

NIAGARA.

Canon Wilberforce, his wife and daughter, who arrived at New York on April 23rd, will visit the Falls very shortly, and proceed towards the west. Their visit in America will be about six weeks.

NEW CANONS.—The Bishop of Niagara has conferred the rank and dignity of canons of Christ church cathedral, upon the following clergymen: Rev. W. Belt, M. A., rector of Burlington; Rev. G. A. Bull, M. A., rector of Stamford; Rev. H. Holland, M. A., rector of St. George's church, St. Catharines; Rev. R. Arnold, A. B., rector of Fort Erie; Rev. A. G. Sutherland, M. A., rector of St. Mark's church, in the city of Hamilton; Rev. C. H. Mockridge, D. D., rector in charge of Christ church, in the city of Hamilton.

HAMILTON.—*St. George's Day.*—The anniversary sermon was preached at St. Thomas' Church in Hamilton, on Sunday, April 24th, by the Rev. E. W. Sibbald, of Belleville, text: "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another." (Gal. v., 13.)

The preacher gave an exhaustive definition of liberty, and shewed the necessity of using restraint and restrictions—personal, social and national—in the working out of true liberty. The principles at the basis of our constitutional liberty, he said, are the principles of our holy religion; therefore, it is necessary, in order that our people may advance in civilisation and all that exalteth a nation, for them to be educated in the principles of the Christian religion. Any system of public education which omits the study of the principles of religion—which excludes the Bible from the schools, because of some offence to a particular class—should be opposed strenuously by all true Englishmen. Brotherly kindness is a quality that is not cultivated as much as it should be. All the social struggles of the day, the struggles between capital and labor, of nihilism and tyranny, of landlord and tenant, might all be peacefully settled by an observance of the golden rule

HAMILTON.—*I. O. O. F.*—On Sunday afternoon, 25th. April, Dr. Mockridge preached to the various city lodges of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in Christ church cathedral on the occasion of their 68th anniversary. There was an attendance of about 800, including a representation from the neighbouring lodges of Dundas. There was likewise a large attendance of the general congregation. The subject of the preacher was the good Samaritan.

Christ Church.—The accounts show total receipts of \$9,799.21, with expenditures as follows: Salaries, \$4,806.16; principal of debt, \$500; interest on debt, \$1,218.75; insurance, \$260; special collection, \$1,718.02; general expenses, \$1,665.29; balance on hand \$180.99; total, \$9,799.21. The names of Dr. MacKelcan, A. Scott Cruikshank, and H. B. Witton, jr., were added to the sidesmen; and a vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. P. D. Orerar for her valuable gift of a beautiful set of altar linen, which was used for the first time, on Easter Sunday. Dr. Mockridge, in acknowledging the graceful words of Mr. Roach in presenting the statement of the accounts, said he was glad to notice the thorough and business like way in which the financial part of the church work had been managed by both Messrs. G. Roach and G. H. Bull, and he expressed the hope that he and the congregation might be permitted to work together harmoniously for a long time.

St. Mark's Church.—Though the attendance at the adjourned meeting of this church was not large, considerable business was done. Canon Sutherland presided. The financial report for the past year showed the receipts to be \$1,649.69, and expenditures 1,725.78, leaving a deficit of \$76.19, a loss of about \$100, compared with last year. The total indebtedness of the church is: Floating liabilities, \$118.94; Episcopal endowment, \$117; mortgage, \$3,400.

St. Thomas' Church.—At the adjourned meeting of the St. Thomas' church vestry, the reports of the wardens and auditors were adopted. These reports showed the total receipts for the past year to have been \$4,808.70, and the total expenditure \$3,774.29, leaving a balance of \$534.41. There was an increase in pew rents of \$211.46; the offertory showed a falling-off to the amount of \$206.84, but the decrease was accounted for by the fact that the period embraced in last year's statement included six Sundays less than the period embraced in the statement of the previous year. The amount of pew-rents in arrear is \$284.01. An increase of 25 per cent in pew rents

will be made in order to meet the expenses of carrying out certain improvements in the church. Negotiations have been completed for paying off the mortgage on the church by means of a new loan at a lower rate of interest by which \$30 per annum will be saved.

ST. CATHARINES.—The Rev. Joseph Fennell has returned from Schenectady, N. Y., but is still invalid. The Rev. James Ardell is his successor at Merriton.

HURON.

LONDON.—The meeting of the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada was held in St. Paul's Church, on Wednesday evening, April 22nd. The meeting was very large, the body of the church being crowded, and there were many in the galleries. The Rector, Rev. Canon Innes, opened the meeting with prayer, and the choir sang an anthem and a number of hymns. His Lordship, the Bishop of Huron, presided. The Bishop, in his opening address, said we live at a crisis when the antagonism between truth and error was more marked than ever. Having referred to the February meetings, he said the time for asking was the mission work a success was past. One might as well ask was the sun a success? He spoke of the devotion shown by thousands, who were ready to go wherever men were wanted and to leave all the dangers of climate in the cause. If the apostles had acted on the plan of limiting their labors to home missions and refused to leave Jerusalem until all the people were converted, Europe would be in the darkness of heathendom to-day.

Christ Church.—His Lordship the Bishop of Huron held a confirmation service in Christ Church, on Sunday evening, April 25th, when the Rector, Rev. Canon Smith, presented twenty-six candidates for the Apostolic rite of confirmation. The bishop addressed the candidates in his wonted impressive manner on the solemn responsibility of the vows they were about to renew. The congregation was very large and the Bishop evidently made a great impression on all present.

HAMBURG.—*St. George's Church.*—Rev. E. Harding, Deanery of Waterloo, was compelled by ill-health to resign his mission and go to Bermuda.

Canadian Church Union.—A public meeting was held in Bishop Cronyn Hall, on Thursday evening, the 23rd instant, of this organization, whose object is to extend the influence of the Church of England in Canada, and to break down any barriers that may exist between the several congregations and individuals, and to unite the whole church as one living and true church as in its primitive days; to enlist the co-operation of the individual members in Church work, and to strengthen the hands of the clergy in every possible way. The union also proposes to take an active interest in educational matters and to disseminate information on church history. The meeting was well attended and was very interesting. The platform was occupied by Revs. Canon Domoulin, Innes, Dr. Mockridge, Principal Fowell, Mrs. Jenkins, Imlach and Danks. The objects of the Union and the need that exists for it were admirably set forth in the addresses, Rev. Dr. Mockridge, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Danks, (president) Rev. Canon Innes, Mr. Imlach, (Secretary) and Rev. Principal Fowell.

FOREIGN.

In giving an account, in London recently, of the China Inland Mission, the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, lately returned from China, said that the last two years had been a time of greater spiritual blessing than any other he could remember. The Cambridge band of young men were doing a grand work. When they arrived at Shanghai people thought they would soon be returning to England, but the fact was Mr. Studd and his comrades were working with faces more radiant than ever.

A drawing-room meeting was held recently at Grosvenor House, by permission of the Duke of Westminster, in support of the Church Building Fund of the Oxford Mission in East London. The Duke of Westminster, and afterward Lord Norton, occupied the chair. Besides a large and influential attendance, sympathetic letters had been received from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Lincoln and Bedford, Canon Liddon, Lord Justice Cotton, the Duke of Newcastle, Viscount Halifax, Lord Hillingdon, and others. Several addresses were made, after which it was unanimously resolved that an appeal be widely circulated to raise the required sum of £3,500 to purchase a site and build a church capable of holding 500 people.

The union of seven parishes in the City of London has just been completed, the largest number ever dealt with under the provisions of the act. They are St. Margaret, Lothbury, St. Bartholomew-by-the-Exchange, St. Christopher-le-Stocks (the two latter were united with St. Margaret at the time of the building of the Bank of England), St. Olave, Jewry, St. Martin Pomeroy, St. Mary Cole-church, and St. Mildred, Poultry. St. Martin was united with St. Olave at the time of the Great Fire; and St. Mary was united with St. Mildred early in this century. In 1871 St. Mildred was demolished for improvements in the Poultry, and the two parishes were then united with St. Olave and St. Martin. Prebendary Ingram, the rector of St. Margaret, is the first rector of the united parishes. The whole of the incomes from the seven benefices will be paid to him, subject to certain charges for the benefit of poor benefices in different parts of the metropolis. The Church of St. Olave, which possesses no architectural merit, is to be pulled down, and so much of the site as is not required for a vestry-room will be sold.

Following the example of the sister universities of Oxford and Cambridge (says the Irish correspondent of Church Bell) the University of Dublin has established a mission of its own in connection with the Church Mission Society. It is called the Fuh-Kien Mission, and operates in a district in China about as large as England and Wales, and with a population of 20,000,000 of souls. During the last ten years about 10,000 persons have been converted to the Christian faith. The recent meeting in support of the mission was presided over by Dr. Salmon, Regius Professor of Divinity. Among the other speakers were the Bishops of Cork and Ossory. The latter said that they had special reasons for carrying out mission work in China—first, because they had neglected her so much in the past; and, secondly, because of the terrible opium trade that they had fastened like a chain around the necks of the Chinese people. An additional effort in the direction of mission work would be a very good way, too, of celebrating the jubilee year of the Queen. The ancient colleges of Ireland were purely missionary institutions—Durrow, Kells, Bangor, etc.; of them then pray that the modern Church of Christ in Ireland might emulate the missionary character and spirit of those ancient days.

The methods of Archdeacon Farler at Magila, in East Africa, deserves imitation at home. He says in *Central Africa of March*: "Last Sunday, after two full services, Geldart had a hundred men in his class preparing for baptism. I had forty chiefs. There are eighty-one names of chiefs on my class-book. The numbers increase rapidly after each week's evangelizing. After the classes they sit in the bazaar and smoke while we sit and talk to them. I do not think anyone can realise the mere physical exhaustion which follows after six hours' steady work of this sort, with only a short interval for breakfast. Then we have full evensong, with sermon and catechising again. In the evening I receive all the Wazungu in my room, and after that I am utterly tired out, for besides the climate, with these people the priest must be in all full services preceptor as well as priest. If he does not lead the singing and keep it bright, it quickly falls dead and flat. He has not only to sing his own part, but the choir's part too, besides superintending and thinking of every detail in the service as well. As soon as he gets out of church he cannot go to the quiet of his study, but he finds the whole of his congregation waiting outside, all expecting a shake of the hand and a few kindly words at least, and this means another long half hour's work on the top of an exhausting service."

The confirmations in the Church of Ireland during the episcopate of the late Archbishop showed an excess of 250 over the annual average of the previous episcopate, and this number has risen to 300 during the last two years. The attendances at the Holy Communion in the united dioceses at the Christmas and Easter festivals shows a similar improvement. The yearly average during Dr. Trench's episcopate was at Christmas 15,072, and at Easter 14,425. Last Christmas it was 15,982 and last Easter 15,873, showing an increase of 860 on the one, and of 1,448 on the other of the festivals. In noting the significance of these facts, the Archbishop of Dublin (Lord Plunket) at his visitation, vindicated the claim of the Church to the title of Church of Ireland, contending that her bishops derive their succession in a direct line from St. Patrick and the bishops that followed him: "Again," he said, "the ancient Church of Ireland was free from Papal control, and was never committed to those dangerous innovations with which Rome has overlaid the primitive Faith. The old Church after passing through a season of bondage and darkness, returned to its former freedom and light; but it remained the old Church still. The new Church that then found place in the land was in reality the Church

of Rome was the novel bishops, s placed the lates."

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