

Jerusalem," was preached by the Rev. W. R. Forster, R.D. The chief thoughts prevailing the discourse were the instability of sects built by men and the permanence of the Church built by the adorable Trinity. On Wednesday morning there was an early celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Rev. W. R. Forster being celebrant; Messrs. Bates and Fletcher were Epistoler and Gospeller, respectively; and the Rev. A. W. Spragge administered the Chalice. Whilst it is refreshing to notice the advancement which has of late years been made in West Simcoe (as well as every where else) in conducting the Church's services more strictly in accordance with the rubrics, yet there is still manifest room for improvement. For example, at the services just mentioned some of the clergy wore surplices and stoles, whilst others appeared in full canonicals. Then, whilst some bowed their heads at the Sacred Name whenever it was mentioned in the services, others did so in the Creeds only, and even the former did not all bow simultaneously. Again, it was not very seemly whilst some turned to the East at the recitation of the Christian Symbol, to see others standing with the side-face to the people. It is a pity that a service, which really might be improving and very beneficially, should be so marred by the clergy themselves as to be an hindrance, not a help, to the clergyman in whose parish it is conducted. These remarks are made in no spirit of carping criticism, but with the hope that they may tend to promote greater uniformity, and therefore greater seemliness, in those outward acts of homage which are but visible expressions of the inward feelings of reverence which lies deep in the heart of every good Christian.

Trinity church has not, to say the least, a very fine exterior; but it might easily be improved by the congregation, seeing that there are, at any rate, a few members who are commonly reported to be very wealthy. Even a couple of coats of good paint and the addition of a cross-surmounted spire would effect a decided improvement, the inside of the building, however, presented quite a festive appearance; the Easter decorations, consisting of texts, crosses, monograms, &c., not having been removed. The Altar table frontal, containing a handsome Latin cross, I.H.S., and Alpha and Omega, together with an exquisite wreath of autumn leaves and grasses, made by a young invalid lady of Newmarket, and being in front of the lectern, was very much admired.

Immediately after breakfast the Chapter proceeded to business; and, with the exception of a short recess for an early dinner, the session lasted till six in the evening. The Rev. E. W. Murphy, B.A., and the Rev. J. Fletcher, M.A., read two papers respectively, on "The Visitation of the Sick and the Whole," and "The Best Way to Engage the Laity in the Work of the Church." The papers were excellent, and evoked much animated and profitable discussion. The latter paper called forth considerable debate on the question of lay-preachers; but it was generally felt that the necessity for such an order was more than met by the action of the late Provincial Synod in recommending the restoration of the lay-diaconate. Yet it is well known that many uninformed and prejudiced people would accept the distinctive teaching of the Church from laymen; but would look with suspicion upon the same teaching when given by clergymen. The following resolutions were carried unanimously; First, that it is most desirable that the Secretary-Treasurer of the Synod should, in accordance with the By-law, regularly inform the Lord Bishop of all defaulting congregations in the missions of this diocese in order that the provisions of said By-law may be enforced. Second: That this meeting views with grave apprehensions any attempt to divert any portion of the Commutation Trust Fund, from the purpose to which it has hitherto been legitimately devoted; and this Chapter pledges itself to resist any such attempt to the utmost of its power. Third: That the best thanks of the meeting be presented to the Rev. Messrs. Murphy and Fletcher for their admirable essays, and to the Rev., the Rural Dean for his sermon; and that he be requested to furnish the secretary with a copy of the same for publication. The Rev. J. Farncomb, M.A., was appointed essayist, and the Rev. W. W. Bates, B.A., was invited to be preacher by the Rector of Collingwood, in whose parish the meeting of the Chapter will be held (D. V.), on July 24th and 25th. After the thanks of the Clergy present had been presented to Mr. and Mrs. Spragge for their hospitality, the meeting was adjourned.

One thing was unfortunately omitted, namely, an expression to the Rev. L. H. Kirkby, who is about to visit England, of the good wishes of his clerical brethren in West Simcoe, and their earnest prayers that he may have a prosperous voyage, a pleasant visit, and a safe return. Had this been thought of it would certainly have been done; and Mr. Kirkby will please excuse the omission, and accept the good wishes. W. WHEATLEY BATES, Secretary.

A good man hath sweet satisfaction and delight, in secret converse with himself and with God.

HURON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

The Rev. W. B. Ralby, late of West Lorne, Ont., requests that all communications intended for him be addressed to DEAR, Ont.

LONDON: Christ Church.—On May-day, the second Sunday after Easter, an unusually large congregation was assembled to witness a confirmation by his lordship the Bishop. Before the service, four adults became members of the Church, by the holy sacrament of Baptism, "received into the ark of Christ's Church," and made heirs to the promises of Him who instituted the Holy Sacraments. After the baptismal service and the regular morning prayers, his lordship preached a very impressive and appropriate sermon, especially to the candidates for confirmation. The words of solemn monition by Moses to the Israelites, were his text—"Thou hast avouched the Lord this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken to his voice." There were sixteen confirmed. We must bear in mind that there is every year in each of our churches a confirmation, instead of a triennial episcopal visitation as in olden time; and that one church has grown into six. If our church authorities would ascertain and make known from year to year the numbers of baptized members, of the confirmed, and of regular communicants, there would no longer be any doubt of the Church's progress.

St. Paul's.—At the adjourned meeting it was shown that the receipts and disbursements from pew rents have been large. The receipts, exclusive of endowment, have amounted, in toto, to \$7,811.56. The church is to be much improved and renovated, and for this purpose a special vestry meeting is to be called. There are very many anxious to obtain pews in the body of the church, but any thoughts of enlargement must be a prospect for the future. Mr. Tinsley's report of the new cemetery, was presented, and shows great prospects of being such a resting-place for the dead as the friends of the Church could most desire. The expenditure on the grounds, to date, has been over \$18,000. Mr. Tinsley has devoted his whole energy to the undertaking.

Christ Church.—The audited statement of receipts shows the amount contributed by the congregation, to be \$1,370. The church is in receipt of an endowment from St. Paul's surplus rectory fund, of nearly \$1,000.

St. James's, London South.—The annual financial statement presented by the auditors showed that the receipts were \$2,182.40, leaving in hand a balance of \$80. The sum of \$731.94 was received from the Ladies' Aid Society of the congregation, which was applied in reducing the debt upon the church.

PETERSVILLE, LONDON WEST: St. George's.—The adjourned vestry meeting was held on Monday, May 2nd, Mr. S. Gibson, senior churchwarden, presiding. The readers of the Church's organ (DOMINION CHURCHMAN) are aware of the history of this little church. It was built in the outlying hamlet as a chapel of ease to St. Paul's. The Church folks of the hamlet, almost unaided, built the church, encumbered with a debt heavy for the builders, as unfortunately too many of our churches are. They have supported the Sunday school, the good seed from which originated the little church. The wardens' report at the Easter vestry meeting was highly satisfactory. The annual receipts have been sufficient to meet the year's liabilities, to pay off the incumbrance, and to have in the bank a small balance. In the receipt column are two donations—one, of one hundred dollars, from C. S. Hammond; and one, of same amount, from a friend of T. L. Gower, Esq., in England. It is now proposed by the congregation, to enlarge the church, but some members advocate building a new one and retaining the present one for a Sunday school-room. Were matters so arranged as to make Petersville the centre around which to form a parish with a resident clergyman, another church might be built a few miles north-west, and Church progress be assured with the blessing of Him from whom she holds her commission.

ALGOMA.

From Our own Correspondent.

GORE BAY, MANITOULIN.—The Rev. W. Macaulay Tooke begs to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of \$2.00 from A. Hall, Chicago, for churches in this mission.

He also requests that any of the readers of the DOMINION CHURCHMAN, who may have Prayer Books, Hymn-books (A. & M.), Church Catechisms, or Sunday school papers, to give away, would please send some to him for use in the mission. He says:—"For lack of Prayer Books, I have frequently, in my out-

stations, to say the whole service myself; while, as to Hymn books, I have frequently, in default of any other, to use a selection of hymns from Moody and Sankey's first edition. The Sunday schools in connection with these out-stations are equally destitute of anything in the way of Catechisms, Church books, or papers.

Correspondence.

All Letters will appear with the names of the writers in full and we do not hold ourselves responsible for their opinions.

A TESTIMONIAL.

SIR, I suppose it may be regarded as settled, that Provost Whitaker will soon take his farewell of Canada. No doubt his friends purpose marking that event with the presentation of a Testimonial, in some respects, worthy of the service he has rendered the Church, and also as an expression of admiration for a Christian of no ordinary type.

It has not been my lot to know personally this venerable clergyman, but his scholarly attainments, ripe judgment, and undeviating course of uprightness and integrity cannot have escaped the notice of any. Trinity College may probably be inclined to claim the greater portion of interest in him, yet others will not be denied a share of that high respect which Churchmen must have for a manly, reliable and honest Christian character. It would be a shame indeed, for any party spirit to display itself in such a matter, for whilst I believe I may not belong, exactly, to the same school of thought, it would be but a narrow spirit that failed to recognize in one so eminent, an uncommon worth.

I hope a Presbyter of twenty years' standing may be pardoned for writing thus; far be from me any intention of intrenching upon the rights of others to inaugurate and carry out an object which cannot be otherwise than approved. I suppose the proper authorities will move at once, for it will take time to obtain subscriptions, and decide upon the form of testimonial, presentation, &c. It should be something good; not less than a thousand dollars, and if made fourfold, so much the better. I am unable to do what I would, but I should like to be permitted to join with others by contributing ten dollars.

I am, yours faithfully,
J. T. WRIGHT.

The Parsonage, St. Mary's, May 13th.

P. S.—In my last communication, I did not intend to change my first proposal, but to enlarge it. To prevent any misapprehension, I shall be glad to make one of a hundred to contribute any sum up to fifty dollars per annum, for one, two, or three years, for the support of missions in the rapidly opening North-West.

Family Reading.

THE SCRIPTURES.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.—2 Tim. iii. 16, 17.

It is stated by Ellis, in his *Polynesian Researches*, that at Afarcaitu he has frequently seen thirty or forty canoes, from distant parts of Eimeo, or some other island, in which perhaps five or six persons had arrived, whose only errand was to procure copies of the Scriptures; many waiting for five or six weeks until they were printed. Sometimes a canoe would arrive, with six or ten persons, for books, bringing a large bundle of letters, perhaps thirty or forty, written on plantain-leaves, and rolled up like a scroll; these letters having been written by individuals who were unable to come and apply personally, and had therefore sent, in order to obtain a copy. One evening a canoe arrived from Tahiti, with five men on this errand, and because they could not be supplied till morning, they rested on the ground near the house, lest someone should get supplied before them. After they were severally supplied, and copies given for the mother of one and sister of another, for which they had brought payment in cocoa-nut oil, each wrapped his book in a piece of white native cloth, put it in his bosom, wished good-morning, and hastening to the beach, launched their canoe, hoisted their matting sail, and steered, rejoicing, to their native land.