

Bishop Westcott on Christian Almsgiving.

Almsgiving is the natural, the necessary expression of a healthy Christian character. The Christian cannot but be communicative of the goods which he has. Almsgiving is not a concession to importunity, by which we free ourselves from unwelcome petitioners; it is not a sacrifice to public opinion by which we satisfy the claims popularly made upon our place or fortune; it is not an appeal for praise; it is not a self-complacent show of generosity; it is not, in a word, due to any external motive. It is the spontaneous outcome of life. What the life is, the fruit will be, in the highest forms as in the lowest. * * *

The actions of a Christian, then, are a fruit of the Christian character. * * * A real gift is a part of ourselves. The crumbs which fall from our table, the overflowings of our abundance, cannot be gifts. * * *

As fruits, our alms will bear the marks of our faith. That which the Christian gives will carry the impress of self-denial, of singleness, of self-devotion, of thoughtfulness. * * * Christ himself comes to us in those who need our help, and we shall not bring to Him that which costs us nothing. * * *

Our goods are not our own to be used arbitrarily for the simple gratification of our desires, but resources placed at our disposal for the service of men. * * * And the temper of self-discipline and self-sacrifice is not born with us. It needs to be quickened and cultivated. * * * We should not, I fancy, find ourselves poorer if we were to place a part of our goods beyond the reach of fortune. I do not fancy that the widow who cast into the treasury of God all the living she had felt afterward that she had suffered any loss. Nay, rather, there is deep truth in the striking words of Chrysostom, "If any distress befall thee, straightway give alms; return thanks for the accident, and thou shalt see how great joy follows thereupon. For the spiritual gain, even if it be small, is so great as to obliterate all bodily loss. If thou hast to give to Christ thou art wealthy." -From "The Incarnation and Common Life," by the Bishop of Durham.

Novar Mission.

BY REV. J. PARDOE, INCUMBENT.

A very enjoyable gathering was held in connection with St. Mary's Church, Novar, on Shrove Tuesday. A number of church workers and friends met at the house of the incumbent for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Miss Carrie Browne, organist of the church. Some of the numerous subscribers were unavoidably absent. The Rev. J. Pardoe spoke in high terms of the sterling charac-

ter of Miss Browne and also of the self-denial practiced by her in her efforts to forward the work of the church, more especially the musical portion of it. The sentiments expressed were warmly endorsed by all present. The incumbent then read an address and presented Miss Browne with a purse of money.

The secret had been so well kept that the recipient was quite taken by surprise, but in a few words she expressed her thanks for the practical way in which it was shown that her services were so much appreciated.

On Sunday, Jan. 21st, after Evensong, the Bishop confirmed a class of twelve persons presented by Rev. J. Pardoe. The church was filled to overflowing. Next morning Holy Communion was celebrated. There were twenty-seven communicants including the newly-confirmed. Later on Monday the Bishop met a number of the Church people at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Cowan.

On Friday, February 9th, the Bishop was again in his mission, when he consecrated the church of St. John the Baptist, Ravenscliffe, and afterwards celebrated Holy Communion.

Death of Chief Buhgwujjenene.

The Indian Chief who died at his home at Garden River the other day was the son of the great chief Shengwauk, who distinguished himself in the wars of the past. He was with General Brock in several engagements and received a very fine medal from King George for his services and his bravery. This medal Buhgwujjenene inherited with the chieftainship and wore it up to the time of his death.

But Buhgwujjenene was not a warrior like his father. He became a soldier of Christ many years ago while yet a lad in his father's wigwam in the beginning of the century. The lad was permitted to go and hear the message of the missionary and he believed it with joy and became a Christian. The writer heard him in England give a thrilling account of his conversion. He was impressed with the truths of Christianity and was musing on the "Word." It was a glorious evening and the sunset splendour filled his soul with ecstasy; he kneeled under a bush and prayed and the glory and gladness that filled his soul was like the sunset splendour.

Ever since that time (for seventy years) he has been a faithful follower of Jesus Christ and a loyal member of the Church of England. The other day he was taken sick and sent for me to come and see him. "I regret," he said, "that I was too ill on Sunday to come to church nor to the Holy Communion. I would like to receive communion." He asked his family to gather around him, and that two young men, his grandsons, whom he had brought up, should communicate with him. He explained to me afterward that

these young men had been confirmed but were ashamed to come to communion.

He was suffering very much. He said, "I remember some words of scripture which say: 'Whom the Lord loveth he whippeth and beats every one whom he receives.'" Once he was depressed, he called upon his children to sing "Jesus is the Lord my Shepherd, then let fear be far away." Then the missionary prayed and we joined in fervently. He called his children and grandchildren around him, he exhorted them to faithfulness and testified to the satisfaction he had found in religion. He was led to his chair by the fire and there he died.

A very large concourse of his own people attended his funeral when a brief history of his life was given and the hymns sung that he loved; we then committed his body to the dust. It was the chief's wish to put a stained glass window in the church as a memorial, but he died before the wish was accomplished.

Burk's Falls Mission.

REV. C. H. BUCKLAND, INCUMBENT.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese visited this Mission on Friday, February 23rd, and administered the Holy Rite of Confirmation to seven persons, afterwards preaching an effective sermon on Christian duty.

Through the energies of the W. A. a bell-tower has been erected, and the bell placed in position.

The Young Women's Guild have raised sufficient funds to install electric lights in the Parsonage.

The Boys' Brigade is in a very prosperous condition, the numbers increasing weekly. It is expected that caps and tunics will be procured by Easter. Every branch of Church work is very active.

Fort William.

REV. E. J. HARPER, RECTOR.

St. Luke's.—Since the close of navigation we have comparatively little of general interest to report from this parish. The day of humble supplication and acknowledgment of God's sovereignty and power was duly observed on Septuagesima Sunday. Good congregations attended services both morning and evening. The special prayer authorized by the Archbishop of Ontario has been offered every Sunday for the success of our arms in South Africa, and those engaged in the war. The offerings taken up in church on behalf of the Patriotic Fund were fair considering that many of our people contribute through other general agencies towards the same purpose.

An effort is now being made to supply a long-felt want, viz., the erection of a suitable vestry-room, which may be used as an infant class-room, and where week-day services may be conducted. It will require some self-denial to accomplish