

more hearty services, or larger congregations, while the number who received the Holy Communion seemed to be larger than on any previous occasion. The Bishop assisted the Venerable the Archdeacon of Ottawa, and the Rev. W. J. Muckleston at Christ Church. Strangers in the city spoke in high terms of the decorations at this Church. Handsome as they always are, I think it must be confessed that this year, the decorations at Christ Church were handsomer than ever. An increased interest in the glorious Christmas festival was exhibited by some of the denominations in the city this Christmas, indicating a truer conception of the great festival in the minds of dissenters and not only social gatherings, but religious services are now more and more characterizing its observance.

THE Bishop recently held two special confirmations, when he administered the rite to twenty-eight candidates at Hillier, and to eleven candidates at Wellington.

THE secular press has been making some impertinent criticisms on the recent action of Dr. Lyster, Dean of Ontario, in dismissing Dr. Wilson, his curate. Dr. Wilson may well apply the adage "Save me from my friends, I can take care of my enemies." The newspapers and their numerous correspondents, by their violent philippics, and their sarcastic references to the Dean, are only doing Dr. Wilson injury. The Dean has been petitioned to reinstate Dr. Wilson as curate of St. George's Cathedral. The petitions, three in number, did not plead any justification of Dr. Wilson's course with reference to the so-called Salvation Army, or state any grounds upon which the Dean could re open the subject, so that he felt compelled to decline acceding to the request. It has since been stated by some of the signers to the petitions that they did not intend to condone Dr. Wilson's course, nor to disapprove of the Dean's action in dismissing him, but simply wished to give Dr. Wilson a *locus penitentiae*. An address enclosing \$100 in gold has been forwarded to Dr. Wilson by the members of his Bible Class, as an evidence of their good wishes.

A RECENT bazaar at Kingston in aid of St. Paul's Church, has attracted wide spread notice, and has given rise to a vast deal of comment upon the subject of church bazaars in general. The ladies adopted the plan of holding an election. Two prominent politicians, both Roman Catholics, were nominated, a chair to be given to the one receiving the largest number of votes. The contest was a purely political one, and was conducted with great good humour on both sides, till towards the close of the poll, when the excitement in regard to the result became very great and an unfortunate disagreement arose owing to the friends of the disappointed candidate disputing the correctness of the return. It is to be hoped the time is not far distant when churches will banish lotteries and everything of that kind, and do the work of the Church in a direct way.

THE Rev. Rural Dean Lewis, who has been appointed by the Executive Committee to collect funds towards the erection of a Diocesan See House at Kingston has entered upon his work at that city. The following gentlemen have subscribed \$100 each towards the fund. The Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick, speaker of the House of Commons; Dr. Lyster, Dean of Ontario; Mr. John Muckleston, Dr. J. A. Henderson, R. T. Walkem, Q. C., and the Rev. A. Spencer. It is, I believe, understood that subscribers to this fund, have three years to pay their subscriptions in. Members of the various congregations should respond liberally to the appeal. It is stated that a country clergyman has offered to contribute \$200 to this fund, but it is hoped that some of our wealthy churchmen will contribute yet larger sums.

On Sunday the 23rd December, the appeal for support to the newly organized scheme for Domestic and Foreign mission work was read in the

Churches throughout this Diocese, as in all the other dioceses in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. No doubt the appeal of the Board will meet with a generous response from those members of the Church who are in a position to give special contributions.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

ORDINATION.—On the fourth Sunday in Advent, the Lord Bishop held a special ordination at St. James' Cathedral. One gentleman was ordained Deacon and two were advanced to the priesthood. The deacon has been appointed curate of Cambay where for some time past he has laboured as Lay Reader under the charge of the Rev. J. E. Cooper. His name is Henry Softley, and he was for a considerable period employed in Toronto as City Missionary. The deacons ordained priests was the Rev. E. J. Harper, curate of Grafton, and Rev. J. Scott Howard, of St. Matthew's Church, Riverside. The Bishop preached on the occasion from 1 Thess. v. 12. 13. The attendance was not large, the day being extremely cold and disagreeable.

HASTINGS,—*St. George's Church*.—The annual concert and Christmas tree for the Sunday School was held in the Town Hall on Friday evening. The audience was very good, the little ones thoroughly delighted with their gifts, and the programme consisting of vocal and instrumental music, songs, glees and recitations was choice and well rendered. The net proceeds of the entertainment was very gratifying and the success of the whole affair must have pleased the originators very much.

LINDSAY,—*St. Paul's*.—It has been definitely decided to erect a new church here on the present site. As the ground is really the property of the General Purposes Committee of the Synod, having been deeded to them some 30 years ago. We fear this is a mistake and may cause serious trouble. Though the property is valuable and the site excellent it might save serious inconvenience and annoyance in future, were the congregation disposed to look even yet for another location. It seems the brick has been secured and the contractors are ready to proceed with the work.

FENELON FALLS.—A dramatic entertainment by young amateurs, members of the congregation, is to take place here in aid of the Church on the 4th January. The young people have been diligently practising for the occasion for weeks past and a great deal of interest has been manifested in the undertaking. The net proceeds will go to purchase chandeliers for the Church. We hope it will prove satisfactory to the promoters.

TEMPERANCE.—This work goes on apace. The Secretary has opened an office in the Synod Rooms. Here all supplies in the way of Temperance Literature will be had in future, and Mr. Merser who is extremely obliging, and makes a capital Secretary will readily respond to all enquiries.

A new branch has been started in the parish of Mulnur, of which Rev. C. H. Marsh is the missionary. Although recently established it numbers over ninety members.

At Christ Church, York Mills, a suburb of Toronto, the incumbent, Rev. T. W. Paterson, has organized a society consisting of thirty-four members.

THE Festive season passed off very pleasantly. The congregations everywhere are reported as very good, the offertories excellent, the decorations elaborate and tasteful, the music grand, inspiring and impressive.

At the Cathedral, Canon Dumoulin preached, his theme being the Mission of the Messiah. The music under charge of Mr. Howard was very superior. The Te Deum was by Marsh, the anthem, "For unto us a child is born," from the "Mes-

siah," the organ voluntaries, the pastoral symphony and Beethoven's "Adazzio."

At Grace Church solos were sung by Mrs. Beard and Mr. Pearce. Rev. D. M. Carroll read the prayers, and Rev. J. P. Lewis preached from the words "Jesus was born."

THE Christmas service at All Saints' was well attended. The building was beautifully decorated. The choir sang appropriate carols, hymns and anthems. Dr. Scadding aided the Rector. The sermon was preached by Rev. A. H. Baldwin, from the text, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."

At St. Bartholomew's Church, Rev. G. T. Taylor preached from Gal. iv. 4. "When the fullness of time was come God sent forth His Son to redeem them that were under the law." The building with its tasteful decorations showed that both hand and heart contribute to fitly the joyousness of the great Christmas festival.

Professor Clarke preached at St. George's Church, dwelling mainly upon the duties of Christians at this season. Mrs. Anderson took the solo in the anthem, Mr. Schueb in the hymn "Tho' poor the chamber." The attendance was large.

At the Church of the Redeemer, there was a great number of communicants. The offertory amounted to \$175. The Rector, Rev. Septimus Jones preached an appropriate sermon.

Province of Rupert's Land.

INCLUDING THE DIOCESES OF RUPERT'S LAND, SASKATCHEWAN, MOOSONEE, ATHABASCA, ASSINIBOIA, & SOUTHERN ATHABASCA

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND.

Meeting of the Provincial Synod Committee to consider changes in the Constitution &c.—At the late meeting of the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land, a representative committee from all the Dioceses was appointed to consider what changes in the Constitution were necessary in view of the altered condition of the country. It was not expected that the members of the Committee from the distant dioceses could be present at the meetings, but all recommendations will be submitted to them, and the meeting of the Provincial Synod in 1884 will consider them. The Committee met in Winnipeg, Dec. 13th, the Ven. A. Cowley, D. D., Archdeacon of Cumberland, Prolocutor in the chair. There were present Archdeacon Pinkham, Canon O'Meara, Rev. O. Fortin, Rev. E. S. W. Pentreath, Messrs. C. J. Brydges, and W. Leggo, Archdeacon Pinkham was elected Secretary. An informal discussion then took place on the prospects and necessity of a union of the Ecclesiastical Provinces in the Dominion, on which there was a variety of opinion, all agreeing, however, on the desirability of forming a united body in some way, the general view being in favour of a federation of the Ecclesiastical Provinces, rather than the formation of one huge Province from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It was then moved by Mr. Brydges and seconded by Mr. Leggo, and resolved:—

"That a committee be appointed to get together all the Constitutions of Provincial Synods that can be obtained, together with the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, and to suggest a draft constitution for consideration of the full committee, the sub-committee to consist of Ven. Archdeacon Pinkham, Very Rev. Dean Grisdale, Rev. O. Fortin, and the mover and seconder.

"That a committee be appointed to consider the question of Canons and to suggest drafts for discussion.

That sub-committees consist of Rev. Canon O'Meara, Rev. E. S. W. Pentreath, and Messrs. Mulock, Howell and Spencer."

The Prolocutor was moved a member, ex-officio of each of the sub-committees.

The meeting then adjourned.