

HUNTINGDON.—St. John's Church here was re-opened on Sunday week, after complete renovation in the interior. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese was present and took part in the services. The work has been done in accordance with designs and specifications by Messrs. Castle & Sons, Montreal, and the Church is now one of the most tasteful in the rural parts of this Diocese. At the opening service in the morning the Chancel and Holy Table were decorated with flowers and floral cross. The Rev. H. Gomery, the Incumbent, said Prayers and the Lord Bishop of the Diocese preached and was the celebrant at the Communion. In the afternoon a Litany Service was held, choral in character, and at which there was a large attendance. Mr. Gomery in his address referred to the year 1841, when the Bishop of Quebec sent the first Pastor, Rev. Mr. Panther, and remarked that in those days 'more gathered within the walls of the old Church than now do within those of the new; and it seemed as if the first settlers appreciated more the consolation of the Gospel and made greater sacrifices in order to be present at the Church services.' He spoke of the members living in New Ireland, traversing swamp and mire to get to Church, and young men and women coming fifty miles in order to be confirmed by the then Bishop of the Diocese, the Right Rev. Dr. Mountain. The present Bishop of the Diocese, Right Rev. Dr. Bond, (ordained in 1840 for similar work in the adjoining Mission) would give them personal information in regard to these early days.

The Bishop then delivered an address in which he gave many interesting reminiscences of his work some fifty years ago in this neighborhood. His Mission field then extended from St. John to Hinchinbrooke, with centre at Russelltown Flats. He said: "The amount of earnestness then shown, put to shame many of the present day, and the settlers of that time exhibited deep, intense gratitude for our labors."

He formed a class of 46 men, women and children with a view to Baptism, and after six months' preparation administered the rite on two successive days. The meetings were generally held in schoolhouses, and he remembered how Gentle's was crowded to overflowing, people standing outside. Often on his rounds he was kept up to two and three in the morning in houses wherein he lodged, by persons waiting to ask questions. I was forced to think to be able to give satisfactory answers. With Mr. Dawes he had assisted in organizing 13 Sunday schools in Hemmingford alone. His experience in dealing with the people of the new settlements taught him the necessity of seeing that people understood what they heard and of giving not a sophistical but a solid answer to every question put in earnest; and parents should look well to it, that they should so answer their children. Mr. Dawes and himself were sent out to ask the question, 'Are there any here who wish the ministrations of the Church of England?' In 18 months we had three hundred communicants. How did two men effect that? It was done by every one brought under our influence going forth to bring others in, and he did not believe in the genuineness of the conversion of anyone who is content to enjoy the divine blessing without seeking to bring others under its influence.

After the offertory, which was for the improvements of the Church, Mr. Gomery paid a warm tribute to Mr. Jennings' services as superintendent of the Sunday school for the past five years and expressed the regret of the congregation at his removal. The Bishop followed in a few earnest sentences in praise of him and of all who labor for the improvement of children.

In the evening, the Bishop preached at St. Paul's, Herdman.

FREELIGHTSBURG.—The consecration of the Bishop Stewart Memorial Church in this place,

which is fixed for the 29th Sept. inst., is a matter of more than ordinary and local interest. The Church replaced, the first in the Eastern Townships, which had been erected in 1808 by the Hon. and Rev. C. J. Stewart, who afterwards became Bishop of the Diocese of Quebec, then embracing all the Dioceses of British North America. The church so erected was consecrated on the 29th Jan., 1809, when a multitude of persons, drawn doubtless from hundreds of miles around about came to witness the opening of this the first place of worship, (in Mr. Stewart's own words), 'through this whole region of country.' It was largely through the generosity of Mr. Stewart that this and another church in St. Armand East was erected. This church was a plain wooden building with little pretention to, yet by no means devoid of, churchly characteristics, and it served the purposes of the parish until 1880, a period of seventy-one years, during the Rectorship of Mr. Stewart himself, his immediate successor, the Rev. Dr. Reid, and the present third Rector of the parish, Rev. Canon Davidson, in part. Many were the memories connected with, and deep was the affection felt by the people in the parish of St. Armand East for, this old building, and for many years after Canon Davidson entered upon his Rectorate, though desirous of having an edifice more suited to the requirements of public worship and more in keeping with the ability of the people, he was unable to induce his parishioners to assent to its removal. The present building was begun in 1880, and is one in appointments, size and style, probably unequalled outside the city of Montreal, solid in every particular without sham of any sort. The windows are filled with stained glass; the interior is finished in brick with open gothic roof, and the chancel is capacious and churchlike. The erection of such a building, almost entirely without outside aid, taxed to the fullest extent the power and capacity, not alone of the parishioners but of the Rector; and, indeed, had it not been for the ceaseless energy and perseverance of Canon Davidson, the building would, in all probability, never have been commenced, and when commenced would have probably been of very different proportions, and have occupied much greater time than was taken in connection with the present one. It was opened, almost as complete as it is to day, in 1884, and with but a few dollars indebtedness upon it. This has now been removed, and it is to be formally consecrated and set apart for the service of Almighty God, in accordance with the Order of the Church of England, on the approaching Festival of St. Michael and All Angels.

It is interesting to note in connection with this parish that during a period of probably ninety years, there have been but three Rectors, an exceptional thing in the history of the Church of England in this new land. Mr. Stewart was succeeded by the Rev. James Reid, instituted as Rector in 1815, who continued in uninterrupted possession for nearly fifty years, during which time he held the settled affection of his people and gained distinction in the Church; the degree of Doctor of Divinity being conferred upon him by Bishop's College, Lennoxville, and also being appointed a Canon to Christ Church Cathedral by the late Bishop Falford. He is to this day lovingly remembered by many a one within the bounds of the parish of St. Armand East. In 1864, on his demise, the Rev. J. Burrows Davidson, M.A., (Bishop's Col., Len., and McGill Col., Montreal), who had been his assistant for some time preceding his death, was chosen as his successor and third Rector of the parish, and has continued in occupation thereof from that till this, in like manner securing the affection and confidence of his people. He has been since the formation of the Diocesan Synod a prominent and leading member, and has also received from the Bishop of the Diocese that mark of approval which is indicated by his appointment

to one of the Canonries of Christ Church Cathedral, in like manner as his predecessor had been by Bishop Falford. He is well known in the Church as an exceedingly able writer and thoughtful preacher and an indefatigable worker; as is evidenced by the permanent and abiding monument created in the erection of this Church, costing when finished, (including the 1,100 pipe organ by Warren of Toronto), about \$15,000. As might be expected, special preparation has been made for the consecration services, and it is expected that a very large number of people will be in attendance. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese will be present, and probably a number of the clergy.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

LEEDS RURAL DEANERY.—The regular meeting of this Chapter was held at Gananoque on Sept. 8th and 9th, but owing to the fair which was then in full blast, and other engagements, the attendance at the open evening meetings was very poor, a state of affairs the Rector alluded to in strong terms in his sermon the following Sunday evening. There were six visiting clergymen who had long conferences on Church subjects of interest to the diocese. During their stay here the clergymen were most hospitably entertained by Mrs. Auston.—*Gananoque Journal*.

KINGSTON.—Canon White died on the 16th Sept., at his residence, from apoplexy. Deceased was 57 years of age. He was ordained in 1857 by Rev. Dr. Strachan, Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto, and was appointed to the parish of Camden East. In 1863 he was removed to Osgoode, and two years later promoted to Smith's Falls. After ten years' service he was transferred to Iroquois, where he remained until June, 1891, ill-health causing his resignation. He removed to Kingston a month ago.

News has been received in Kingston of the death of Dean Lyster, at his brother's estate in Ruthin, Wales, on the 2nd inst. The deceased was Dean of Ontario Diocese and Rector of St. George's Cathedral. He came to Kingston in 1863 and retired, holding his office, in 1885.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

PETERBORO.—The Harvest Festival services in connection with St. John's parish was held on Friday evening, Sept. 18th, when the Church was appropriately decorated with fruit and flowers. The sermon was preached by the Rev. W. H. French, incumbent of Omamee.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. Clement Smith, formerly curate of this parish and presently Rector of one of the churches in London, England, lately visited the scene of his former labors and was warmly received by his friends.

DIOCESE OF NIAGARA.

PORT ROBINSON.—The re-opening of St. Paul's Church after the completion of the work of altering and improving the interior, calls for more than a mere passing notice.

The building dates back to the year 1844, the third year of the incumbency of the late Rev. Dr. Fuller, who was the first Rector of the parish of Thorold and Port Robinson. While Dr. Fuller was in charge of the parish he kept a careful record of the leading events of the two congregations. The book which contains this history is in charge of the present Rector, Rev. P. L. Spencer, who has kindly placed it at our disposal for reference. Believing that an account of the early condition of St. Paul's congregation, and of the first meetings for worship and business held within the church, will prove interesting to our readers, we quote some paragraphs from the parish record. The first describes the service held on the opening day,