

News from the North West.

PROVINCIAL SYNOD.

FOURTH DAY.

After transacting some business in connection with subjects to which reference has previously been made, one of the most important and interesting debates of the session arose on the motion of Mr. Thomas White, M. P., "That the rapidly growing settlements throughout Manitoba and the Canadian North-west Territories, and the impossibility of meeting their spiritual wants except through the medium of active missionaries, who must be supported chiefly by contributions from Churchmen outside of the field of their labours, makes a problem of intense and ever increasing interest for the Church of England in Canada in order that the ministrations may be supplied to the people of those vast territories; that the clergy and laity in Provincial Synod assembled respectfully beg of their Lordships the Bishops to adopt such means as may be deemed best by them to bring this work before the people of their respective dioceses, and to enlist an active interest in it, and pledge themselves to second, in every possible way, whatever measures may be adopted with that view." Mr. White said that the great North-western territory was now being opened up very rapidly for settlement, and before many years it would be a thickly populated district. He believed that within the next quarter of a century the larger portion of the Dominion of Canada would be west of Lake Superior, and it seemed to him, therefore, that it was their bounden duty to see that in laying the foundation of that population the Church and the Church interests should not be neglected. They were at that moment inviting immigrants to come over from the Mother Country, and a very large number of these immigrants had been born in the Church of England, nurtured in that Church, and their associations were all connected with that Church. He ventured to lay down this principle in connection with immigration, that as the first impulse of the immigrant when he landed upon our shores was, so would be his future happiness in this country. If they took these people and cast them upon that now land, giving them all the opportunities for the acquisition of material wealth, and at the same time left them without those ministrations of the Gospel which they had been accustomed to every day, they would do them a very serious wrong and a very serious injury, which might have a very material effect upon their future. What was the fact at this moment? Throughout the North West Territory he believed he was correct in saying that there were at least five or six missions connected with the Methodist or Presbyterian Churches for one connected with the Church of England. The Presbyterian General Assembly, at their last meeting in Montreal, voted \$15,000 expressly for the maintenance of missionary work in the North West Territory, and the Wesleyan body had entered upon that field with wonderful vigour and effect. The only denomination, the only Church which had not yet taken any practical steps towards the promotion of this mission work in the Territory was the Church of England. It was not creditable to them that that should be the fact. He was not speaking of the Church of England out of the Territory. They had there two Bishops of the Church of England, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, than whom there was not a better man in the Episcopacy, a man thoroughly devoted to his work, who had the confidence of the people in his whole diocese, and who was respected wherever his name was known, who was labouring hard with small means to accomplish that which it was the interest of Churchmen everywhere should be accomplished, and further west the Bishop of Saskatchewan. That prelate had recently been in England and had succeeded in raising a sum of £10,000 sterling for the establishment and endowment of a college. He believed that the Bishop of Saskatchewan, in connection with his college, was chiefly devoted to Indian work, a work of great importance, he admitted, but a work which did not meet the particular want, which, as it appeared to him, they ought to supply in connection with the North-west Territory. Under those circumstances they ought to have some more practical method of assisting the Church in these territories in the work in which it was engaged. It had been

suggested that this resolution should be embodied in, in some way connected with other resolutions on the paper, but he should be sorry for it to be connected with them, and he would give them the reason. He had entire sympathy with the other resolutions and with the work which they proposed to forward (that of Algoma), but he thought the appeal on behalf of mission work in the North-west was a distinct appeal, and one that would press with more effect upon the Christian liberality and Churchmanship of the laity, and above all upon their patriotism, than any appeal for general mission work, and a large amount of different classes of work. For those reasons he trusted that the bishops would be able to adopt some measures by which the interests of this work would be put distinctly before the people, and would be able to rejoice the hearts of the good bishops in that territory by giving them such contributions as would enable them to establish the work throughout the territory, so that the immigrants who came from England and from the older parts of the Dominion would find the institutions to which they had been accustomed, and would be able to settle and live religiously under the aegis of the grand old Church of England. Mr. J. C. Brydges seconded the motion, and in doing so, said that if he would not be taking up too much of the time of the Synod he should like to have the opportunity of giving them some information about the country. During the last three or four weeks he had had considerable conversation with the Bishop of Rupert's Land, and had travelled for 600 miles through a portion of the territory over which he presided, and had therefore had an opportunity of hearing not only from His Lordship but from other men engaged in the work of the Church in that part of the country, their views upon the subject, and had seen from practical experience what was the position of the country and what required to be done. He might, first of all, say that the Church of England, in the Diocese of Rupert's Land, had been in operation for a considerable time along the banks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, that being the portion of the country where, previous to the last ten years, the principal portion of the population had gathered. That population was mainly half breeds, and there was something like half a dozen churches on the banks of the rivers, which formed a nucleus of rapidly increasing efforts amongst the people. Those churches were established and had been supported for some time partly by the contributions sent to Rupert's Land from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Church Missionary Society, and the Colonial and Continental Church Society, and they were now being supplemented by grants from the mission fund of this diocese, which embraced contributions from the members of the Church throughout the diocese, and also by contributions by the districts themselves. But outside of those few churches which were doing a great deal of good there was an enormous field, which at present was absolutely, almost neglected. When he told them that outside of the districts covered by these two rivers, and bordering upon the rivers, there were at this moment only two missions of the Church of England in a district something like 300 miles long and 150 miles wide, they would understand how important it was that some immediate efforts should be made to supply their needs. In a letter the Bishop of Rupert's Land told him that the only missions of the Church there were at Nelsonville and Rapid City. He was personally acquainted with these districts, and could confirm what the Bishop said. The Nelsonville mission had to meet the wants of a district 45 miles long by 75 miles wide. There were in the district 84 townships the largest of which had an area of 26 miles; 66 of the townships were settled in the way such townships were first settled, each containing some 16 or 18 families. They could understand from that statement that it was absolutely impossible at present to meet the wants of the people. The Bishop told him that the majority of the people who were settling in that part of the country were members of their own Church, and wished to remain in it. The other mission which had been established was at Rapid City, on the Little Saskatchewan, and in driving from Winnipeg to Fort Ellice, on the Assiniboine, which was about the limit which its operations had reached, he passed through about 250 miles of country, and after about 70 miles from Portage La Prairie

there was no church, no means of Christian ministrations, excepting the small mission at Rapid City. On that drive he was scarcely ever out of sight of houses, and he could almost constantly see two or three. They would agree with him that that was not a state of things which ought to be allowed to continue, if it could possibly be avoided. He thought it ought to be known to the members of the Church of England that whilst they were not able, for want of funds, to do what was desirable to be done in that part of the country, the Presbyterians and the Methodists were taking the most active and energetic steps to supply the wants of their people. The Bishop of Rupert's Land told him that in the District of Western Manitoba, where he had only been able to establish one mission, at Nelsonville there were five Presbyterian and five Methodist missions, so that there were ten missions of churches other than their own, compared with one, that he had been able to establish. In the same way, in the Little Saskatchewan country, there was only one Church mission at Rapid City, whilst there were five or six Presbyterian and five Methodist missions. It was quite clear, therefore, unless the Church was enabled, by the assistance of its members in the old dioceses, to take immediate and earnest steps to provide the necessary accommodation their own Church people, who desired to remain in the Church, would have to join the denominations, and would be lost to the Church absolutely and forever. Not only was that the case in the western portion of the country, but at Rat Portage there was the greatest possible want of more services. There was there a large number of workmen for the railway and a number of lumbermen, and there was absolutely no Protestant church of any kind. He trusted that these facts would be carefully considered by the influential members of the Church in the different provinces. The missions at Nelsonville and Rapid City had been instituted by a grant of £100 each from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and were carried on by grants from that society, and the contributions from the persons who joined the Churches. In the City of Winnipeg there were two churches both of which were entirely self-supporting. One was under the charge of a gentleman well known to many in that house, the Rev. Mr. Fortin, who was doing excellent work. There was also the Cathedral, which had an endowment, an excellent college for boys and one for girls, supported by the efforts of the Bishop of Rupert's Land. He trusted that the statistical information he had given them, would be sufficient to prove the importance of the want, and that the House of Bishops, when they considered the question, would be able to devise some plan of bringing the matter before the members of the Church throughout the Ecclesiastical Province, in order that this great and pressing want might be supplied without delay. The Rev. Dr. Sullivan thought it a matter of especial congratulation that their prominent Churchmen, who travelled over the country in promotion of its commercial development, kept a special eye upon its religious state at the same time. Mr. Parkin pointed out that the question before Canadian Churchmen was whether they were going to rise to the circumstances in which they were placed. They had half a continent placed in their hands, and the capacity of the Church to progress and develop itself without the aid of the State had been shown by the history of the Episcopal Church in the United States. That being so, a great deal devolved upon them to take care that the Church took its proper place for the future. They must rise to a higher level than the Church had hitherto risen, and see to it that the Great West was made the passage by which the Church of England was to pass from East to West, so that the Golden Gate might become the golden gate of Paradise to millions of souls to come. The great difficulty they had to contend with was that their people had never learned the principle of giving, and did not give for Christ what they gave to advance their political and commercial welfare. The continent was being built up by a race whose power was felt wherever it went; that power must be supreme in the future, and they should determine to make it felt in spiritual as well as commercial matters. After some remarks from the Rev. Geo. M. Armstrong, J. B. Plumb, M.P., Rev. Mr. Burke Rural Dean Allan, and others, the resolution was carried unanimously.

Afterwards, Mr. Brydges moved, and Canon Brigstocke seconded, the following resolution, which was adopted: "That a small Committee of the House be appointed by the Prolocutor to wait on the House of Bishops, and present the resolution just passed, and to urge upon their Lordships the necessity of taking immediate steps to give practical effect to it." The Prolocutor appointed the following gentlemen to be the Committee: Revs. Dr. Hill, Canon Brigstocke, J. W. Burke, G. M. Armstrong; and Messrs. C. J. Brydges, Thomas White, M.P., and G. K. Parkin. At a subsequent session, Mr. Brydges, on behalf of the Committee, reported that the House of Bishops had heartily agreed to the resolution of the Lower House, and had deemed it important for the successful prosecution of the work, that a Central Board of Home Missions and a Central Board of Foreign Missions, with branches in each of the Dioceses, should be established; and that the following gentlemen had been appointed on the Boards of Missions, the Metropolitan to be President of the Boards and the Bishops Vice-Presidents. The Central Board of Domestic Missions to consist of Revs. Dr. Sullivan, Archdeacon Lindsay, Canon Norman, J. P. DuMoulin, C. Hamilton and F. W. Kirkpatrick, Messrs. Thos. White, M. P., F. Wolferstan Thomas, J. Hutton G. A. Kirkpatrick, M. P., and H. S. Scott. The Foreign Board to consist of the Revs. R. Lindsay, Canon Baldwin, M. M. Fothergill, Dr. Lobley, Canon Evans, J. C. Robinson and Chancellor Bethune, and Messrs. L. H. Davidson, Thomas Simpson, R. V. Rodgers, R. W. Henneker and W. B. Simpson. Excepting in Montreal the bishop of each diocese should appoint a corresponding committee of three clergymen and three laymen for such diocese, until the next meeting of the Diocesan Synod, when at each subsequent meeting the Synod should appoint. After the House had, on motion of Mr. White, M. P., agreed to certain amendments made by the Upper House in the "Form of Consecration," the House adjourned. We trust that this great and momentous question of Missionary work in the North West, to the discussion of which we have given so much space, and which claims the best consideration of all who love the Church of England, will be very seriously thought over by our readers, and that God may awaken a much greater zeal and a much larger liberality than we have heretofore witnessed. It is very desirable, too, that the Bishop of each of the dioceses in this Province shall proceed without delay to carry out the provisions of the resolution of the Upper House, by appointing a corresponding Committee, so that efforts may be put forth at once to make the movement a real and substantial one. DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON. We gather from the D. C. S. Report, supplemented by information in our possession, the following statistics up to Dec. 31st, 1879. Since then there is a large increase. Sunday Schools, 95. Teachers about 500. Scholars about 4,500. Number of Churches and Chapels, 112. Stations where services are held, 126. Piousages, 38. Communicants about 5,400. Added during 1879, 605. Baptisms—adults, 74; infants about 1126; total, 1,200. Marriages, 226. Burials, 485. Number of clergy, 71. The church parishes raising in 1879 for all church purposes over \$1,000 are: Stanley, \$2,500; Rothesay, \$1,800; Chatham, \$1,765; Moncton, \$1,389.50; Woodstock, \$1,100. The parishes reporting over 200 communicants are: Fredericton, 430; Kingston, 337; Trinity, St. John, 250; St. Mark, St. John, 250; St. Paul, Portland, 237; St. Andrew's, 220; Woodstock, 207. The Reserve of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund had reached on May 1st, 1880, \$13,613.58, and 28 clergymen were connected with it. The assets in investments were \$108,766.65. Besides this the Society holds the following Life Insurance Policies, presented in each case by the parties insured, who still pay the yearly premiums: 1. Sir S. Leonard Tilley, policy in Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Co., \$1,000. 2. Rev. James Neale, policy in Standard Life Assurance Co., £600 stg, and bonuses, subject to certain annuities.

Thirteen persons became Life Members of the Society during the year, and part of a legacy of £100 from the late Benjamin Dowling, of Albert Co., has been received. The Rev. Dr. Coster, and the Rev. E. S. Woodman died during the year. Three clergy left the Diocese, and five were ordained. PERSONAL.—Rev. E. F. Wilson and wife, of the Indian Homes, Sault Ste. Marie, are in St. John. Rev. F. H. Almon will give up the charge of St. Mary's Church, St. John, the end of this month. The Metropolitan is expected to be at the consecration of Trinity Church, Digby, N. S., on the 15th. Rev. T. E. Dowling preached at Margerville, Sunday, the 10th. CLERICAL CHANGES.—Rev. George Love, M. A., Missionary in Albert Co., has accepted a call to the Parish of Kingsclear, and will shortly enter on his duties. This leaves the important work in this country without a head. We hope some one will soon be found to take it up. The stipend is \$800. Rev. A. H. Weeks is about to leave the Parish of Queensbury. ST. JOHN.—The beautiful east window has just been put in place in Trinity Church. There is a further delay in the time for consecration, as the building is not quite ready. CARLETON—St. George's.—The Reverend E. F. Wilson, Principal of the Indian Homes, Algona, addressed the congregation of St. George's Church, on Sunday morning, October 3rd. One circumstance was mentioned which will be gratifying to the many readers of "the death of the Neepigon Boy." Mr. Thomas Renison, of Cashel, Ireland, a graduate of Dublin University, and candidate for Holy Orders, having excellent references, and full of Missionary ardour, having had his interest aroused by Mr. Wilson on behalf of Neepigon, has not only offered himself for the work, but sailed for Sault Ste. Marie on September 30th, where he will remain during the approaching winter, studying the language, and go up to Neepigon next Spring. CAMBRIDGE.—On Wednesday, the 29th Sept., ult., this Parish sustained a great loss in the death of one of its oldest Church members, viz, B. M. Dykeman Esq. Mr. Dykeman has been Church Warden for this Parish for a large number of years, and has always been a firm and consistent member of the Church. He was a regular Communicant, and punctual in his attendance at the Sanctuary. His end was peace. NEWCASTLE, QUEEN'S CO.—The Church in this picturesque little village, and which had well nigh fallen into decay, has lately been restored at a cost, we believe, of over \$500, and on the 29th ult. it was consecrated by the Most Rev. the Metropolitan. Prettily situated on the rise of a well wooded hill, the little Church presents to the passer by an exceedingly attractive appearance, and, on entering one is especially pleased with the church-like character of all its arrangements. The seats are open and unappropriated, and in the absence of a chancel proper, the altar has been placed upon a raised platform, which is covered by a very chaste and suitable carpet. The font, placed near the west door, and as well the altar and lectern are of wood, of beautiful workmanship, and are all, we believe, the generous gift of the Bishop of the Diocese. The Bishop, accompanied by the Rev. G. H. Sterling, the Rev. F. Alexander, and Mr. Charles Clowes, arrived from Margerville at 12 noon; and a second party, which included Mr. and Mrs. Smith, of Margerville, Mrs. G. H. Sterling, and Mr. and Miss Sterling followed shortly after. The Rev. W. and Mrs. Jaffrey also drove over from St. Mary's. The whole company were most kindly provided for at the hospitable residence of Mr and Mrs. Yeamans. The service of consecration being appointed for 3 p. m., the Bishop and clergy, in their robes, proceeded at that time to the church, where the petition for consecration was presented and read by the Rev. G. H. Sterling, the Missionary of Newcastle. The prayer, "Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doing," was then said by the Bishop, and the 24th Psalm commencing, "The earth is the