

The Representatives were asked to lay before the Branches the subject of the Thank-offering for the consolidation of the Church. It is hoped the sum of \$5,000 may be obtained by the Provincial W. A. This large sum might be raised from an average of 25 cts. from each member. As many could give a larger amount, their contributions would more than make up for smaller amounts received from those not able to give that sum.

The meeting closed with the singing of the Doxology.

OBITUARY.

REV. M. KER.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. Matthew Ker, D.D., who entered into rest on the morning of Tuesday, October the 16th. He was born in Ireland in 1811, and came to Canada with his father's family in 1829. He took Orders in 1841. The first fifteen years of his ministry were passed in Eastern Ontario, and in 1856 he removed to this Diocese, where he worked long and faithfully in the Gaspé Mission.

The Rev. Rural Dean Lyster, writing from Cape Cove, under date of November the 8th, sends us the following tribute to Dr. Ker's life and work in this Diocese :

"The sad intelligence of the death of the Rev. M. Ker, D.D., reached me but yesterday.

At a ripe old age, he has passed away ; and I am sure, to judge from my own feelings, that a large number of people, especially his late parishioners of Sandy Beach, where he laboured for many years, will, while they regret the sad news, recall with pleasure their intercourse with a good man, who, during a long residence amongst them, "allured to brighter worlds and led the way ;" and who, as a faithful minister and a true friend, was much beloved by all who knew him.

My first recollections of Dr. Ker, date from the year 1859, when, having driven from Gaspé Basin for the express purpose, he, in company with the Rev. G. Milne, R.D., and the Rev. R. Short, assisted Bishop Mountain at my own ordination as Priest, in St. Peter's Church, Paspébiac.

Not only the saintly Bishop, but the three good men who assisted on that occasion, have all gone to their reward.

Our next meeting was, I think, on the occasion of my visit in company with Rural Dean Milne, to the Gaspé Mission, as a deputation from the Diocesan Board, when we enjoyed Dr. Ker's hospitality ; and I remember how, on leaving the Parsonage in which Dr. Ker's aged mother still lived, we both spoke, not only of our kind reception, but of the Christian love and mutual affection, which, in a remarkable degree, characterized that home.

From that time until their removal from the coast, about ten years ago, my opportunities of seeing the family were more frequent ; for, as Inspector of schools, I invariably called when on my half-yearly tours, and was always received with unvarying kindness.

How well I recollect the hearty welcome, the kind enquiries, and the hospitable entertainment ; for, as a host, none could excel my friend.

How pleasant were his jokes, "for many a joke had he !" How racy his stories, many of them unmistakably Hibernian !

How warm his sympathy on occasions, and how soothing his words of consolation !

Pleasant indeed are my memories of those visits.

Talks about new books,—for the whole family had a love for literature ; friendly discussions upon subjects grave or gay ; a little music, in which piano, flute and voice united ; all combined to render those evenings delightful. It is not wonderful that I often look back upon those times with much pleasure, and with something of regret as to days that can return no more.

Dr. Ker enjoyed a reputation as an eloquent preacher, and he was, I need hardly say, much respected and loved by his parishioners ; but his principal charm lay in his gentleness and great kindness of manner,—a manner entirely natural and spontaneous.

He had a nice taste in books, and read a good deal over and above the theological works which formed his frequent studies. and he was inclined to be liberal in his views of disputed questions. Nor was he one of those who, from long residence in distant and secluded places, find an excuse for becoming what is called "Rusty." For I remember how much surprised I felt, to find that he had taught his little niece, quite a young girl at the time, to read easily and fluently, not only the "Greek Testament," but part of Virgil's *Aeneid*.