

big very quickly, for I found the latter would no longer fasten around me, and all the buttons had mysteriously disappeared.

A cold north wind was blowing, and while it only imparted health and hardihood to my strong companions, in their Lincoln Suits, it pinched my face and made me shiver all over.

I glanced enviously at the warm green cloaks of the older leaves. Finally I ventured to address my companions.

"Kind friends," I said, "please shelter me a little. I am so cold and miserable, and I have no one to take care of me."

But the proud leaves only tossed their haughty heads, and answered never a word.

Presently, I heard a merry voice say, "O, there you are at last. I thought you were never going to wake up. I have been trying to find you all morning, but those two other leaves would not let me get a glimpse of you."

It was the dear old Sun talking, and as he bent his kindly gaze upon me, I began to feel warm and snug and cosy.

He and the rain were my only friends in those first weeks, for the two large leaves were so greedily, drinking in all the sunshine and moisture that they never condescended to speak to me. After a while they were pretty no longer, for they had drunk so much rain that they became deformed, and one day I found they had fallen to the ground.

As for myself, I grew big and strong and green through the glorious summer weather. I sheltered many other little buds who first opened their eyes to the world, for I remembered how sad and lonely my own childhood had been.

But I really must tell you what happened the other night. It was a beautiful, clear starlight night, and when all the little people were fast asleep in bed, I had a strange little visitor. He was a roguish little fellow, all dressed in white and covered with sparkling gems like crystals. Jack Frost was his name. He carried nothing but a big brush and a box of paints, and with these he quickly changed my old green dress into a gorgeous crimson hue.

I was quite proud of myself next morning, and the wind and I danced so long together that I finally sank exhausted to the ground. Now, I am still lying there, and I am very, very sleepy. I can't keep my eyes open any longer, so good night, little readers, pleasant dreams, for here comes my downy coverlet of snow, and you can't see me any more.

M. E. A.

Rural Deanery of Manitou.

The Rural Decanal Chapter met at Cartwright on October 6th. Divine service was held in the hall, the incumbent, Rev. S. D. Middleton, reading the service. The sermon was preached by the Rural Dean from St. John, xvii, last clause of 11th and v. v. 20 and 21.

The Chapter met for Holy Communion at 8 a. m. October 7th, and met for transaction of business at 10 a. m., the Rural Dean in the chair. After prayers were said by the secretary, the minutes of the previous meeting were read

and confirmed, after which a paper was read by Rev. S. D. Middleton, B. A., on "How to Manage a Parish." The paper dealt chiefly with the relationship which should exist between the minister and his flock. It gave rise to a long and interesting discussion. The Chapter adjourned at 12 o'clock.

Afternoon Session.—The Chapter resumed its work at 1.30 p. m. The Church Monthly was brought up for discussion as to whether we should retain it as a Rural Deanery paper. It was decided to continue the paper for another year, and that the Chapter accept the tender of Mr. D. A. Stewart, of the Pilot Mound Sentinel.

Resolved that 175 centres be ordered at once from England.

A paper was read by the Rev. N. Hewitt, M. A., on "How to Conduct the Different Services of the Church," dealing principally with the office for Holy Communion, Holy Matrimony and Holy Baptism. The Chapter adjourned at 6 p. m.

The Chapter met again at 7:30 p. m.

Woods Brisco: "That the Rev. S. D. Middleton be Rural Deanery Librarian for the coming year."—Carried.

It was resolved that all Sunday School library books belonging to the Rural Deanery Association be collected from the different Sunday Schools, for re-classification at our next Chapter meeting.

Programme was drawn up for next meeting as follows:—

Paper—"On Services of the Church,"—Rev. N. Hewitt.

Paper—"Oral Inspiration,"—Rev. A. W. Woods.

Re classification of Sunday School Libraries.

The Chapter closed its session with a devotional service. The Benediction was pronounced by the Rural Dean.

The Chapter will meet again in Manitou in the 1st week in January, 1898.

Bishop Grisdale, of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, paid his first visit to Medicine Hat last month. He was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Fatt during his stay. Early Sunday morning he drove to Josephsburg, a distance of 35 miles, to consecrate the church there which had recently been erected by the settlers in that locality, under the ministry of Rev. W. Nicolls, of Medicine Hat. There was a good congregation in spite of the very disagreeable weather. The service consisted of the first part of Matins, followed by the form of consecration, by which the building was solemnly set apart for the worship of God. The Bishop gave a most instructive sermon for the occasion, dealing with the meaning of the ceremony, the uses to which the church would be put, and the spirit in which the worshippers should enter into the services.

On Sunday evening the Bishop preached in St. Barnabas' Church from the text "Lord, Thou knowest all things." The sermon was full of earnestness. He asked his hearers to fix that text firmly in their minds, and it would be to the Christian full of comfort, and to the sinner an ever present admonition against erring and sin.

On Monday evening the Bishop was tendered a reception in the reading room, at which he met a number of parishioners of St. Barnabas' Church. The evening was spent sociably. On an impromptu programme there was a violin solo by Mr. Hunt, with Mr. Fatt as accompanist; a vocal solo by Mrs. Robinson, and a piano solo by Miss I. Thornton. The Bishop also gave a short address.

On Monday afternoon a confirmation service was held in the church.

The Bishop left for the east Tuesday morning.