

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

MONTREAL.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO SIR FRANCIS HINCKES.—Yesterday afternoon the funeral services in memory of the late Sir Francis Hincks were held in St. George's Church. The Rev. J. H. Dixon, rector of St. Jude's, preached, taking for his text, Romans v. 12. The preacher said that those assembled in the church had met under very sad circumstances. A great man had been cut down by a terrible disease. The extreme gravity of the present crisis in our city and its urgency, compels me to allude to the disease which has touched St. Jude's as a congregation so closely, by causing us the loss of Sir Francis Hincks by death. Our city has passed and is passing through a terrible time of trial. Our difficulties are not over. The hardest battles have still to be fought out. We have not seen the worst of it yet. I feel thankful that by the disinterested action of the press, public opinion has been thoroughly aroused to take the proper action. I say disinterested advisedly, because I believe that the press has been unfairly attacked. Montreal enjoys as pure and independent a press as any city. The press of Montreal is sound on all moral questions. I thank God that the Lieutenant-Governor has had the firmness to promulgate a stringent law on the subject of vaccination and isolation. I thank God that his worship the mayor, the Provincial board and the local board, and the clergy of all denominations, including the clergy, the medical men and the men of education and influence, as a body of a class of our citizens who have a deep-seated prejudice against vaccination are united on this question. The question is one of education. Let us say no unkind word. It can do no good and may do much harm. The speaker urged that calmness and patience should be united to firmness, while the question of education was carried on. Differences of opinion on all great questions were natural; differences were sure to exist always, but it is well to sink old differences of political and religious beliefs at the graves of the great men of our country, acknowledging their uprightness of character and honesty of purpose. Sir Francis Hincks, the man who was twice Finance Minister, once Premier of Canada, and twice a Governor under the British Crown, was one whose life was eminently useful. His portrait will be handed down among the historical ones of Canada, as one of our greatest ornaments. He was a Canadian, yet was truly British in all that he did. The eloquent tributes of many of the leading bankers and commercial men of this city, the resolutions passed by them, and their decision to erect to his memory a monument, showed the appreciation in which his public career has been held.

It has been brought under our notice in this diocese, the candidates for the sacred ministry are seldom or ever ordained at the Ember seasons. This is a pity, both on the ground of Church order and the spiritual benefit that doubtless arises from the general act of the communion of saints, the Catholic Church. And, however circumstances may be pleaded as compelling, one cannot but remark, that circumstances did not thus seemingly ignore the Ember days in former Episcopates in this diocese.

In these days when restlessness and change are seen on every hand, and too often in an unfortunate manner exhibited in the relationship existing between pastor and people, it is pleasing to witness and pleasing to record instances of such strong attachment on the part of the flock to the shepherd as disclosed itself in the parish of Bolton Centre, when a report was published, that the incumbent of that parish, the Rev. F. H. Clayton, was seeking another sphere of work. On the occasion of a public gathering lately, the Bishop being present, the loving attachment showed itself by audible and visible signs of grief, until the Bishop in his address, protested to the people that it would be by no action on his part that Mr. Clayton should leave. It lay with them, the people, to bring their powers, whether by means of increased contributions, or otherwise, to keep him among them. Since that meeting, the people of three congregations are coming forward with great spontaneity to make their pastor's stipend, such as that on that score he will have no cause to leave. Bolton Centre itself promising to raise as its quota, an amount equal to what the whole mission raised last year, and more; and the other sections have promised to redouble their amounts. When we consider that this is a mission where the incumbent has faithfully included

Church principles, having no fear and seeking no favour, and has never lowered the flag to popular opinion, on any matter, where the customs and doctrines of the Church were reproached or aspersed, and when we remember that there were various preachers of various sects there when he entered on his work fourteen years ago, and that now there is but one, surely one must say this is indeed success. Unflinching enunciation of Church doctrine, Bible truth, when presented with the guile of a serpent and the harmlessness of the dove, does not always alienate or destroy, as some think who for their part advocate colourlessness of doctrine and compromise of claims as the more successful method.

ONTARIO.

CLARENDON MISSION.—A Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held in the hall at Ompah Sunday last. The platform being decorated with choice fruits, flowers and vegetables, with sheaves of corn on either side. An appropriate sermon was preached by the clergyman, and the Holy Communion afterwards administered. Church work is brightening up in this mission, but it is a cause of much regret that there is no church where the services could be carried out so much more reverently than they ever can be in a public hall.

THE UPPER OTTAWA MISSION.—From two sources we have recently learned some interesting facts as to the simultaneous growth of settlements and congregations in a portion of Canada to which we have referred as the second or midland great uninhabited tract of the Dominion. The region in question begins a little to the north-west of Pembroke and passes north of the great lakes to the borders of the prairie region. A little pamphlet, issued by the Rev. Forster Bliss, and which has the recommendation of the Bishop of Ontario, gives a cheering account of the progress, industrial and religious, of the eastern end of that region. It is entitled "The Upper Ottawa Mission." As it is addressed to Church of England people, and is an appeal for sympathy and help, we need do no more than call the attention of our readers of that denomination to its needs, assured that they will deal generously with it. It is now three years since Mr. Bliss went to Matawa, which at that time had a population of 700, the majority being French Canadians. On consulting a map, he found that the mission of which he was to take charge, from the centre contained nine townships, and was 140 miles in length. Before the close of the year 1882 he had a little church built and a congregation of sixty-five. The village is described as picturesque, being situated at the confluence of the Matawa with the Ottawa. In 1885, the population had increased to 1,000, the growth being chiefly due to French accessions. There is a Roman Catholic Church, capable of seating from 500 to 600 persons, and this year a hospital and convent were built at a cost of \$10,000. Stations were founded by Mr. Bliss, at Sturgeon Falls and North Bay, sixty and forty miles respectively distance from Matawa, both in the Nipissing district. At both places small but handsome churches have been built, but, owing to the excess of work, Mr. Bliss had to request the Bishop of Algoma to take that part of the mission off his hands.

TORONTO.

Diocesan Missionary Meetings.—At a meeting of the Rural Deans, held at the Synod office, on the 16th ult. three rural deaneries, viz: East Simcoe, Haliburton, and Peterboro, elected to hold their missionary meetings, if possible, during the autumn. The remaining five, viz: Durham, Peel, East York, West Simcoe, and North and West York, preferred holding them in January, 1886. It was decided to invite the following gentlemen to act as deputations at the various meetings throughout the deaneries, viz: The Revs. R. A. Bilkey, C. H. Shortt, W. C. Bradshaw, W. F. Swallow, S. Jones, T. Paterson, R. H. Starr-Jones, C. H. Marsh, Dr. Carry, C. E. Thompson, C. E. Whitcombe, A. W. Spragge, and S. Weston Jones. It was thought that only one of the clergyman named should attend each meeting. As far as possible, fields were assigned to the several deputation speakers, and after discussing other arrangements, the meeting broke up.

ALLISTON AND WEST ESSA.—We are informed that the Rev. Alfred Fletcher has resigned the above mission, and accepted the Mission of Pasadena in the Diocese of Southern California, vacant by the return of the Rev. A. W. Macnab to St. Catharines. Pasadena is close to San Gabriel, the mission of the Rev. A. G. L. Trew, formerly of this diocese. We hope that the change may have a beneficial effect upon Mr.

Fletcher's health, which, we regret to hear, has been rather delicate for some time. He is at present at Unionville, and expects to leave for the scene of his future labours about October 1st. Previous to his removal from Alliston the members of the two congregations showed their appreciation of his services by presenting him with a well filled purse and the following address:—

To the Rev. Alfred Fletcher, M.A.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—It is with mingled feelings of sorrow and relief that we have learned of your contemplated departure from our midst to the distant shore of California. At any time the severing of the ties that bind a minister to the people over which the Master has placed him, cannot be brought about without pain; but you have been so faithful in the discharge of your duties, and untiring in your efforts to forward our spiritual good, that the cords of affection have become unusually strong, and the snapping of them now leaves a wound at our hearts which cannot soon be healed. You took charge of this mission at a time when it was torn by sectional strife, and greatly weakened by long neglect; but, in the five years of your ministry among us, you have laboured so successfully that differences have been allayed, Church principles deepened, and we have been taught to labour for her benefit rather than for the furtherance of our own private opinions, and now a healthier tone prevails, than formerly existed. It was with deep sorrow that we witnessed your serious illness nearly two years ago, and though it pleased our merciful Father to spare you to us that we might enjoy the benefit of your pastoral care a little longer, yet it has not been with great apprehension that we have observed your health has never been fully restored to its former vigour; and though your labours have been as zealous as ever, yet we cannot but see that it has been at the expense of your health, and we have felt for some time that a change was inevitable, if your life is to be spared, and your usefulness continued. It is, therefore, with a sense of relief we have heard that the new field of labour upon which you are about to enter is situated in a district and under a climate exceptionally suited to restore your weakened health to its normal condition. And though we shall deeply regret your departure, especially as the distance is so great as to entirely forbid our seeing you again until, we hope, you return to your native country, yet we cannot fail to see in it the directing hand of Providence, and are led to believe that the Master has yet much work for you to do in his vineyard. In the new home to which you are about to move, we hope you will continue to cherish the memory of your Canadian friends, especially those in Alliston and West Essa, as we shall undoubtedly do yours and that of your amiable partner, and we will ever entertain the hope that your health being restored, you will return and resume your labours in this diocese. Should the Providence of God order it otherwise, we will still look forward to a future meeting when pastor and flock shall be gathered round the heavenly throne, never again to be parted by sickness or death. As a small token of our affection we tender to you this purse, and assure you that though the tie which binds us together is so soon to be severed, yet our hearts shall go with you, and our prayer shall ascend up on high for you and your family, that the blessing of God may rest upon you so that you may prosper both in body and soul. Signed on behalf of the congregations of Alliston and West Essa. Wm. C. Hard, V. S., W. Wright, Reeve, John Agnew and others.

Alliston, Sept. 11th, 1885.

CHURCH AND STATE IN CANADA.—It may seem strange, but it is true, that the connection between "Church and State" in Canada is as close in some respects as in England—that is the connection between the State and each religious organization. There is a suit now going on in Osgoode Hall by which the State is called upon to decide which of two bodies of religionists according to their standard is the true Church. There is a property at stake and that property is the right only of those who are orthodox Quakers. Now there are two sects of people, who severally claim this property on the ground of orthodoxy. The State has to decide which view of certain doctrinal matters is the real, genuine orthodox one. So these worthy folk, whose specialty has been the repudiation of all State authority in religious affairs, is now in the humiliating position of being compelled to ask the State to decide from their stand point which is the true faith, or we might say, to declare which is the true Church and only a schism! The whirligig of time brings its revenges, of which this of Quakers discussing doctrinal before a magistrate in a State court is indeed a very curious instance.

VISIT OF ARCHDEACON FARRAR.—The visit of Archdeacon Farrar to Toronto, was taken advantage of to secure from him a public lecture and address, the former on "Browning the Poet," in Shaftesbury Hall, the other "On the special temptations of young