



CITY OF ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

clergy who received votes were Very Rev. Dean Carmichael (who for seven ballots held a majority of the lay votes), Rev. E. P. Crawford, Rev. Principal Loble, Ven. Archdeacon Dixon, Rt. Rev. Bishop Sullivan, Rev. Dr. Mockridge, Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, Rev. Canon Du Moulin, Rev. Dr. Courtney (now Bishop of Nova Scotia), Rev. D. I. F. McLeod and the Very Rev. Dean Geddes.

The result was sent by telegram to the bishop-elect, who wired back his acceptance of the position. He was consecrated in the Cathedral Church of Fredericton, New Brunswick, on the 1st day of May, 1885 (the very day on which his predecessor, ten years before, had been consecrated in Hamilton), by the Most Rev. John Medley, Metropolitan of Canada, assisted by the Rt. Revs. Hibbert Binney Bishop of Nova Scotia; James Williams, of Qu'ebec; Henry Adams Neely, of Maine, (United States); Arthur Sweatman, of Toronto; and Hollingworth Tully, Bishop Co-adjutor of Fredericton. The Rev. Dr. Mockridge, Clerical Secretary of the Diocese of Niagara, was present and read the duly attested certificate of election.

Bishop Hamilton met his first Synod on the 3rd day of June, 1885, in Hamilton and addressed them on various subjects of interest to the Church. Amongst them he spoke at some length and with great earnestness on the subject of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church, of which society he has been, from its inception, a warm and steadfast supporter and friend. His Lordship's first confirmation service was held in Christ Church Cathedral, Hamilton, on Ascension Day, 1885, when 60 candidates were presented by the rector in charge, Rev. Dr. Mockridge. On the Trinity Sunday following, his first ordination was held in St. George's Church, Guelph, when the Rev. James Ardill was advanced to the priesthood and three young men—Messrs. Harvey, Webb and Blachford—admitted to the Diaconate.

In 1887, in his address to the Synod, the bishop was able to state that the mission fund of the diocese had increased by \$684 over the contributions of the previous year and that that welcome addition had enabled the Church to open a new mission in Caistor and to appropriate a sum for work

amongst the villages of Puslinch, Beverly and Flamboro', in which the Church had not hitherto been established. This may have arisen partly from the system of missionary meetings established by the bishop to be held annually throughout the diocese on the plan which for many years has been in practice in the Diocese of Ontario. In this year also a noted improvement had taken place in the contributions

of the diocese for Foreign Missions, being \$1,103 as against \$371 of the previous year. This amount was further increased in 1888 to \$1,298. In that year also an increase was reported in Domestic Missions, the amount being \$1,687 as against \$1,250 of the previous year. This was also slightly increased in 1889, but the contributions for foreign missions fell short a little, amounting to \$1,012.01. The bishop, in his address to Synod this year, was obliged to deplore a falling-off in the contributions towards the mission fund of the diocese, showing that their present debit balance would amount to about \$1,900. For this, the bishop says, "there are two remedies: The better of the two is the payment in full by each and all of our congregations of their apportionment. The amount is, in the judgment of the clergy and laymen of each deanery, readily within the strength of each congregation. It only remains for the clergymen and his people to do that which they are considered by their neighbors to be well able to do. The second remedy is one from which you will all shrink. It is that some of our missions should be closed. The payments to our missionaries cannot be diminished. They are not receiving now that which the Church owes to them. The Mission Board has already reduced the grants as much as possible. The next step is to abandon some of the congregations who have been formed by the expenditure of labor and money. Good and enduring work is being done in every one of them. No money, in my humble judgment, is so well earned, or productive of such large returns, as that which is contributed to our mission fund and applied by our Mission Board. I earnestly hope that our clergy and lay representatives will see to it that our Mission Board may not be obliged to close any of the missions in the diocese."

During the four years of Bishop Hamilton's episcopate four new parishes have been added to the diocese, and we may confidently hope that there may not be any decrease in the good work thus progressing.

It remains for us now to give a brief biographical sketch of the present occupant of the See of Niagara. He was born in 1834 in the village or