

HURON.

LONDON.—The Memorial Church was twenty-one years old this month. Though those of its legal "infancy," the years that have gone have been marvellously successful. Since its birth the church has been constantly widening its sphere and usefulness and blessedness. To-day it is one of the most important of the numerous stately edifices which well entitle London, comparatively speaking, to be termed "a city of churches."

And it was but meet that upon the first day of its majority the event should be duly recognized and celebrated. This was done in a happy way. At the morning service Rev. Canon Richardson, who has been the zealous and untiring rector for over seventeen years, delivered a most interesting and able review of the church's history.

A very large congregation was present, as was also the case in the evening, when His Lordship the Bishop of Huron preached an eloquent and earnest sermon.

Rev. Canon Richardson in his remarks said:—We regard the period as a marked one in the life of a man, a family or a church. On this second Sunday of December, twenty-one years ago, the Memorial Church was opened and consecrated to the worship and glory of God through Jesus Christ. From what I have learned, the beginnings of this parish date back nearly thirty-five years, for early in January, 1860, Mr. Lawrence Dampier and his good wife, still residents of this city, and at that time residing within the bounds of this present parish, opened in the room of a private house not far from this spot a little Sunday school, in which, with a few assistant teachers, they fed the child-flock with divine truth, according to the good old ways of our beloved Church. After thus patiently labouring with God's blessing for nearly two years, these original founders invited to a meeting with themselves, a small number of like minded friends of the Church to consider proposals for a more enlarged work. The result of this conference was the removal of our first Sunday school to the old county school house, situated on the east side of Adelaide street, near York, where toward the close of 1861, it was opened under the name of St. Paul's East End Sunday School, and Mr. Charles F. Hanson, who is with us to-day, a venerable and respected member of this congregation, and one who has spent many years of his useful Christian life in Church extension, became, by general consent, first superintendent. Parochial work among the children of this neighborhood was quietly carried on until 1866, when there was connected with it divine service for adults as well on Sunday afternoons. It was the Rev. John McLean, then curate of St. Paul's Church, afterward the indefatigable first Bishop and organizer of the Diocese of Saskatchewan, who held that first service. We next find this infant congregation in 1870 worshipping in a small frame church, of which they had become possessed by purchase from another denomination. They named it St. George's Church, and accommodated it to our methods of worship and service. The Rev. George M. Innes, the present honoured Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, was among the first clergymen to officiate in that building. In 1873 it was erected into a separate and independent parish. In September, 1871, Benjamin Cronyn, father of the Anglican Church in this part of Canada, first rector of London and first Bishop of the Diocese of Huron, whose rectorate extended over a period of more than quarter of a century, and whose episcopate embraced more than fourteen years, closed his faithful ministry and passed to his glorious reward. Almost immediately upon the decease of Bishop Cronyn there was proposed, as might be expected, by his successor in the see, and seconded by many of the clergy and laity, some such memorial as might suitably preserve for coming time a remembrance of the life and work of this first Bishop of Huron. Accordingly, in March, 1872, a proposition on the part of the children of the late Bishop Cronyn was submitted to a meeting of the congregation of St. George's Church, to build at their own expense, upon such a spot within the parish as might be agreed upon, a church edifice to be known as the Memorial Church, London, Ont. The munificent offer was promptly accepted in terms of warm appreciation, and with the understanding that the congregation on their part provide church organ, a suitable school-house, parsonage and sexton's lodge, the family of the late Bishop proceeded to obtain a site and rear a church thereon. At a cost of \$22,973.64 there were erected this church, building costing \$11,673.64; organ, \$1,800; school house, with site, \$4,900; a cottage purchased for sexton, \$600, and subsequently a parsonage house, with site, \$4,000. On Sunday, Dec. 18, 1873, this edifice, well described by the local press of the day as "a beautiful specimen of pure Gothic architecture," was opened for public worship, and on the same day became absolutely disencumbered by any debt or liability, consecrated, in the presence of a congregation that filled every part, a sanctuary unto God. That inaugural day was, indeed, an auspicious

one, for upon it were administered, besides the beautiful consecration service, the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper and the Rite of Confirmation, with morning and evening prayer, and sermons respectively by Right Rev. Isaac Hellmuth, Bishop of the diocese, and the Rev. J. P. Dumoulin, rector of St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton. There were when this church was opened but two organized parishes within the city, viz., St. Paul's and Christ Church. The population of London was 17,431 and rapidly increasing. There was room, therefore, for such a parish church as this, as its subsequent history has fully proved. The first rector was him I have already named, for the year previous incumbent of this same parish. He laboured earnestly, wisely and holily in this church for about three and a half years, when he resigned his charge and removed to Toronto as assistant minister at St. James' Cathedral. But his ministry there, so full of promise, was brief, and after four months of unwearied service, he finished his course with joy, and his works follow him. He who now addresses you entered into those faithful duties, and for over seventeen years has humbly sought to make so full proof of his ministry that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ. In the summer of 1879 this building, at the sole expense of the first Bishop's eldest son, to whom this congregation owes much for continued and liberal support, was enlarged to accommodate our growing number of worshippers. A north and south transept were thrown out and gallery put in. In 1882 the interior was improved and frescoed at a cost of \$1,000, and in 1884 further extensions and improvements were made in the premises, land added, a new rectory built, the school-room extended and sexton's house attached. The entire property to-day is valued at \$40,000. Of this goodly sum upwards of \$20,000 will, with the generous offertories we expect this anniversary day, have been raised by the congregation within the 21 years of our minority, whilst the remainder will represent the value, though not the intrinsic worth, of the beautiful memorial gift. But while this parish is a church extension, it has itself in turn accomplished something in the way of further church extension in London. In the year 1874 Sunday services and a Sunday school were commenced in a new frame building beyond the limits of the then city, called St. Luke's Church. In 1879 this parish was divided, and St. Luke's congregation removed their place of worship to Dundas street, and the new parish was designated St. Matthew's. In November, 1887, we opened mission services in a brick structure at the corner of Adelaide street and the Hamilton Road, and in 1890 there was erected in the same neighborhood a neat chapel, to day free of all debt encumbrance, called All Saints'. Thus there are at present three churches, having each their regular services and Sunday schools, on the ground where, twenty-one years ago, there stood but the Memorial Church alone. In 1877 was formed our excellent Women's Missionary Society, the first of the kind in the diocese, which has furnished some \$3,028.33 for missions abroad. In 1879 our Women's Aid Association, with the object to raise money for Church purposes and generally further Christian work. It has contributed \$6,270. In 1886 our Ministering Children's League, to promote in our junior girls kindness, unselfishness and a desire to help the needy and extend Christ's gospel. Their offerings have amounted to \$524.82. In 1887 the Girls' Havergal Mission Band, an adjunct to the Women's Auxiliary, which has contributed \$434.76. In 1888 our Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, under the motto "For Christ and the Church," and to this it has loyally stood in ever growing numbers. In 1889 our Mothers' Union. In 1890 the order of King's Daughters was adopted, and its influences have been spiritual and labours in the parish abundant. And in 1893 was raised a branch of the Church Lads' Brigade, to train our boys to "fight manfully under Christ's banner against sin, the world and the devil." The income of the church itself has been mainly from the voluntary offerings of the people on the Lord's Day, and these for all parochial purposes have amounted to some \$65,886. The statistics of our twenty-one years' history are interesting, as showing that the Free Church system need not stifle liberality, nor hinder finances. For diocesan missions our offerings have been \$11,503; for domestic missions, missionary operation in our own Dominion, \$662.11; for foreign missions, \$541.85. 3,212 services have been held, and almost as many sermons preached. Amongst those who have preached from this pulpit have been Bishop Selwyn, the illustrious Bishop of New Zealand, and later Lord Bishop of Lichfield; Archdeacon Farrar, of Westminster; Dr. Dudley, Bishop of Kentucky, and Dr. Riley, Bishop-elect of Mexico. Nearly all our own missionary Bishops, including those of Algoma, Saskatchewan, Athabasca, New Westminster and Mackenzie River; Rev. Dr. Rainsford, now of New York, whose fame is world-wide, and Rev. Wm. Haslam, the honoured Cornish evangelist and well-known author of "From Death

into Life." Devout and generally large congregations have gathered all through the years. Results of all this there have been and must be yet. Our confirmation candidates have numbered 657. The aggregate number of communicants has been 27,587. There have been 1,332 baptisms and 373 couples have been united in holy matrimony. Many, both young and old, have been severed from us by the hand of death during these past years. The parochial debt was \$516, and the contributions for the day were over \$600, thus more than wiping out the debt and leaving a handsome balance.

Circles of the King's Daughters have been formed in St. John's and St. Cyprian's churches, Toronto. A circle of thirty-one members, including the rector (Rev. John C. Garrett) was organized December 3rd, in St. Mark's Church, Niagara, by the Canadian secretary, Mrs. Tilley. All these circles are for work in their respective parishes, and under the guidance and counsel of their rectors. The "Inasmuch" circle (undenominational) of Windsor, Ont., has just completed the work of gathering \$3,100 to build a Home for friendless children, and expect to begin the building in April. The efforts of the devoted members of this circle have been signally blessed by God, and it is a matter of great rejoicing to think of the homeless and helpless little ones who will receive love, care and shelter in the name of Christ, when this Home shall be erected. Several entertainments were given by children, at which they realized \$200, in addition to the \$3,100 above mentioned. The large sum (a great deal of which has been personally collected in ten and twenty five cent pieces) will pay for the building, and the smaller sum will go towards furnishing it.

THORNDALE.—On Wednesday last (12th), His Lordship Bishop Baldwin visited this parish and held a confirmation. Twenty-one candidates were presented by the rector—Rev. A. Corbett—for the holy ordinance, which together with a large number presented last February, makes a total for the year of over sixty who have been confirmed. A large number of those were adults—some of whom till recently were members of sectarian bodies. Our pastor has duly enrolled all his confirmands in his Young People's Church Guild, which has been so helpful in building up our church during the past year and keeping our young communicants together.

INGERSOLL.—St. James'.—The Ladies' Guild in connection with this church meet monthly. Their especial work is to liquidate the debt on the rectory, which has been a bug-bear for so long a time. It has already been reduced two-thirds, and they are making a brave effort to clear off the remainder.

ALGOMA.

HUNTSVILLE.—The building of the new stone church, on which work began in August last, has so far progressed that the walls and tower are up and roofed in, and, excepting some detail work to be done in the spring, is completed. As to the interior, however, everything has yet to be done, walls to be rendered and plastered, floors to be laid, wainscoting to be done, and inside of roof to be finished, after that painting and seating. Thus far the work is well done, and the structure church-like. But, now, alas, we have come to the end of our funds, the treasury is exhausted. In September last, the Bishop very kindly issued a letter of appeal, asking for such assistance from our brethren in the faith—fellow-members with us in the Body of Christ—as responded to, would enable us successfully to complete the work so long contemplated, and which the disastrous burning of our mission hall and village in April last, has made imperative to take up this year. But the help asked for in our need by the Bishop, has not yet been given; so far, only \$200 towards the \$1,000 asked, has come in. May I again urge our plea for help, that we may not only "begin, continue," but be privileged to "end" this great work to which God, in His good providence, has called us. THOS. LLWYD, missionary.

RUPERT'S LAND.

WINNIPEG.—A large gathering of ladies and gentlemen assembled in Holy Trinity school house Saturday night, on the occasion of the bringing in of the "talents," which had been distributed last Easter. At that time 180 "talents" were given out, and about 20 ladies also joined the society, without taking the dollar, making in all about 200 workers. Mr. Mathewson, manager of the Bank of Commerce, assisted by his wife, treasurer of the society, acted as teller. Mr. Mathewson presented the statement and said that, as probably the oldest vestryman, he had great pleasure in congratulating the ladies on what they had done, and to announce that \$1,839.85 had been brought in as clear profits—also \$156 of the original talent, and that the remaining twenty-four talents were yet to be heard from; so that there is