

the great men of the land. Her Bishop had a seat in the legislative council by virtue of his position.

Her second ruler obtained the office because he was recommended by the Governor and Parliament, unfit though he was by infirmity to adequately discharge his duties. The years have rolled on and the Church to-day is democratic. Her Bishop is elected by the clergy and laity of the Diocese, the laity being themselves elected by a very widely enfranchised constituency. The difference between the Church and her contemporaries is that, with one exception, they have been democratic from the beginning. Thus they have commended themselves to the democracy more than she has. Their ministers have made no claims for themselves which were not bestowed from the congregation to whom they ministered. Hence they are thoroughly in touch with the people. They need do no more than study the people, taking them as they are, and watching their pulse, *going* with them, not *leading* them.

The Church on the contrary has a far more difficult task. She is by constitution thoroughly democratic. The poor are with her always. To the poor the gospel must be preached. The humblest cottager kneels by the side of the Queen's son. The Councils of the Church are composed of any of the members, however lowly, who can be elected by their fellows, as well as of the clergy. At the same time she has an unchangeable Ministry, an irreformable Creed, perpetual Sacraments, and an intelligible Liturgy hoary with age. These she must maintain and these abide. "Men may come and men go, but these go on forever." She has an infallible guide in God's Word, which she has given for the world's use, hiding nothing, traversing nothing; appealing to it as infallible, when interpreted by the undivided Church of the first six centuries. They constitute an unchanging deposit of the faith, a sacred charge, of which she may modify nothing, betraying nothing, yield nothing. These *principia* she has to teach to a world, which, while circumstances have altered, has the same human nature with the men of the first age of Christianity. And as before stated, the problem is to adapt these indelible principles to the age in which we live.

(To be continued.)

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

BATHURST.—The decorations in St. George's Church this year are confined to the chancel. Everyone seemed paralyzed by the late railroad catastrophe, and the first part of the week was taken up with caring for the dead and the bereaved. A well-proportioned rood-screen of fir, spans the chancel, and heavy wreaths are about the sanctuary. In the four spaces over the altar are new painted banners on gold plush, with heavy gold fringe. The two nearest the Holy Place, are angels with censers, and the two outside, angels in adoration. The screen and chancel windows were illuminated with wax tapers, which, with many lights about the altar, gave the Church a very brilliant and festal aspect. There was the usual service—a *missa Cantata*—at midnight on Christmas Eve, and the others were Holy Communion at eight and eleven o'clock, and Matins and Evensong at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. There was also Evensong at St. Alban's Mission room, Salmon Beach at 8 p.m. Gilbert's service was used at the High celebration, and Tallis' at Evensong. A special feature in the processions this year is the elegant choir banner, used for the first time. It is of red silk with figure of St. George holding shield and spear, exquisitely embroidered. The opheys are of scroll work with red St. George's cross, and in the four corners are groups of roses, the national flower of England. On the reverse side is a St. George's Cross of red on a white ground. This banner was worked by the ladies of St. Monica's Guild, St.

John, N.B., and its cost has been collected by the boys of the choir, who have now over two-thirds of the price. Master Jack Thompson, who had the largest amount in his box, was banner bearer at the festival.

St. Alban's Mission room was neatly trimmed, and the altar neatly furnished with a blue dosal, gilt cross, vases of immortelles and two candlesticks.

At New Bandon the Church is very handsomely garnished, and the text, "O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord," reminded us of our true reason for Christmas joys, and brought to mind also our dear absent friend and helper, Mr. R. F. Hutching, who made it, and who has since left us to our great loss, that he may commence his studies for the sacred ministry.

On Christmas Eve the rector had his heart made very merry by the gift of a handsome set of sleigh robes, accompanied by an affectionate address, signed by the wardens on behalf of 17 donors.

ST. JOHN.—The Christmas work of the ladies of the Church of England Institute (200 in number) extended this year to the Marine Hospital, the Public Hospital and to the Girl's Friendly Society. In the Marine Hospital a bountiful supper was provided on Christmas Eve for the inmates. The Rev. Canon Brigstocke, President of the Institute made an earnest address; music followed, which was much appreciated by the sailors who joined heartily in the Christmas hymns and songs; one of them at the close making a speech of thanks for the pleasure they had enjoyed. For the Public Hospital a Christmas service was conducted on Christmas day, by W. M. Jarvis, Esq., a member of the Institute, who kindly acts at Hospital as lay reader on Sundays. Mrs. Barryman and other members of the Institute were present to assist in the music, which was rendered in a hearty and effective manner. Afterwards two ladies of the Hospital Committee distributed fruit and jellies through the various wards, speaking kind words of hope and cheer appropriate to the season. On Tuesday, Dec. 27th, a festival was given. In the Girls' Friendly Society, in the hall of the Institute, which by means of a few little tables, pictures, papers, and ferns was transformed into a pleasant parlor. The girls assembled at 7:30. After a Christmas hymn, Rev. Canon Brigstocke gave a short address of welcome; then a carol was sung by members of the G.F.S., and Rev. R. Mather made a bright practical speech. Refreshments were then served; tea, coffee, cake and confectionery, while several ladies gave some good selections in vocal and instrumental music. At the close of the meeting several new members were presented, and were admitted into the society by receiving the badge—a crimson ribbon with the society's motto in gold letters, "Bear ye one another's burdens." Another hymn was sung, and Rev. Canon DeVeber pronounced the Benediction.

In addition to these three branches of work in the city the Charitable and Missionary Aid Committee of the Institute filled and despatched a box of useful presents and Christmas toys, for some of the poor parishes in a distant part of the Diocese.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

HOCHELAGA.—St. Mary's.—This, now the oldest Episcopal and also Protestant Church in the city and surrounding country, was beautifully decorated on Christmas Day. Good congregations were present both morning and evening. The surplised choir was full, almost every seat (over twenty) being filled with the members. When St. Catherine street is opened up, which will be before long, a new Church will have to be built of large size, as the place is now increasing very fast through the railway,

cotton and sugar factories now established within its limits.

The Churchwarden, Mr. James Jackson has done good work lately in painting the floor of the whole church, thereby making it look much better. A social held not long since was a great success.

The Band of Hope has been reorganized and the Sunday-school is in a very flourishing state. What is wanted very much at present is one or more earnest churchworkers from the city to help in the Sunday-school, and one as Lay Reader, to be licensed, as the Rector having the two services of the prison on Sunday, as well as the morning and evening services of St. Mary's, has too much to do.

MONTREAL.—The Christmas Services and celebration in Montreal, appear to have been more than unusually well attended and successful. The daily papers gave extended reports of the services and sermons, from which we take the following extracts:—

Christ Church Cathedral.—The Holy Communion was celebrated at 8 a.m., 9.30 a.m., and after the morning service. The attendance of communicants was very large. The services at 11 a.m., 5 p.m., and 7 p.m., all partook of the festal character of the day. The full Cathedral service was magnificently sung by the choir, who fully sustained the character they have earned of being one of the finest Church of England choirs in the Dominion. The singing of the psalms, hymns, and responses was very hearty. Large congregations were present. The entrance to the Church was simply and suitably decorated by the ladies of the congregation, one lady presenting the beautiful embroidered antependium on the pulpit. Two additional handsome brass standards have been placed in the chancel, where the lighting was previously very insufficient. They also are the gift of a member of the congregation. In the morning the Rev. Dr. Norman was preacher, and in the evening the Rev. Dr. Norton, rector of Montreal.

St. George's.—There was an unusually large attendance at all the services in St. George's Church, and the number of communicants largely exceeded past years. The 11 o'clock service was very largely musical, and the Very Rev. Dean Carmichael preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion from Isaiah vii. 14. At the evening service the Rev. L. N. Tucker preached from Luke ii. 1. At this service the musical portion was also very fine. The collections were for the poor of the parish, and the offerings amounted to \$354.

St. Stephen's.—Here too there were large congregations and hearty musical services. In the morning Ven. Archdeacon Evans, rector, preached from St. Luke ii. 8, 9, and 10, an appropriate discourse on the Incarnation, and in the evening from Eccles. ix. 10, upon life's duties. The musical service included Best's anthem "While Shepherds Watched"; E. J. Hopkins' anthem, "Let us go now even unto Bethlehem."

St. Martin's Church was decorated in the usual tasteful manner. The pillars were entwined with long chains of evergreens, and the railing of the chancel along with the pulpit looked very pretty, festooned and hung with evergreens and bunches of holly. Both services were conducted by the rector, Rev. Mr. Troop, and the Rev. Canon Mulock. The choral part of the service was well conducted, and reflected great credit on the organist, Mr. Campbell. In the morning a *Te Deum* by Sullivan, and the anthem, "O Zion that bringest glad tidings," and in the evening the same anthem along with Gounod's ever beautiful "Nazareth," were rendered.

St. Luke's Church was very beautifully decorated for Christmas. All the arches and pillars were trimmed with palm, and on the walls in large letters were the words, "Glory to God