

has attended his labours in this mission, which at the time he assumed charge did not appear to be a very promising field.

LONDON WEST.—On the first Sunday in Advent St. George's Church was re-opened for the worship of Almighty God. The nave has been lengthened by some feet, and room to accommodate the increasing attendance. This church is situated in the midst of a comparatively poor population, and their efforts to support their church are most commendable. The addition cost nearly \$1,000, and the greater part of this amount is already paid in. The Incumbent, Rev. E. E. Newman, has done much in his short incumbency to build up the church in this growing suburb. At the opening services Mr. Newman was assisted by select preachers, and the church was filled by devout worshippers.

The Ecclesiastical Commissary Rev. Canon Innes, has in the Bishop's absence issued the usual Christmas pastoral to the laity, in which he says, "The Offertory on Christmas Day affords an opportunity for giving practical evidence of the value which you attach to the instructions of the church, and the esteem in which you hold those who minister at her altars, and who break to you the bread of life."

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

(From our own correspondent.)

PERSONAL.—The Rev. W. S. Rainsford has accepted the call to St. George's Church, New York. He will go there early in January and afterwards is to visit England to secure clerical assistants for his work. The church is a very wealthy one but is now run down. No doubt Mr. Rainsford's energy and tact will bring about decided improvement.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.—In many of our Rural Deaneries no provision has yet been made for these important gatherings. In one or two it has been decided to leave the arrangements to be made by each Incumbent in his own parish. Perhaps this is the better way in the end. Much disappointment usually exists at meetings owing to the non-appearance of the deputations. Sometimes also the most unsuitable men are chosen as speakers. Because a man is a rural dean or has been in the ministry twenty years, it does not necessarily fit him to address an audience suitably on Missionary work. The annual meeting should be preceded by a service and should be held in church. This we think would put a stop to the jokes and fun which too often form the staple of Missionary (!) addresses.

PORT HOPE.—A joint missionary meeting for the two parishes of St. John's and St. Mark's took place in the school-room of St. John's Church on Tuesday evening, December 5th. The audience was very large and influential. The Bishop of Algoma delivered an interesting and eloquent address on the present state and future prospects of his diocese. The collection was good.

ASHBURNHAM.—*St. Luke's.*—The annual Missionary Service was held on St. Andrew's Day. The night was unfortunately stormy and the attendance was not so large as expected. Most interesting addresses were delivered by Rural Dean Allen, Revs. John Farncourt and C. H. March. The offertory was much larger than last year.

LINDSAY.—Almost every town of importance where the Church is represented is having its bazaar this month. One was held recently in Peterborough in connection with St. Luke's Church, another comes off in a few days for the benefit of St. Paul's, Lindsay. Considerable sums are realized frequently at these sales and much can be said in favor of them as a branch of Church work. But it is unquestionable that the objections to them are also strong and numerous.

ADVENT SERVICES.—Special services during this holy season are being held in many of the city churches and also in the country. The first week

was well occupied by a Temperance Mission, aided by Mr. R. Graham, in Toronto. Numerous meetings were held in the various parishes and sermons were preached in almost all the churches on the 3rd and 10th inst. A great deal of good work will be accomplished by the movement. It seems a pity that our Canadian clergy do not adopt more extensively the practice of holding communicants' classes in Advent. Certainly if once adopted they would be found extremely useful as a means of instruction and for deepening the spiritual life of our people. Your correspondent can from his experience say they are highly appreciated and very beneficial.

RECTORY SURPLUS COMMITTEE.—At the last meeting of this important Committee in the Synod rooms, Toronto, a long discussion took place on the question of distributing the surplus income from the endowment of the Cathedral. It was ultimately decided to distribute the amounts now in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer to the rectors of the city churches. Another resolution directed the Treasurer to apply to the rector of the Cathedral for any surplus of the rents or profits of the rectory which were then in his hands. The whole question of the funds and their distribution is to be settled shortly by a friendly suit, and in the meantime application is to be made to Parliament for fresh legislation. Since the Cathedral is allowed to retain \$5,000 as its own annual share and the endowment it is considered by all reasonable men was meant for the whole city, one would have thought there could be no possible objection to the distribution among the various Toronto churches on the terms of the present act.

Province of Rupert's Land.

Including the Dioceses of Rupert's Land Saskatchewan, Moosonee & Athabasca.

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND.

PERSONAL.—The Bishop of Rupert's Land desires gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of \$20.00, sent by an Anonymous Friend, of which acknowledgment was desired in the CHURCH GUARDIAN. The gift has been assigned to the Church at Stonewall.

WINNIPEG.—Christ Church has lately been the scene of several brilliant weddings, and on the 7th inst. another lady member of the choir was joined in matrimony's holy bonds to a gentleman, well known and very popular in this city. The contracting parties were Mr. George G. Nagy, furrier, and Miss Rachel Fonseca, daughter of our esteemed citizen, ex-Ald. W. G. Fonseca. Long before the time announced for the ceremony to take place, the large Church was filled with people. About half-past eight o'clock the wedding party entered the Church. The bride looked charming, and was attired in brocaded satin. Her hair was decked with orange blossoms, and she wore a long bridal veil. The bridesmaids were Miss Logan, Miss Hattie Barber, and three younger sisters of the bride. They were neatly attired in white satin, and looked very pretty. Mr. James Shea supported the groom throughout the ordeal, and three young brothers of the bride, assisted as groomsmen. The ceremony was performed by His Lordship the Bishop of Rupert's Land, who read the marriage service proper. His Lordship was assisted by the Rev. E. S. W. Pontreath, Rector of the Church, who read the concluding exhortation, setting forth the duties of husband and wife to each other. The first part of the ceremony was performed at the entrance to the chancel, and the concluding part at the altar. The musical service was very fine, and greatly added to the effect of the ceremony. After the signing of the Church Register, the wedding passed down the aisle, the large congregation standing on tip-toe to catch a glimpse of the bride. The party took seats in carriages, and were driven to the residence of the bride's father, where a brilliant entertainment was enjoyed. The spread prepared by McCaffrey, the well known caterer. His Lordship the Bishop of Rupert's Land proposed the health of the bride, which was

enthusiastically received. Mr. Nagy responded in a very neat speech, advising his young bachelor friends to follow his example. The health of the host and hostess was proposed by Mr. D. Caroy, and responded to by Mr. Fonseca. A number of toasts followed. Among the presents were a deed of land from Mr. and Mrs. Fonseca, valued at \$5,000, and from the groom land valued at \$15,000.

[We furnish our readers with a sketch of the History of the Church in Rupert's Land, by the Archdeacon of Manitoba.]

CHAPTER I.

Speaking of the spiritual destitution of the inhabitants of the Hudson's Bay Territory in 1815—one hundred and forty-five years after its acquisition by England, Major Semple, Governor of York Fort, who lost his life at Seven Oaks in May of the year following, said:—"I have trodden the burnt ruins of houses, barns, a mill, a fort and sharpened stockades, but none of a place of worship, save on the smallest scale. I blush to say, that throughout the whole extent of the Hudson's Bay Territories, no such building exists." It was indeed a sad admission, but the dawn of a brighter day was at hand! Five years afterwards the Hudson's Bay Company, in conjunction with the Church Missionary Society, sent out the Rev. John West, the first Church of England Missionary to these parts. Mr. West landed at York Factory, and proceeded with all due speed to the Red River settlement, where Lord Selkirk had established his colony of settlers from the Orkneys in 1812. On the first Sunday after his arrival, Mr. West held service in a large room in the Fort at Point Douglas, and preached to a crowded congregation. One of the settlers who attended this service, spoke of the day on which it took place as the happiest in his life, since it restored to him the blessings of public worship, of which, during the past forty years, he had been deprived." Mr. West settled at St. John's, where he built a small wooden Church and school house. His sphere of labor seems to have extended 300 or 400 miles into the interior, but he was anxious to enlarge it still more. Accordingly, during the winter of 1812 he undertook a missionary journey to Brandon and Beaver Creek, two of the Company's posts, preaching the Gospel and supplying the ordinances of religion to the few Europeans and half-breeds whom he encountered. But anxious as he was for their spiritual welfare, the Indians were the objects of his most earnest solicitude. An eye-witness about that time wrote of them:—"The Indians are sunk to almost the lowest degradation to which human beings can be brought; their life is spent in struggles for its support, and they run on from infancy to death without comfort, without hope in this life, while no bright gleam of future hope enlightens their dark cheerless path, for no one has ever told them of a Redeemer's love." His idea was to establish a school for native boys, where they might not only acquire the rudiments of general knowledge, and be taught the way of eternal life, but where the habits of self-reliance might be found, and an insight into farming obtained. On his way from York Factory and Norway House, he had obtained two Indian boys who were making good progress in reading and speaking English, and in whom a taste for gardening was being developed, and his conversations with the Indians about the school had led to some of them to promise to think about it, and bring their boys to him during the summer. As a result of all this, Mr. West wrote to England in September, 1821, stating that early in the following spring a building would be erected for the reception of "as many boys as British benevolence would enable him to support." In the summer of 1822 he visited York Factory when he met Sir John Franklin and Sir John Richardson returning from their journey to the shores of the Polar sea, and the accounts they gave of the Esquimaux kindled afresh his missionary zeal and made him long to be able to extend his labors thither. During his stay at the Fort, the welcome news reached him that the Church Missionary Society had decided to make Red River a missionary station, and that they had appointed to it the Rev. David Jones, who might be expected to arrive the following year.

(To be continued.)