foundation, while the interior has undergone a complete change, and is now furnished tastefully. A Sunday school has been inaugurated here under the superintendence of Mr. T. McDonald, and has succeeded admirably. The earnestness and devotion of the worshippers is noticeable in the heartiness of the singing and responding during divine service, which is attended by a large congregation regularly. The improvements of the church were effected through the means of a very successful picnic held during the month of June, 1880. Previous to these festivities is the memorable visit of

his lordship the bishop, when the candidates for the apostolic rite of Confirmation numbered fifty-four, all of whom received the Blessed Sacrament at the same time. The communicants have increased four-fold at each of the churches, and never did our Most Holy Redeemer's words seem more literally fulfilled when He said "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man ye have no life in you." As a proof of this we are now contemplating the erection of a suitable stone presbytery at a proposed cost of \$1,000, for the resident missionary of Stafford, and propose holding a picnic upon an extensive scale during the month of June, 1881, to raise funds for this object; and as Beachburg, Cobden, Front Westmeath, Wilberforce and Rankin receive the services of the missionary, it is to be hoped that they and any of your more favoured readers of the DOMINION CHURCHMAN may see fit to contribute something towards the fund. Subscriptions received by mail may be addressed to the Rev. R. James Harvey, L.T., Rankin P.O., Wilberforce.

TORONTO.

SYNOD OFFICE.—Collections, &c., received during the week ending April 9th, 1881.

MISSION FUND.—Parochial Collections.—York Mills, additional \$17-00; Port Perry \$46-10; St. John's, Dunsford \$14-60; Perrytown, on account \$20; Lloyd-town \$29-95; Bradford and West Gwillimbury \$99-10; Churchville \$22-55; Grafton \$50; Cameron, St. George's \$11-68; Cambray \$5-70; St. Thomas's, Bexley \$2-50; St. George's, Toronto, per Church Women's Mission Aid \$30; All Saints', Toronto, per Church Women's Mission Aid \$1-80. Missionary Meeting.—Churchville \$3-12. January Collection.—Churchville 69 cts; Craighurst and Vespra: Midhurst 70 cts., St. James's \$1-12, Christ Church 45 cts., St. John's \$1-00.

PERMANENT MISSION FUND.—Annual Subscriptions.—Sir Alexander Campbell (last payment) \$100; Hon. G. W. Allan \$100; Elmes Henderson for 1880, \$100.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—Annual Subscriptions.—Rev. Canon Osler \$5-00; Rev. J. Carry \$5-00.

The Bishops of Toronto and Ontario will leave for England after Easter to select a successor to Provost Whitaker.

Grace Church.—Canon Carmichael, from Hamilton, preached in this church morning and evening on Sunday last to crowded congregations. In the evening hundreds had to go away from want of room. The sermons were of their usual eloquent character. The collections at the opening services on the past three Sundays amount to about seven hundred dollars. We are glad to find that this parish is now making such rapid progress under the direction of its indefatigable incumbent.

St. George's.—We have seen the Altar frontal and superfrontal to be presented to this church on Easter Sunday by a lady member of the congregation. We have no hesitation in saying that it is the finest specimen of church embroidery we have seen in this country, and that it bears comparison with anything we have met with in England. We are glad to find that an effort is being made by the ladies of Canada to rival the achievements of former ages in this branch of Church work.

We have been informed that a surpliced choir is to be introduced into this church on Ascension Day.

THE BISHOP STRACHAN SCHOOL.—An interesting meeting was held at Wykeham Hall on Friday afternoon, the 1st inst., and in addition to the Lady Principal, at whose invitation the gathering assembled there were a number of ladies and gentlemen connected with the school, together with many ex-pupils and senior pupils. The Rev. J. H. McCollum presided.

The object of the meeting was to consider the proposed formation of a society in connection with the school, and the usefulness of such an organization as is now proposed, in promoting good will among the ex-pupils towards each other and their alma mater, in encouraging them to continued study and self-improvement, and in combined efforts in good works, was explained by the gentlemen present; and it was also stated that the proposals now to be submitted had received the entire concurrence of the Bishop of the diocese, who would have been present but for an imperative engagement elsewhere.

The following resolutions were then unanimously agreed to, and a warm feeling of interest was manifested, it being the conviction of the meeting that an excellent result may be anticipated from this good beginning.

1. That a Society be formed, of which the members shall be the Lady Principal, Governesses, senior Pupils, and ex-Pupils of the Bishop Strachan School, for the purpose of forming a bond of union among themselves, of encouraging home study, and of together undertaking some good work.

2. That the Lord Bishop of the diocese be requested to be the Patron of the society.

3. That the Lady Principal shall be the President of the society.

4. That anyone who has entered either of the senior classes, or who has been a governess, and will conform to the Regulations, shall be eligible as a member.

5. That the members shall elect from among themselves a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall, for convenience, be residents of Toronto; and an executive Committee of fourteen members, of whom the officers of the society shall be ex-officio members.

6. That an annual meeting shall be held on the second Wednesday after Easter, at which the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Executive Committee shall be elected, and the Report of the Committee on the work of the past year shall be presented, together with the Treasurer's account. The work of the ensuing year shall also be determined on.

7. That the annual fee of members shall be one dollar, which shall be paid to the Treasurer before the annual meeting.

8. That all funds shall be placed by the Treasurer in a bank, as directed by the Committee, and shall be appropriated to such objects as may be determined upon by the annual meeting.

9. It is suggested that one of the first objects to be attained should be the procuring of funds to assist the school Council in erecting a chapel for Wykeham Hall, and that, in addition to their own fees, members should undertake to collect for this purpose.

10. That all members are recommended to say daily the following, or some similar prayer, and to endeavour to promote, as opportunity may offer, the objects for which the school was founded, and generally to forward its interests in the several localities.

PRAYER.—Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, merciful Lord, to prosper with Thy blessing all institutions designed for the promotion of Thy glory and the good of souls, especially the Church School in Toronto. Grant that all those who have been at any time connected with it may set Thy holy will ever before them, and do that which is well pleasing in Thy sight, and persevere in Thy service unto the end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The above having been duly discussed and approved, the names of twenty-five of those present were enrolled as members, and a committee was appointed to correspond with ex-pupils, to prepare a constitution for the Society, and to propose a suitable name. The committee is also requested, under the direction of the president, to prepare a scheme under which the work may be effectively performed during the ensuing year, and will report to the first annual meeting, to be held on 27th April. In the meantime Miss Acres was requested to act as secretary, and Miss Florence Ince as treasurer.

After a few words of encouragement from the chairman and the Rev. Dr. Davies, the meeting adjourned.

It is hoped that the ex-pupils generally will join the Society; and as to one of the special works to be undertaken, viz, the chapel fund, it may be remarked that the growth of the school has rendered it necessary to convert the room now used for the purpose into a class-room, so that a new chapel can no longer be dispensed with.

TECUMSETH.—It is with much pleasure we learn that the Rev. Thos. Ball, of Bond Head, commenced on Monday last the new parish church of St. John. If Mr. Ball is as successful in his present undertaking as with that at Beaton he will have much cause to be congratulated on the result of his labours.

HURON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

GODERICH.—A special Vestry meeting was held in St. George's church on Monday the 21st of March, to consider the financial condition of the parish, and for the approval of a hymn book. Ven. Archdeacon Elwood presided. The first motion, the approval of Bickersteth's Hymnal Companion, was agreed to. The renting of the pews and the mode of renting were thoroughly discussed. The result was that a committee of seven were appointed to fix the prices of the pews, according to location, at an average of three dollars a sitting. There are five hundred sittings.

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