

DIOCESE OF HURON.

(From our own Correspondent).

LONDON.—The festival of the Nativity was duly observed in the several city churches. The usual Christmas decorations were put up, and much taste was shown by those who undertook this somewhat arduous task. The congregations were in all cases large, and the offertories, which were for the clergy, were liberal and in advance of past years. The social features of the day are allowed somewhat to overthrow the spiritual, and although the Church provides special psalms and lessons for evening, none of the churches were open for evening service. It was remarked by those who know this city that whereas some twelve years ago it was difficult to get a congregation on Christmas Day, now the churches were all filled to overflowing.

WINGHAM.—The Rev. W. T. Hill, rector of this Parish, has been with the co-operation of the majority of the parishioners endeavoring to improve the services in his church. In this laudable movement he has encountered opposition from a few unreasonable and violent persons, one of them being a church warden. They entered the church at midnight on Sunday and removed a lectern, which had been purchased by the proceeds of a collection made in church for the purpose, and in opposition to the expressed opinion of the Bishop's commissary that it was not only a legal but an essentially protestant article of church furniture. A meeting of the parishioners has been called to consider the matter, and those who have been guilty of the outrage will, it is to be brought to a sense of their error, and to a greater respect for law, and for the feelings of their rector and fellow-worshippers than at present they seem to entertain. It is to be regretted that among those thus entering the Church at so late an hour, and for so reprehensible a purpose should have been a son of a former incumbent of the parish.

The Rev. Douglas Steele a recent convert from the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, and well-known in the Maritime Provinces, delivered a lecture on the "Early British Church," under the auspices of the Church Institute at Cronyn Hall on the evening of Dec. 12th. The history of the English Church was traced from Apostolic times, and her triumphs and sacrifices fittingly portrayed. The lecturer pointed out that the present Church was the same as that which was founded by the Apostles, and that at the time of the Reformation it only cleansed itself of the errors which had crept in. It now held a middle position between the errors of Popery on the one hand, and the over-enthusiasm of Protestantism on the other. The rev. gentleman closed his interesting lecture by expressing the hope that the true Church in her position would ere long be the means of uniting all who call themselves Christians in its battle for Christ and His holy religion.

Province of Rupert's Land.

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

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND.

WINNIPEG.—Unveiling of the Portrait of the Metropolitan.—Reply of the Metropolitan.—(Continued.)—You speak of the time of my past Episcopate as most eventful. You may well call it so, but if the past has been eventful, is not the present critical? Humanly speaking it depends on the way we are enabled to supply for the next few years the ministrations of clergymen to the new towns and settlements that are rising up so rapidly over the country, whether we shall be as a church, a power for good in this land, or merely comparatively a secondary body.

I feel glad that you express your approval of the policy that has been pursued in this Diocese, of building up strong central institutions for educational, mission and diocesan purposes. My hand has been a guiding hand, but the policy has been a diocesan one. It was my first care in my Episco-

pate to establish synodical organization and not a step of any consequence has been taken, till first the approbation, and I am happy to say in every case the unanimous approbation, of both the clergy and the lay representatives of our congregations was given. No money has been raised in England for any diocesan object, but with the knowledge and at the expressed wish of the Synod. I do not mean that I see any absolute necessity for this. I simply state it as an important fact.

Further, I would point out one reason why our funds have accumulated so sensibly as they have. In my own raising of money, even when in England, there has been no outlay except an almost inappreciable expenditure in advertising and meetings, so that in fact the expenses of raising and managing I may be said to have paid myself. Further, when a friend, as the Dean at present, has raised any money for our objects, there has only been at the most a partial payment of traveling expenses. The place of our representative has been supplied by our staff here, and he has lived on his usual salary. We have never had any paid organization for raising money outside of the Diocese. Thus, though we have scarcely ever received but small gifts, they have in our case accumulated. I think it well to say this, because the very funds of which I am going to speak to you, largely owe their existence to the willing labors of myself and the staff of our central institutions about me. I hope that this spirit of seeking to share in the common work will spread through the whole church. I trust that, as God from time to time blesses our laity in their business and worldly concerns, there may be as a thank-offering a thoughtful recognition of some of the church's needs.

Reverend Brethren and Brethren of the Laity, I hope it may not be thought out of place, on this occasion, but rather a meeting of the confidence and approbation you have expressed, if I say a few words on what has been accomplished for the institutions to which you have referred, and also on our present means and needs. I do this the rather that I find there are some misconceptions on the subject in the older provinces of Canada. When we commenced our organization, the isolation of the land still continued, but it was not hard to discover the coming future. We saw two difficulties ahead of us—the difficulty of getting effective clergymen for our work; the difficulty of paying them. There were other important reasons, but these were the two main reasons for the effort of building up in St. John's a centre for educational, and mission work. This was done in the first place by founding several professorships in theology, the holders of which should also, under their deeds of endowment, be canons of St. John's, the mother church of the Diocese. Friends of the Church Missionary Society founded one and I myself founded another. The S. P. C. K. granted £500 each to three of the professorships. The professional endowment fund for five professors amounts to about \$80,000, not equally divided. The college has also, in addition to the Machray exhibitions for the children of the clergy, a scholarship fund in commemoration of various friends of about \$4,600. It has several buildings and twenty-five acres of valuable land, but is burdened with a debt of \$16,000. A new college is going to be built, the north wing of which, with the warden's residence, will cost \$50,000. Of this we have still to raise \$15,000. But there is another want for the efficiency of the college which we are endeavoring to supply. The professors of theology have hitherto given most of the instruction in arts, and part of that in the college schools. But we require a fuller staff in arts, both for residence in the new college and instruction. We are trying to raise for lectures in arts an endowment of \$50,000. We have secured about \$11,000. We really need this before we can with safety and with success enter on the new buildings. This is the effort that the Dean is promoting in England this winter. While St. John's College was, as you say, resuscitated, the Cathedral Church was made by an act of Parliament a Collegiate Church, the theological professors and the archdeacons being its Dean and Canons. The professors not only attended to the Church and parish of St. John, but, with the aid of masters of the College School and the theological students' did a great deal of most serviceable mis-

sion work. In this way Holy Trinity and Christ Church parishes in this city were successively built up and prepared for being independent spheres. Services were begun in various new places. I may mention, as an instance of the devotion shown in this work, that for two or three years Canon O'Meara took regularly without fail fortnightly, in every weather, a service at Woodlands, for which he had to drive thirty-five miles, mostly over bare prairie. Until I went to England in 1878 we had scarcely any new grants. The staff at St. John's did then in those early years incalculable service for the church. And the Cathedral Mission staff continues its useful work in supplying vacancies and opening new missions. Indeed, its usefulness for the Diocese has only commenced. But until this year there has been no income from the Cathedral. The professors were entirely supported by their professorships, supplemented by small grants from the college for their aid in general subjects.

Six glebes had been given in the old time by the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company, for the benefit of so many churches we had established. Previous to the present year there was practically no income from any of them. But when the rapid rise of land took place last year, portions of the glebes of St. John's, St. James' and Headingly were sold. There still remained unsold 37 acres of St. John's land, 20 acres of St. James' and the less valuable half of the Headingly land. The sum realized from the St. John's land will form a capital of \$100,000, after building the residences. The St. James' land produced nearly \$19,000, and the Headingly \$9,000. Originally these lands were so tied to their particular church that any part, not held by the bishop or incumbent, *ipso facto* reverted to the company. Since the transfer, this restriction has been removed, so far as sale is concerned, but there has been no change in the trusts, excepting that provision has been made by act of Parliament, to avoid possible abuse in the future by applying to diocesan uses any surplus above a fixed maximum. St. John's College and St. John's Cathedral are in this Diocese entirely diocesan institutions governed by statutes passed by the Synod. The maximum assigned by Statute of Synod to the combined income of a professorship and canonry is not more than is barely sufficient to secure us in the future competent scholars.

We have so far, then, been providing for our first great difficulty, that of getting effective clergymen for our work. We are preparing to train men for ourselves. Experience has taught us that this must be done, otherwise the supply will be insufficient and uncertain. Circumstances, as I have explained, have unexpectedly made adequate provision, at least for the present, for the teachers of our Theological School. We are striving to place the Department of Arts, which is really equally essential, on an effective footing. We shall still require aid for promising young men for the ministry, too poor to maintain themselves. This will, undoubtedly, in due time come, if once the college is in a satisfactory and safe position.

The other great difficulty I mentioned cannot be so easily met. It is so vast and boundless at present in its dimensions—the supply and support of our clergy in the new settlements of this enormous country. I need not tell you how wonderfully this West is opening up and growing before our eyes: how vast the tracts of land year by year being most sparsely settled on; how the railway is advancing by hundreds of miles yearly into bare prairie, and small villages and settlements are springing up along its course almost as if by magic. There are already several places of importance in which our people are unprovided with regular means of grace, but what can I say of the vast agricultural districts into which our Presbyterian and Methodist fellow laborers are being enabled by their brethren in Canada so largely to send their ministers? There are some 700 townships without a resident clergyman of our Church. The handful of Churchmen in this country cannot meet, absolutely cannot touch the vastness of these needs. What parish or mission is there that has a permanent church outside, perhaps, one or two old H. B. missions? Where can we get any aid outside Winnipeg?

(To be continued.)