

elements that are foreign to it. The other is pure, and free from all admixture of Romish error. This is the Protestant stream as represented by the Presbyterian Church, by the Puritans of England, and the Congregational Churches of America. Here is the living truth, freed of the admixtures of error and superstition. Surely the Churches which have been shut in by mountain fastnesses, such as the Waldenses, which have passed through manifold persecutions, and amidst them all maintained the principles of the gospel as we find them in the New Testament, must be nearest in conformity to the Church which was founded by Christ and built up by the apostles and their successors. What significance was there in the fact that representatives of these Waldenses stood, not on the platform of the council of Rome, when the dogma of infallibility was promulgated, nor on that of the council held in Lambeth Palace, where apostolic succession was virtually claimed, but on that of the Œcumenical Council of Presbyterians which convened in 1877, in the city of Edinburgh. Facts speak for themselves, and these are facts which both the Archbishop and Dr. Sweatman would do well to ponder.

The address of Dr. Sweatman, of which the Archbishop takes such prominent notice, is well worthy of being read. It may be said to mark a new era in the history of the Episcopal Church in this diocese. It is down upon all clerical mockery. It gives no breathing to the men of the confessional, of the rubric, of the starched millinery with which that Church, both in England and America, is being afflicted.

SCHOOL VACATIONS.

THE past week and part of the present have been occupied with the closing exercises of the model and public schools in this city. The children in many places throughout the Dominion have been similarly employed. In a short time the summer holidays shall have been reached by a large number of our country schools. What a vast amount of meaning is conveyed in that single word VACATION!

For one thing it carries the thought that the end of another year of study has come. Many children are doubtless glad for the reason that they have got away from irksome tasks, from hated books, from close confinement, from horrible punishments of extra lessons or of the rod. Even with all their carelessness these obtain a certain amount of good from school. They cannot help learning something. They may have been giving special attention to some out of the way subject, like the boy who had his pockets always stuffed with beetles, mice, flies or birds. It may be they are destined to burst into the full-bloomed knowledge of some specialty, and to become all at once naturalists, geologists, inventors or poets. Even where this is wanting, he would be a hard case in the booby line who has not learned his letters, nor acquired, however awkwardly, the art of writing, nor been taught to run up a column of figures, especially when they represent dollars and cents. They have besides come under the

discipline of school, and have probably grown into such habits as will make them faithful in service.

But what a joyous season is vacation for the boys and girls who have wrought hard during the year. The studies of some have been so successful that they are watched with throbbing hearts by parents and friends as they proudly carry away their gold or silver medals, their large and valuable prizes for general proficiency, or some precious book to mark their attainments in some special branches of knowledge. Or it may be that without such rewards others go away from the class-room with the conscious feeling that they have gained the knowledge which these prizes represent. All these scholars leave the familiar walls of the school, perhaps not without regret, but with the thought of obtaining rest, freedom, relaxation after so many laborious months.

Vacation time! What floods of joyous thoughts does the word bring into the hearts of those who have grown hoary in professional or public life! It implies escape to the green fields, going on long walking excursions, fishing the lakes and streams, bathing and swimming and boating. One single holiday is intensely precious to the man who has the spirit to enjoy it. While it may pass rapidly away, it may have concentrated in it all the enjoyments of every vacation time of our past life. That is why one single day is so valuable to a man who is overtaxed with commercial or professional labour. It brings but a few hours of relief from toil and anxiety, but in these few hours a life time may be lived over again. The hand may have forgotten its cunning in casting the fly or firing the rifle; but the old days come back as pleasant memories when we could take our place beside the best of them in manly sport and recreation. When the children come rushing into the parlour, pitching down their loads of books, and running off with a shout, and crying we have got our vacation, does it not make the blood of parents tingle, and flood their hearts with gratitude and joy? What music is there in the boy's cry that there is no more school! How pleasant to see the girls settling down to their quiet games of playing house and being real mothers, and forgetting they have just escaped from their teacher's control!

How much should vacation do for us! It should bring the boy, who left school pale and weak, back with bright eyes, and ruddy cheeks, and strengthened limbs. It should show us the girl, who before holidays was growing thin and sickly, now full of life and spirit. It should present the spectacle of our boys and girls ready for the tasks of another year. To those who are to return to school no more, what significance is there in the thought of a last vacation! But while it means that the days of childhood are over, and the years of boyish and girlish fun and folly are ended, it is the Pisgah height from which inspiring views of the promised land of trade, or commercial or professional or married life, may be obtained. Many a boy thinks it is all well now that he has not to go to school, but he will soon learn he is exchanging

one form of learning for another. Happy he or she who goes to the task of learning to be useful with a contented heart, determined to make the best of life. For such, there is surely success lying before them in the future, though now it is hid from view.

What a blessed period is vacation for the teacher. How seldom do children, and even parents, think upon the severe labour, upon the expenditure of vitality, upon the sacrificing toil of those whose duty it is to teach the young idea. Yet it is so. A teacher's place is no sinecure. The school master or mistress has a hard and too often a thankless task. Many a one becomes blanched in the cheeks, flaccid in the muscles, and wearied in the brain, because of the exhausting work of the school. To the many toiling teachers in our land who are now so justly recognized as members of a high profession and noble calling, we present warm congratulations on their having reached a period of well-earned rest. We wish them, one and all, a pleasant vacation, and that they may return with a valuable stock of health and mental vigour to be expended in another year upon the responsible duties of their office.

MINISTERIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOME MISSION DEFICIT

Presbytery of Guelph.—Previously reported, \$15; Rev. J. Middlemiss, \$10; in all, \$25.

Presbytery of Hamilton.—Previously reported, \$40; Rev. Jas. Black, \$10; Rev. J. Laing, \$10; Rev. J. G. Murray, \$5; in all, \$65.

The following are the amounts received up to this date from the several Presbyteries:

Quebec.—From seven ministers, \$79.

Montreal.—From twenty-eight ministers, \$304.

Ottawa.—From seven ministers, \$110.

Lanark and Renfrew.—From thirteen ministers, \$96.50.

Brockville.—From two ministers, \$20.

Glengarry.—From seven ministers, \$45.

Kingston.—From two ministers, \$40.

Peterboro.—From fourteen ministers, \$133.

Whitby.—From seven ministers, \$55.

Lindsay.—From four ministers, \$24.

Toronto.—From thirty-five ministers, \$484.

Barrie.—From seven ministers, \$42.

Owen Sound.—From eight ministers, \$74.

Saugeen.—From three ministers, \$25.

Guelph.—From three ministers, \$25.

Hamilton.—From seven ministers, \$65.

Paris.—From ten ministers, \$138.

London.—From one minister, \$25.

Chatham.—From one minister, \$10.

Stratford.—From three ministers, \$39.

Huron.—From two ministers, \$20.

Bruce.—From three ministers, \$30.

The sum of \$1,883 has been contributed by 174 ministers in the Western Section of the Church. It is very earnestly hoped that those who have not yet given will, so far as they are able, follow the example of their brethren, and that members of the Home Mission Committee in those Presbyteries which are represented by only one, or two, or three names will do their best to secure an extension to the list of contributors. If anything like \$46,000 is to be raised for Home Missions during the current year, as the General Assembly has decided (instead of about \$30,000 last year), it can be done only by self-denial and large-hearted liberality on the part of both ministers and people.

D. J. MACDONNELL.

THE bi-centenary of the battle of Drumclog, which was fought on Sabbath, June 11, 1679, between Graham of Claverhouse and the Covenanters led by Hamilton, was celebrated on Sabbath, the 1st ult., by an appropriate sermon preached on the moor by the Rev. Dr. Easton of Darvel. Upwards of two thousand people assembled on the occasion, many from a considerable distance.