

**DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.**

**PARRSBORO.**—The Rev. S. Gibbons is giving a series of lectures upon the "History of the Church in England," at the Wednesday evening services, which are well attended and give subject for much conversation. By special request two sermons upon Baptismal Regeneration and Conversion have lately been preached in the Parish Church.

A Lenten card has been circulated through the parish, upon the "Observance of Lent with practical suggestions for its use."

That capital little monthly, *Church Work*, published by Rev. John Ambrose, of Digby, having been found productive of much good in his late parish, has been localized by the Rector, who receives one hundred and fifty copies a month. They will be part of the church machinery of the parish.

The children of the Sunday-school had an entertainment in Gow's Hall on Thursday evening, when a capital programme of music, charades, visitors from fairy land was rendered in capital style. A fire-scene was introduced—impromptu—which scared some people for a short time; but beyond the destruction of a window blind, a flag and the singing of the parson's coat (giving him a taste of the lower regions) no harm was done. The entertainment was admirably gotten up by Miss Agnes Aikman and Mrs. Gibbons, the Superintendent and Mr. George Cole giving their valuable assistance in the Hall. The public patronized the entertainment well, and \$36 were cleared, to which \$3 was added by a generous friend; another friend having kindly paid for the hall.

**DILIGENT RIVER.**—The few church folk of this place have made up their minds to have a church, and on Feb 25th, had a tea meeting for that purpose, which was well patronized, and some \$70 cleared. The men have hewed the frame, and three sites have been kindly promised for the church. Well begun is half done.

**DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.**

No Report.

**DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.**

**IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO THE UPPER OTTAWA MISSIONS.**

**SIR.**—It has been the custom of deputations visiting the Upper Ottawa to express in *THE CHURCH GUARDIAN* the impressions derived from their visit. May I ask the same indulgence?

On the 16th of February, I went to Mattawa, whence the campaign was to begin. Seven years ago the Rev. Foster Bliss began his ministrations here, and now there are not in the place two families of his original congregation remaining, so fluctuating is the population. At present the congregation comprises twenty-two church families, the most distant reside about seven miles away, and the congregation consists on an average of thirty-two at each Sunday service, morning and evening, and fifty-six communicants. The poor building in which the Church worshipped for a few months has given way to a very pretty brick building, with all the accessories of reverent worship, and an excellent parsonage stands close alongside. On this property has been spent over five thousand dollars, but on it remains a debt of two thousand, of which a portion is provided by subscriptions promised; and I desire to call attention to a fact which is not as well known as it should be; that this is the only debt due on any of the mission property, which, in addition consists of churches at Lake Tallon, Deux Rivieres, Petewawa, and Alice. I was under the impression, as were many others, that a large debt remained; such is a totally false impression; and I am filled with wonder

and sympathy with the labours and anxiety which has attained so great an end in such a country of rocks and stumps. The population of Mattawa is about 1200, of whom, roughly, we may say eight hundred are Roman Catholics, three hundred Presbyterians, Methodists, etc., leaving one hundred Church people. In Mattawa the united strength of various religious communities is greater than that of the Church but taking the enormous mission as a whole it is, thank God, quite the reverse. On the Sunday I was present there were two celebrations and matins and evensong, with an aggregate of one hundred persons present. Let me earnestly press on Church people the duty of helping this hard-working priest to wipe off the sole debt on the mission, which so oppresses his work.

We went on Tuesday to Lake Tallon, a dreary-looking spot. The Railway station, an old shanty and two other buildings, with the Church, and a lot of stumps, form the landscape. Service was arranged for 10 a.m., but the line being blocked we only got there for 3 p.m., when, to my astonishment, I found thirty five people assembled, they having gone home, had their dinner, and come back again. The weather was infamous, and I do not know many congregations who would have done the like. They are spread over a radius of about five miles, within which live, or try to live, twenty-five families, giving an average congregation of thirty-five, morning and evening and communicants twenty-nine. There are in the vicinity, a few Roman Catholics and Methodists, the latter having regular services.

The next day we went to Deux Rivieres. Here service is only on alternate Sundays, an arrangement manifestly disadvantageous. There are about fifty families in this hamlet of whom all but fifteen are Roman Catholic, these fifteen, with three exceptions belonging to the Church; The congregations average twenty-five, with also ten communicants.

Thence, to Chalk River, where are two congregations, distant about six miles from each other. The further of the two we did not reach by reason of snow, but I learn the families in its vicinity are fifteen, of whom ten are Church people, with an average congregation of thirty. Service is held in a private house, but a Church is now talked of by the people as a necessity. We had afternoon and evening services in the school near the railway. This is, of necessity, a very fluctuating congregation, mostly made up of railway employes, with a congregation of about thirty-five. Ten families belong to the Church, the rest being Presbyterians and Roman Catholics, each having regular services.

Our next visit was to Petewawa, a place cruelly neglected by the Church for years; but with dogged determination the people held fast to their neglectful mother. When Mr. Bliss came among them just two years ago, they at once rallied round him, and now they have regular services in the pretty Church of all Saints. In a radius of about four miles, reside twenty-five families, exclusive of Germans; sixteen families of church people give a congregation of forty, with twenty-three communicants, and an offertory of about \$125 a year. In prospect of the division of this overgrown mission, a parsonage is to be built here, towards which the parishioners will contribute about \$500, and I heartily echo to the church in the Diocese their request for assistance in raising the necessary balance of one thousand dollars, to complete the work.

Two other congregations I was unable to visit. Baucelaire, opened about three months ago, and Klock's Mills, in both of them there is a nucleus of a congregation, which only requires attention to improve, which attention the staff of the mission is unable to give as at present constituted.

The Township of Alice, where a Church was built by the Rev. Mr. Nesbitt while incumbent of Pembroke, could not owing to the increase of work in Pembroke, be properly looked after

by the Incumbent of that parish. It will now, with Chalk River and Petewawa, form the new division of the Upper Ottawa Mission. Of necessity Alice will soon form two centres of congregations, whereas there is now but one.

With all submission, I would give my impression of this visit. I think a great and good work has been done and is going on. The people are sparse and poor, yet, I know no place where they have been trained so well in real Church principles; and "Why am I a Churchman?" could be replied to satisfactorily by many. The district can never be self-supporting, the people are poor and will remain so to the end of the chapter. Well, the poor have the gospel preached to them, they are the heritage of the Church. It is intended as soon as the Parsonage is built, for Mr. Bliss to remove to Pettewawa, and a grant of \$350 will be made to each Mission (which is really the equal division of the present grant). The two priests will each have a Lay Reader. My impression is that the grants are insufficient, and, to make good work another Lay Reader is wanted, if not two, for there are other points to touched. The Church should help this mission be not grudgingly, the field is open to the Church, and is capable of being made really the patrimony of the Church. Given an enormous area, really poor people, either Church or quite friendly to the Church and glad of her ministrations—a sound foundation—over worked missionaries, where can there be a better outlet for the duties of Church people in more comfortable lines? I went up not prepared to bless, but I have come home with the conviction I have expressed.

W. Y. Dayken.

Holy Trinity Parsonage, Pembroke.

**DIOCESE OF TORONTO.**

No Report.

**DIOCESE OF HURON.**

**LONDON.**—A largely attended meeting of the "Women's Auxiliary Missionary Association," was held at "Bishopstowe" on Monday afternoon Feb, 25th the Lord Bishop of the Diocese in the chair.

Interesting letters were read from the Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary, the Rev. S. Trivett, Fort McLeod, N. W. T., the Rev. E. F. Wilson St. Marie, and the Rev. J. H. Hamilton, Port Hope, in reference to the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson's work in Japan.

As this was the last meeting of the Central Association before the general annual meeting, the annual reports from the branches were read. The large majority of these were highly gratifying; showing a great increase of zeal and activity in the cause of missions.

Three new branches formed since the meeting in January were reported, viz; Glanworth, Lucan, and Christ Church, London, and a junior branch at St. Paul's Cathedral. A children's Mission Band formed last spring at St. George's Church, London West, was also reported. One most pleasing feature of the years work has been the formation of a number of junior branches.

Our annual meeting will be held D. V., on March 12th 13th and 14th. We hope that all who are interested in the cause of mission will join with us in asking God's blessing on this meeting; that all we then undertake or advise to be undertaken may redound to His glory and the increase of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

A circulating library (for the use of the branches) of works relating to missions has been established. Contributions of books or money will be thankfully received by Mrs. Tilley, 554 King St., London, Ont.

**CULLODEN.**—*St. Alban's Church.*—This is a