

the Holy Apostles laid his hands upon the head of each of them, praying that God may give them his blessing. Thus the Church in Easton's Corners was identifying itself with that of the Apostles, rejoicing in its unbroken line of authority, and the continuity of the Historic Episcopate. The Confirmation service being ended, a semi-choral celebration of the Holy Eucharist followed, the Bishop acting as celebrant; the Epistoler being Rev. W. A. Read, of Oxford Mills; and the Gospeller, Rev. R. L. M. Houston, of Merrickville.

About eighty, including the newly confirmed, received the Blessed Sacrament. The whole service was marked by great reverence, and much credit is due Miss Putnam, the organist, and the choir under her charge, for the able manner in which the musical portion was rendered. His Lordship afterwards proceeded to the house of Mr. John Stevens and privately confirmed his daughter Annie, who was too ill to attend the service, speaking to her words of tender sympathy, and praying that God would enable her faithfully to bear her cross. The congregation of St. Ann's feels strengthened and encouraged by the visit of the Chief Pastor of the Church in this Diocese, and both priest and people have good cause for thankfulness to God for the evident and increasing witness of renewed spiritual life and earnestness amongst them, which can only be ascribed to a faithful adherence to Catholic faith and practice, with the desire that God may be glorified in all things.

At Frankville, another station in the Mission, a new altar has just been erected, with dorsal and appropriate hangings, &c. The weekly Eucharist has been adopted, with the non-communicating portion of the congregation remaining to the end of the service, a thing hitherto unknown here. Over \$900 has been subscribed towards the building of a church in another part of the Mission, which it is hoped will be commenced next spring. *Laus Deo.*

DIOCESE OF NIAGARA.

HAMILTON.—The *Herald* of Oct. 26th devoted over two columns of its space to the report of a visit to St. Matthew's Church here, of which the Revs. Geoghegan and Whitcombe are in charge. The services are described as 'unique,' by which we suppose is meant that they are of the ritualistic (so called) character. Since it is said that they meet with the open disapproval of the low Church party.

The parish was formed out of that of St. Thomas and the Church of the Ascension; the first service being held on May 1st, 1887, in the house of Thos. Searle, which being found inadequate for accommodating those attending, a house was rented on South street.

Later on a building lot was secured on Barton street. On the 25th June, 1887, the corner stone of the new church was laid, and on Oct. 11th of the same year, the church was opened for service. Through the energetic administrations of Rev. Mr. Geoghegan the congregation then numbered 300. In August, 1887, the Rev. C. E. Whitcombe was appointed associate Rector, and thereafter the parish increased so rapidly that before the end of the year the church had to be enlarged at the expense of nearly \$3,000: the funds being supplied by one person, on condition that his name should never be revealed.

A clergy house was next built on ground adjoining the church, and a lot was secured as a playground for the choir boys. The church itself was of red brick, gothic, extremely plain inside and out. "All was simplicity itself save the altar, which has been made the attraction of the church."

All sermons are delivered *extempore*. Services are held daily, and the church doors are never closed night or day. Four of the six points of ritual are observed. The choir numbers about fifty voices, men and boys. The

churchwardens are Thomas and James Barton; the delegates to Synod: John H. Laud, Robt. Quinn and Mr. Cuttriss. There is a Children's Guild; a Girls' Friendly Society; a Mothers' meeting; a Woman's Guild, and a St. Andrew's Brotherhood connected with the church. A night school for boys is carried on, and also a sewing class.

A Children's Bank in connection with the Children's Guild is open every Monday night, and in which there are now over 100 depositors.

The Sunday School is composed of three hundred scholars with seventeen teachers.

The seating capacity of the church is between five to six hundred. It has cost over \$7,000, but the indebtedness upon it is very small.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

SEAFORTH.—St. Thomas.—His Lordship the Bishop of Huron arrived in this parish on the evening of the 2nd inst., and was met at the railway station by a deputation from the congregation, consisting of the Rev. T. W. Magahy, Rector of the parish, Mr. C. E. St. Clair-Simpson, Churchwarden, and Mr. John Aird, and conducted to the Rectory, where he remained during his visit. On Sunday, the 3rd instant, the Apostolic rite of Confirmation was administered to a carefully prepared class of twenty-two candidates. The Bishop's addresses before and after Confirmation were most solemn, impressive and edifying, not only to the candidates, but to all present; the Church being filled to its utmost capacity. After the Confirmation service Holy Communion was administered to the lately confirmed and to others of the congregation; some sixty-five communicants in all; the Bishop being celebrant assisted by the Rector. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion with a profusion of flowers, chrysanthemums of different colors being principally used, which gave a very pleasing effect.

In the afternoon the Bishop spoke to the children of the Sunday School in the school room adjoining the church. The Superintendent, Mr. T. O. Kemp, teachers and officers being presented to his Lordship, the Bishop gave a most pleasing and interesting address rivetting the attention of his hearers throughout. In the evening the Bishop preached to young people, the church being again packed.

On Monday evening his Lordship met a number of the ladies of the congregation, with a view to the formation in the parish of a Women's Auxiliary Missionary Association, which was duly formed, with Mrs. Magahy, president; Mrs. Bethune, secretary, and Mrs. T. O. Kemp, Treasurer; with an advisory Committee composed of Mrs. Colbert, Mrs. Liffiton, Mrs. Merlin, Mrs. J. S. Roberts, Miss Case and Miss Margaret Case. It is expected that this Association will be the means of rendering some little assistance to the Church in the Northwest, and to the Indian Homes of the Rev. E. F. Wilson at Sault Ste. Marie.

It is cause for thankfulness that there are many signs of real progress in this parish, both spiritual and temporal. The Church has been considerably improved within the last two years, having been reshingled with iron shingles and painted inside and out, and a new ceiling of oiled ash put in. The chancel has also been handsomely decorated; no small part of it having been done by the loving hands of Miss Coldwell, of Constance, which lady has also worked and presented to the church a magnificent altar cloth, and stoles. The altar cloth is one of the finest, if not the finest in the Diocese, and would do credit to the needlewomen's art of any age. Other improvements are also to be made; a lady of the congregation having expressed the intention of inserting a stained glass memorial window in the chancel at a cost of several hundreds of dollars, and a new organ will shortly be purchased and placed in position.

The Rector, the Rev. T. W. Magahy, and Mrs. Magahy, have also presented a handsome pair of brass altar vases. Credit, however, must not be withheld from other members of our small congregation, through whose Christian liberality such attainments are possible without debt being incurred. To all of which we can only say *Laus Deo.*

LONDON.—Miss Ling, of the Church of England Zenana Mission has just concluded a most successful series of meetings in this Diocese. Her time being very limited she could only visit seven places in the space of ten days. These were London, St. Thomas, Chatham, Woodstock, Stratford, Brantford and Mitchell. In every place Miss Ling was well received and in London and Woodstock especially much enthusiasm was shown. The Bishop presided at her first meeting in London, which was held in Victoria Hall, where a large audience had assembled, whose interest has been roused and even in a financial point of view the Zenana Mission has benefitted greatly by Miss Ling's visit.

Memorial Church.—A very successful meeting of the Mother's Union was held on Tuesday evening. There was a good attendance and much active interest shown. The many advantages of this organization are already being felt by the members. The bearing of each others' burdens, the mutual sympathy and care for each other, both in temporal and spiritual things, which is being promoted, will produce the best effects upon the mothers and families of the congregation. There is already a membership of over fifty, and the meetings will be continued fortnightly, throughout the winter.

This organization is in affiliation with that founded in the Diocese of Winchester, England, by Mrs. Summer, and which has spread its branches throughout the Mother Country and her colonies. This is the first branch founded in Canada, and as it is meant to be a connecting link, a kind of coupling chain wherewith to bind in one common interest the efforts on behalf of parents and children alike, it is hoped that more branches will be formed upon the same model. United prayer is its keynote and the first lesson it strives to teach is to arouse parents to a sense of their personal responsibility towards their children, so that they may be fellow workers with the clergyman and teacher, in strengthening at home by precept and example, the impressions imparted at St. School and Bible Class, that as mothers they may realise how much it depends upon their influence to make or mar the future of their children, how they must be themselves what they desire their children to become, for the child's character is often but the reflex of its mother's. "There is no pledge or promise taken by the members of the Mother's Union, except that they will try by God's help to act up to their Christian responsibilities. The scope of the Union is wide, embracing every work by which women can help one another. A special service for the members is held in some parishes in England, where prayers are offered for husbands and children, and words of comfort and encouragement are lovingly spoken. In planting this tiny seed in our midst, we pray that it may be so blessed that the spirit of love and sympathy which must be its outcome may increase and grow, so that neither we who begin the work, nor those who may follow in our footsteps may ever fail to realize that God has owned it and will water it with the dew of His blessing.

The Junior Branch of the Havergal Mission Band has been affiliated, on most satisfactory terms to all concerned, with the Ministering Children's League. The M.C.L. will continue its work in connection with the League. Missionary intelligence is to be read at the weekly meetings. Mission boxes are to be distributed, and quarterly reports are to be sent to the Missionary Association of work done and con-