

promised two prizes for the next competition. A Teacher's Bible was presented to Mr. R. G. Murray in recognition of his faithful labours in connection with the school.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

SHERBROOKE.—St. Peters.—On Sunday morning, 23rd June, the solemn rite of Confirmation was administered to 52 persons by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. The service was very impressive. An earnest address was given by the Bishop, which must have left a deep impression in the minds of all who listened to it. After the Confirmation service Holy Communion was administered, at which the newly confirmed and a large number of the congregation participated. The Bishop acted as celebrant, assisted by the Rector and the Curate.

Church of the Advent.—This church in East Sherbrooke was duly consecrated on the afternoon of the same day by the Bishop of Quebec. Among the clergy present were: the Venerable Archdeacon Roe, D.D., Rev. Prof. Allnatt, Rev. Principal Adams, Rev. Canon Thornloe and Rev. Prof. Watkins. The sermon was preached by Arch. Roe from Exodus xii, 26: "What mean ye by this service," and was most appropriate and instructive. He pointed out what a church ought to be, and also what it ought not to be. He said this Church was now what it was not before, it was now *God's House*; it was now handed over to Him through the Bishop, and it was not to be used for any other purpose than for the worship of the Creator of all things. The reason why it was not consecrated before was because it was in debt, and we cannot give to another what does not belong to us. It was now free from debt, and to-day it was formally handed over to God. The church was packed to the doors, many being unable to gain admittance. The church is a handsome little edifice, and has, through the exertions of the ladies of the congregation been newly carpeted throughout.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

SYNOD MEETING.—Continued.

Bishop's Address.—His Lordship in the concluding part of his charge referred to the Montreal Theological College, which he said "had passed beyond the feeble, uncertain steps of infancy and awaits with confidence the action of the Provincial Synod (touching degrees) to take its place with the most dignified, as well as useful, of the teaching bodies. We are indebted to that generous and helpful Society, the S. P. C. K., for the gift of several scholarships which enables us to assist promising and pious young men to devote themselves to preparation for the ministry, with a thoroughness which might not otherwise be possible.

Under the fostering care of Dr. Henderson the College has greatly prospered. It has a handsome building, thanks to our kind friend, Mr. Gault. It is incorporated; has a constitution; a small—a very small—endowment; a constantly increasing library; and other valuable possessions."

The reference to the building raises the old question of the title deeds, which many will remember contains a clause whereby the property was given—not to the Bishop of the Diocese and his successors, for the use of the College—but to three laymen, who were made the judges of the doctrinal teaching, and who if dissatisfied therewith as not conforming to their idea of what "Evangelical" teaching should be, might turn Bishop, Principal and students out. The statement of his Lordship that the College "has a handsome building, &c., implies some change in this objectionable feature of the Trust Deed; but so far no deed making such change has been registered in the Registry office here. It is sincerely to be hoped that this may be done, and that the College may be made *Diocesan* in truth and not merely in name; and may be entitled, alike by its freedom from any limi-

tation in its trust deeds, as by the breadth and comprehensiveness of its teaching, to the support and sympathy of all Churchmen.

His Lordship also referred to *The Dunham Ladies' College*, another institution not diocesan but yet more than *parochial* or private. He said: "I am pleased to be able to state that the Dunham Ladies' College is open and doing good work again. It is carried on at present as a private enterprise; but in the interest of the Church. The excellent ladies who have undertaken this most useful branch of church extension, claim our sympathy and support, and richly deserve all the thanks and encouragement which it is in our power to bestow."

His Lordship also noted approvingly *THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY*, which had taken firm hold in many of the parishes and cannot fail to be beneficial morally and spiritually wherever established.

Under the head of "*Losses by death*," the Bishop in affectionate terms mentioned the Revs. Canon Belcher, Canon du Vernet, J. Merrick, W. D. Evans and Judge Armstrong and C. J. Brydges, Esq., and concluded his charge as follows:

"I will not close without a word of thanks to those members of the Church, lay and clerical, who have helped to maintain the mission fund in its present efficient state. We still endeavor to extend the Church's teaching to the outskirts of the diocese, especially on the Gati-neau and the Upper Ottawa rivers, and this, of course, we could not do without men and means. I feel sure, thank God, you will not relax your efforts in home mission work, the very life blood of our own existence. On it our health and strength, as a diocese, depend. In each new station, nay more, in each occasional service, held, as opportunity allows, we see the beginning of a new life, the offspring of your own faith, the child of fervent prayer and wise love to Jesus Christ our Saviour. Let us continue to carry the Gospel, as committed to us, wherever the way is open, that our laborers in the spiritual field, may gather a rich harvest in due time, in accordance with the promise of that God Whose word never faileth. I will detain you no longer. May the Spirit of God direct and bless the work of this session."

Lay Helpers' Association—In connection with the Diocesan Synod, the Lay Helpers' Association held its first annual meeting in the Synod Hall on the evening of 18th, ult., the Rt. Rev. Bishop Bond presiding.

After devotional exercises His Lordship said if we were to enquire what one thing was most needful at the present moment in the way of organization, it would at once be said something to unite the laymen together with a view to their working in the Church. The Lay Helpers' Association sprang into existence at the right moment, and it seemed to have speedily attained wonderful growth and usefulness; but he hoped that it was not growing too swiftly, notwithstanding that some were rather discouraged that it was not making rapid progress.

The secretary, Mr. J. W. Marling, to whose unwearied exertions and earnest efforts existence of the Society is largely due, read the committee's first report, which dealt with a period of five months only, the first meeting of the Association having been held on the 29th January last, when 26 members signed the roll. The number at present qualified for membership was 50, but 12 of these had not signed the roll. They were made up as follows:—St. George's 25; Christ Church, 5; St. James the Apostle, 3; St. Thomas, 1; St. Jude, 4; St. Matthias, 6; Hochelaga, 2; St. Martin's, 1; St. Luke, 1; Waterloo, 1, and Redempteur, 1. The members of the Association were engaged as under: Catechist lay readers, 8; parish visitation, 1; Sunday school and Bible class teachers, 5; temperance work, 16; Y.M.C.A., 7; hospital work, 5; Sunday school superintendent, 1; chorister, 2; wardens and lay delegates, 4, and mission work, 1.

Arrangements were in progress for assisting the chaplain at services in the jails, and for visiting the prisoners and assisting them on their discharge to procure honest employment. The committee appealed to their fellow-churchmen to join the Association, and so assist in some specific work.

Rev. Dr. Norton, Rector of Montreal, moved a resolution to the effect that the meeting having heard the report, rejoiced at the formation of that Association, recognizing the necessity for its existence in the economy of the diocese. He congratulated the Association upon the work it had already accomplished, and said the clergy had no jealousy of it and had no fear as to the results; their only feeling was one of joy and thankfulness that the movement had had so auspicious a beginning. A lay association was absolutely necessary to supplement the clerical work. He considered that association as a strong and cheering evidence of the vitality of the mission spirit and evangelical zeal in the diocese.

The motion was seconded by Mr. H. J. Mudge, the President of the Association.

Mr. E. Parnell submitted a resolution that the fields now opening for the active work of the Church, which it was impossible for the clergy unaided to meet, furnished an urgent call to lay members of the Church to come forward to offer themselves for Christian work.

Mr. R. H. Buchanan seconded the motion, and contended that the Church had not now the same hold upon young men as it had twenty years ago, and pointed out that the way to retain the youth who were connected with the Church was to enlist them as early as possible in some branch of work in the Christian Church.

The Revs. Percy Chambers and H. Gomery having made a few remarks, Dr. Davidson moved a vote of thanks to the Bishop, and in doing so spoke of the need of those who aimed at being lay readers receiving a proper training for their work, so that neither by their acts or words they should in the least possible degree do harm to the cause they were endeavoring to aid. He likewise urged that there should be a careful preparation for the services themselves for example in the matter of reading the prayers and lessons, etc., by the readers before they appeared in public, and in conclusion he suggested that lay readers should adhere to the rule of reading sermons prepared or approved by their Rector or the Bishop and not attempt to preach. Some lay readers forgot their position and invaded the office of the priest and pastor. Close adherence to the rule of reading a sermon from some good author, would ultimately have a far better effect in the upbuilding of a congregation than if the lay helper spoke his own words.

The Bishop having acknowledged the compliment, the meeting separated.

PERSONAL.—Before the adjournment of the Synod of the Diocese the following resolution was unanimously and most cordially adopted, the Bishop adding his endorsement thereto:—

Moved by Rev. Canon Anderson, seconded by Major E. L. Bond. "That the best thanks of this Synod are due in a special manner, and are hereby tendered, to Dr. L. H. Davidson, Q.C., for his much prized, able and devoted customary attention, at the expense of much self-sacrifice on his own part, both of his private and of his professional interests, to all the interests of this Synod and of the Diocese at large, as manifested conspicuously by the intelligent advice and valued assistance habitually and perseveringly given from the commencement to the close of every session, and especially at this session, to all the varied affairs and ever widening interests of the Synod, and of the Diocese at large."

The resolution took Dr. Davidson entirely by surprise, but was by him gratefully acknowledged.