

which have endeared you to your parishioners here, when carried into the wider sphere of your new duties, must tend to the expansion and consolidation of the Church, to an increase of love and brotherhood. And we earnestly pray that the Almighty giver of every good and perfect gift will shower down upon you and yours his choicest blessings, and that your future career, in connection with this diocese, may be distinguished by a continual advancement in every christian grace and virtue, and the rapid growth of the Church, which Providence has committed to your charge.

"Accept, with our best wishes for the prosperity and happiness of yourself and family the accompanying articles as a small parting token of the love and esteem of your late parishioners, and believe us to be,

"Rev. Sir, yours very faithfully,

"GEORGE CRAWFORD, GEO. SHERWOOD, EDWARD LAWLESS, JOHN CRAWFORD, W. FITZSIMMONS, and 110 others.

"Brockville, January, 1862"

And presented it to the Rev. Doctor, who immediately arose and read his reply as follows:

"To the Hon. George Crawford, Hon. George Sherwood, Edward Lawless, John Crawford, Wm. Fitzsimmons, and one hundred and ten other persons.

"DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—The expressions of your regard and esteem, and the beautiful gift with which they are accompanied, I receive with joy and thankfulness, feeling satisfied as I do, that your address is presented in sincerity, and is expressive of the feelings of the congregation.

"I cannot bid the congregation of St. Peter's Church a formal farewell. Happily for me, the farewell does not imply separation for life. Called in God's providence from the position of your rector to that of your bishop, I feel that my connection with you is only altered in its character, and that no occasion has arisen for words of sorrow which must have been uttered were I called upon to say farewell for the last time.

"Gratitude, however, compels me on this occasion to take notice of the great kindness I have received at your hands—it is with thanks to God I testify that, as a congregation, you have strengthened my efforts and cheered my exertions, and till my life's end it shall be one of my most cherished recollections that in the now nearly eight years I have laboured in this parish not an incident has occurred that for a moment interrupted the harmony and mutual confidence with which rector and people lived happily together.

"My Brethren, many pleasant memories shall I ever have of our services in St. Peter's Church, your appreciation of their character has been evinced by crowds of worshippers, especially in the evening services,—when through your wise liberality, the church has been free to all—and by a list of communicants increased threefold, but I feel, moreover, that the great doctrines of the Cross, which it has been my endeavour to explain in their fulness, have been received into many a truth-seeking and anxious heart, and that I have not preached in vain when feebly imitating the Great Apostle, I taught you publicly and from house to house, testifying Repentance towards God, and Faith towards Our Lord Jesus Christ."

"I thank you for the good wishes and prayers you offer for my success in the awfully responsible position to which I am called. Continue to evince the affection you entertain for your rector by praying continually for your bishop-

elect, and 'let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ, that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs; that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the Gospel.'

"And now, brethren, accept once more my hearty thanks for your present and past kindness, and for the indulgence with which you have treated my infirmities; and be assured that my heart's desire and prayer to God for you is 'that you may be saved;' that you may to this end love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity; esteem His bride, the Church, very highly for His sake; work out your own salvation in fear and trembling, and avoid with the aversion of true churchmen, all novelties in religion.

"Yours faithfully in Christ,

"J. TRAVERS LEWIS."

The Rev. Doctor then made a few remarks, which were so well received as to occasion regret that they had not been committed to paper.

The Hon. James Morris then moved that the thanks of the congregation be given to Mrs. Steele for the active interest taken by her in the matter, which having passed unanimously, the meeting dispersed.

GEORGE CRAWFORD, *Chairman.*

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the Church Society, held at the Cathedral buildings, on Tuesday, Jan. 21, the following alterations were made in the by-laws of the Society.

By-Law VII.—"The whole of the moneys collected in the name of the Church Society shall be transmitted to the treasurer, and shall be applied to the missionary purposes of the Society."

By-Law V.—"The Society shall meet annually in Montreal, on the third Wednesday in January, and an annual sermon shall be preached before the Society on the Tuesday evening previous by a preacher to be appointed by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese."—*Montreal Church Chronicle.*

MISSIONARY EFFORTS IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

Some account of the progress which the Church of England is making in this important portion of the Province cannot, we think, fail to be interesting to our readers. By the Eastern Townships we understand that section of the Lower Province which lies between the Seigniories on the South side of the St. Lawrence and the American Boundary Line. Of these we believe there are upwards of 80; the larger number by far being found within the limits of the Diocese of Quebec. The more recently settled of these townships are principally occupied by French Canadian emigrants from the Seigniories, and not a few are still a wilderness. The Protestant Townships are those which lie chiefly to the West and South of the St. Francis river, among which are included those situated in the recently formed Deanery of Bedford, viz., St. Armand (West and East), Sutton, Potton, Bolton, Stakely, Shefford, Brome, Dunham, Stanbridge, Farnham, Granby, Milton, and Roxton.

Last week, it was our privilege to attend Meetings in connection with the Diocesan Church Society, held at six of these Parishes or Missions, and we propose, very briefly, to give our impressions of the work which is being done in the various localities.

PICKER'S HILL, PARISH OF ST. ARMAND WEST.—We had preached in a school house near this spot in 1867, and were now glad to find in its place a neat brick Church, 30 x 60, capable of accommodating 260 persons, free of debt, consecrated in June, 1860 by the Lord Bishop of Montreal.

The Meeting was held in the Church on Tuesday morning, and was largely attended. The Rector, Rev. H. Montgomery, presided, and opened with prayer. Addresses were delivered by Archdeacon Scott, Rural Dean Slack, the Rev. Messrs. R. & D. Lindsay, the Rector, and ourselves.

It is not too much to say that the addresses we heard were characterised by ability, breathed the true Missionary spirit, and inspired the feeling, deepened by every subsequent Meeting, that the labours of these brethren, undertaken in reliance upon the Spirit's aid, must be blessed.

PHILIPSBURG.—The residents of the Rector of St. Armand West were visited the same evening. Here we are to be found the Parish Church, Parsonage and glebe in excellent condition. It is seven and a half miles from Pigeon Hill, on the Missisquoi Bay. The Church was filled with an intelligent congregation, and was addressed by the same speakers, and by Mr. Wetherall, the former Rector. The Venerable Mr. Whitwell, during whose Rectorship the present edifice had been constructed, though still a resident, was to the deep regret of his brethren prevented by ill health from being present. The sainted Stewart, late Bishop of Quebec, was one of the first missionaries stationed here, and it was cheering to observe that the fruits of his prayers and labours were still manifest. We copied from the parish register the following entry in the handwriting of Dr. Stewart.

"The Rev. Charles Cotton moved from St Armand to the Township of Durham, in the district of Montreal, on the 20th day of March, 1868, and was succeeded in his appointment at St. Armand by the Hon. and Rev. C. Stewart, as witness his hand." C. STEWART, MINISTER.

The last entry was July 2, 1815. The Rev. H. Montgomery succeeded to the Rectory in 1868.

ST. ARMAND, EAST.—The Rev. Canon Reid, D.D., followed Dr. Stewart in the charge of the United Parishes, and became, at their division in 1826, Rector of the Eastern portion; he still occupies the church in which the late Bishop officiated, who habitually rode the 12 miles just traversed and by which the then missionary stations were separated. Frelighsburg was not embraced in the present series of meetings, but in passing we were glad of the opportunity of visiting the aged Rector and his family. We found him vigorous in mind but suffering from bodily indisposition, and were thankful to learn that he had obtained the services of an efficient assistant, and that the prospects of the Parish were encouraging.

DURHAM.—A meeting was held the same evening in the Church erected during the ministry of Archdeacon Scott. The present Rector, Dr. Scott, assumed the charge in 1848, as successor of Mr. Cotton, the first Rector, and still labours alone in his extensive field. The attendance was highly respectable, and additional solemnity was imparted by the sudden death of a valued member of the congregation. This Parish is perhaps second to none in the Townships in point of position and resources. The property already obtained by voluntary effort, including the Church building, is, we understand, worth \$7,000, and we are disposed to think that very much will yet be accomplished by the liberality of this favoured people.

When the Archdeacon commenced his labours,