

the Church. The Rev. Hartly Carmichael, of Hamilton, was the preacher. He took as his text, 2 Timothy ii. 3. The Rev. gentleman dealt with the soldier's duty, first to God, secondly to his commanding officer, and thirdly to himself. By paying attention to the first of these duties, he said, the soldier would find little difficulty in attending to the others. The preacher was listened to with great attention by a large congregation.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

BRANTFORD, Grace Church.—For some time past the congregation of Grace Church has been anxiously looking forward to the introduction of the surpliced choir, a representative meeting of the members having approved and sanctioned the change last April. The inauguration of such a movement entailed no little trouble upon the rector, Rev. Rural Dean Mackenzie, and the church wardens, Messrs. J. Spence and J. Smith, and the choir-master and organist, Prof. Garratt. The problem of providing seats for the ladies of the choir (for it was decided, and very wisely, too, to retain their valuable services) in the chancel without spoiling the uniformity of the surpliced choir, was a difficult one, but the rector and churchwardens and others interested, after much planning, succeeded in successfully providing the room necessary by moving back the screen on the south side of the chancel and placing it across the baptistry. This allowed the introduction of three tiers of seats which were set apart for the young ladies, thus leaving the chancel proper entirely for choristers and men.

Some time ago a good nucleus of a boy's choir was formed, and Sunday all the necessary details having been completed, it was decided to introduce the change, a novel one certainly in Episcopal Brantford but universal in England, almost so in the States and gradually getting to be general in the larger churches in Canada.

The boys' surplices, it might be here noted, were very generously provided by Mrs. Geo. Ballachey, whilst all the vestments were beautifully made by the ladies of the congregation.

The service of the day commenced at a quarter to ten with the administration of Holy Communion.

At matins the full surpliced choir took part. The members met in the vestry, and after prayer by the rector and response, the procession of white robed boys and men filed into the church, the choristers being in front and the officiating ministers, Rev. Rural Dean Mackenzie, Rev. Mr. Curran of Mt. Pleasant, and Rev. Prof. Clarke, of Trinity College (the preacher of the day) bringing up the rear.

The boys numbered 22 (the full choir is 24) whilst the male singers totalled ten, that being at present the limit, although supplementary members will be drafted in. Every singer had been apportioned his seat either on Decani or Cantoris side, and the choir took its place without the least confusion, the whole procession being both devotional in character and effective in appearance.

The chants and hymns were of the most simple character, but the singing throughout was marked with great vim, and the presence of the boys—many of whom are already developing very sweet voices—is certainly a wonderful improvement, and it was universally acknowledged that so bright a service had never before been heard in Grace Church.

The morning prayers were read by the Rector, the lessons by Principal Dymond, and the Litany service by Rev. Mr. Curran.

Rev. Professor Clarke, of Trinity College, Toronto, preached both morning and evening, and it has never come within the province of Brantfordites to hear two more scholarly or able discourses. Before commencing his sermon in the morning, the rev. gentleman said he must be allowed to congratulate the congregation upon the inauguration of a surpliced choir. It was one of the chief beauties of the Church of England that she had in her services been able to avoid the baldness of puritanism on the one hand, and the meretricious influences of excessive form on the other.—*Courier*.

DIOCESE OF COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA.—At the monthly meeting of the Canadian Church Union, held on Monday, June 4th, a lecture was given by the Rev. W. W. Bolton, Rector of Esquimalt, on the subject of "The Reformation." The lecture may be briefly summed up, as follows: (1) That our English Reformation did not have its rise with Luther, but began with the general revival of learning throughout Europe, which arose years previous to Luther's appearance, and which in England found a home at Oxford. Note that with regard to the history of this time, Fox's book of Martyr's is altogether untrustworthy. (2) Owing to political events, which drew England into closer contact with Germany, Luther's influence became felt, was the evil star which led our Reformation to become a Deformation, which it is the work of our more enlightened age to undo. (3) Persecution was not solely on the side of the Romanists in England, but equally with the English. (4) The English Reformers did not regard their decisions concerning matters of the ritual or doctrine of the Primitive Church as in any way final, but freely admitted their knowledge of such to be imperfect.

DIOCESE OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

Address to the Bishop on attending the Pan Anglican Synod, 1888:

To the Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Newfoundland:

MY LORD.—We the undersigned members of the Clerical Association of Conception Bay in meeting assembled, desire on the occasion of your Lordship's intended visit to England to tender to you our obligations for the many and gracious favours which we enjoy under your fatherly direction as the Bishop of this Diocese, and to express the hope that the meeting of the Bishops of the Anglican Communion at Lambeth, to which your Lordship has been invited, will be blessed with far reaching results to the Church of Christ scattered throughout the world.

We pray that the same Blessed Spirit which presided over the first Council of the Apostles may be abundantly present at all the meetings of the Pan Anglican Synod, and guide to a successful issue all the deliberations of that august Assembly.

To your Lordship we pray that it may be a season of refreshment, and that strengthened by the united wisdom and counsel of your fellow Prelates you may return to the furthering of those good works in the Diocese over which in the Providence of God you have been called to preside.

We feel assured that it will be a source of much gratification to your Lordship to learn that the work of the Church in this part of your Lordship's Diocese has for some time been blessed to the good of the souls of our people, as seen in larger congregations and in a greater number of communicants at our Easter celebration; and, that notwithstanding the attacks with which we have been threatened our people seem more firm in their allegiance to the Church than they have been at any former period in our experience.

In view of the Venerable S. P. G. (F. P.) being under the necessity of reducing still further their liberal and bountiful grants, and of the future maintenance of The Church in this Diocese, we have had at this meeting of our Association, under our consideration the subject of the Sustentation Fund, which your Lordship was forward in establishing some years ago; and most respectfully would we assure your Lordship that we are anxious to forward the same to the utmost of our ability.

Your Lordship with ourselves cannot be unmindful of the distressing condition to which the wretchedly poor fisheries of the past few years have unhappily reduced our people. Such con-

dition must be a matter of deep anxiety to your Lordship, and we would fain hope that as one result of the interest in Newfoundland, which your visit cannot fail to arouse, many may be moved to render substantial aid to the Sustentation Fund of this Diocese, upon which the future work of the Church in Newfoundland may have largely to depend.

Upper Island Cove Parsonage, }
May 1888.

(Signed). Jas. C. Harvey, Port de Grave, Rural Dean; John M. Noel, Rector of Harbour Grace; W. C. Shears, Bay Roberts; A. C. G. Warren, Upper Island Cove; J. Shirley Sanderson, Harbour Grace, S.; C. E. Smith, B. A., Rector of Heart's Content; Theodore W. Clift, Carbonear; W. How, Bay de Verdes; Theo. R. Nurse, Spaniard's Bay; P. G. Natten, Bragan; T. Arthur Evans, curate, Harbour Grace; Lawrence Amor, curate, Port de Grave; William Pilot, B. D., Hon. Member.

DIOCESE OF VERMONT.

The 38th Annual Convention of this Diocese was held in Christ Church, Montpelier, on June 6th and 7th. The occasion was peculiarly interesting, as being not only the 20th anniversary of the building of the Church in the rectorship of the Rev. Daniel C. Roberts, M. A., but also the 20th anniversary of the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Bisell, second Bishop of Vermont, in that church, on the 3rd June, 1868.

On the evening of June 5th, a Memorial service was held, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. D. C. Roberts, vice rector of Concord, N. H. The sermon referred to the double commemoration above mentioned. The preacher remarked that we are the mere ancients, the world being older and wiser and life ampler than in the days of our forefathers; a sympathetic reference was also made to those clerical and lay brethren who had passed away during the twenty years. Mr Roberts is well and favorably known to the Canadian Church through his visits to Sherbrooke and Lennoxville in Dec. 1885 and 1886; as preacher for the Church Society.

On Wednesday, June 6th, the Convention was organized and committees named at 9 a.m. At 10:30 the Litany and Communion office were said; the Bishop of Vermont being the celebrant. The invited preacher was the Rev. Principal Adams, D. C. L., of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, P. Q. Text: St. John x. 10, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." Many illustrations of this principle were given; from the contrast between the imperfect spiritual life of the disciples during our Lord's life time, and the fully organized spiritual life revealed on the Day of Pentecost to the newly born Church, from the contrast between the life of God anterior to all creation and the varied life wherein God had fulfilled Himself in creation. From the life of the framework of man's body to the life of the soul which illuminated this expression—the same lesson was learned. From the history of the Church both general and in special periods, the same lesson was learned; especially did the growth of the American branch during the last century illustrate the "more abundant life", of the text—the Catholic deposit having been almost swept away in the flood of revolution. The history of their own Diocese of Vermont during twenty years of loving rule and peaceful development illustrated the same idea. The labours of Griswold, Hopkins and others were briefly referred to. In referring to the ampler life of organic Christian union, the longings for which form so marked a feature of the religious thought of the present day, the preacher deprecated haste; we must not remove the bulwarks or the planks of the vessel to allow of easier ingress to the ship. The Truths, Catholic and Apostolic, that had been handed down to us were not ours to give away; we