

vestry meeting was held on Easter Monday evening, Rev. Mr. Martin presiding.

The report showed:—Baptisms, 157; confirmed 87; burials 32; marriages 23; number of families 328; receipts of Church \$3,148.94; expenditures of Church \$3,037.76; Sunday school receipts \$859.71; expenditure \$833.74. The Churchwardens elected were:—Wm. Richardson and Isaac Smith.

DIOCESE OF ALGOMA.

BRACEBRIDGE.—We have just enjoyed our usual annual visitation of the Bishop, on his confirmation tour, leaving its pleasing memories and lasting impressions "we trust" in mind and heart, of many in our Mission. On Sunday March 24th, St. Thomas Church, Bracebridge, was filled to overflow, to witness the solemn "laying on of hands," and listen to the words of Godly counsel from the lips of our good Bishop. Seven candidates were admitted into full communion with the church and all sealed their vows in the participation of the Holy Feast. After a special address to the newly confirmed, inculcating the duty of loyalty to their conscience and the Church, the Bishop gave a powerful sermon upon the responsibilities and duties of parents over the beautiful flock committed to their charge and care, in soul and body by their God, a subject most opportune to our time and circumstances. At 2 p.m., the same day we set off for Stonehigh, some 8 miles from Bracebridge, and were again greeted by a large congregation. The service was hearty and responsive. The Benediction uttered, we were soon on our way to Baysville, still 8 miles distant and the roads almost indescribable, a race against time. However, assisted by the self denying exertions of the Bishop in walking several steep hills to aid our poor steed brought us to the Church door just in time to begin our 3rd service. The little Church was packed with eager and we trust, devout worshippers. Four candidates were confirmed, and one adult publicly baptized.

Thus ended our Sunday duty. The Bishop takes away with him the best wishes of our simple country folk, and leaves behind him, I trust and think a marked impulse for good which by God's help will be a source of comfort and strength to our small and isolated Church communicants.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge through the medium of your valuable columns a box of clothing from the Prescott Branch of the Women's Auxiliary Society, the receipt of which should have been acknowledged some time ago, but was accidentally overlooked, for which I hope the Prescott ladies will forgive their humble and deeply obliged friend. G.S. GAVILLER.

Parry Sound.

Missionary.

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND.

WINNIPEG.—*Christ Church.*—The services in this church on Easter Day were of an elaborate nature, consisting of early celebration of communion at 7.30, choral celebration at 8.30 and matins and full choral celebration at 11.30 a.m., at which there were in all 175 communicants. The even song was full choral with orchestral accompaniment, the programme of services being as follows: Processional hymn, 138, "Jesus Christ is Risen To-day," from Christ and His Soldiers," solo and chorus, solo by Miss Mathias; responses, Talis Festal; anthem, "Why Seek Ye the Living Among the Dead?" solos by Mr. Downard and Miss Mathias; hymn 131, Ancient and Modern. During the offertory, the quartette, "Jesus Died for Us," from "Christ and His Soldiers," was sung unaccompanied, by Misses Mathias and McAllister,

and Messrs. Downard and Banks. As a second, "The Trumpets Shall Sound" was sung by the same quartette and was rendered excellently, the quartette showing great taste and attacking in excellent time and tune. The choir was 38 strong, and showed the result of good training. The trebles being young their voices are very flexible and pure, particularly in the upper register. The service was accompanied by an orchestra of 13 instruments who played well. As a voluntary the Marche aux Flambeaux was excellently played by the orchestra, the audience remaining in their seats until the last note was played. Taken all through it was remarked that the services rendered by the choir were the best ever rendered in the city. At the request of a great many it has been decided to repeat the service next Sunday.

Rev. F. R. Hole, who has taken charge of the parish since the rector's visit to England, conducted all the services, five in number, including the children's service, assisted in the morning by Canon Matheson and in the evening by Canon Coombes, of St. John's Cathedral, and preached excellent sermons both morning and evening. At the close of his discourse in the evening he bade farewell to the people, as he is about to return to his own parish. During his short stay here he has endeared himself to the hearts of the congregation.

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

The *Churchman* says of "The Practical Bearing of Easter":

The practical outcome of the doctrine of the Resurrection is two-fold. It is, first, that the body is sacred, is to be made and kept the temple of the Holy Spirit. It is, next, that there must be a vital and spiritual union with Christ the risen Lord: that so the resurrection of the dead may be attained unto; that is, the resurrection to bliss and glory. Taken together, these two contain the essence of Christian life and practice. To be dwelt in by the Holy Spirit, to be one with Christ, the forgiveness of sins operating through faith in the Lord's death. Redemption laid hold upon, sanctification constantly and cumulatively working, these are the two necessities of the Christian life which reach out into all paths of discipleship.

Hence Easter cannot stand alone as the generally received festival of all believers, but must draw with it the rest of the Christian system as embodied in the Christian year. That system began with Easter day and the doctrine of the Resurrection, and the religious bodies who have taken up Easter have begun at the right spot. They have builded better than they knew; they will have to go on as they have begun.

The *Southern Churchman* says of "The Easter that is Past":

The Easter day was bright and beautiful, but brighter and more beautiful the history it told of the Christ that was dead now restored to life. Of all the Church days—nay, of all days of the year—it is the brightest, because of Him whom this day declares to be King of kings and Lord of lords. Christ is risen; angels that desire to look into these things rejoice, and men and women to whom He is precious, they, too, rejoice with joy unspeakable.

The Church services, the Church lessons, the Church psalms and hymns and spiritual songs were elevating and inspiring; for on wings of faith and love they carried us into the very presence of the Holy One!

Not for beauty and gladness merely were Easter and the lessons. We must listen to the words of one moved by the Holy Ghost; "Since ye are risen with Christ, seek those things which are above." From above are honesty and integrity and righteousness. From above are meekness and gentleness. From above is the spirit of self-sacrifice, by doing which we get

like Him, who though He was rich yet for our sakes became poor.

For six weeks and more we have been thinking of repentance; have been humbling ourselves and denying ourselves; have been attending many services at church. But now comes danger of reaction. The human mind cannot be always on the stretch, and hence after awhile there must be reaction. Therefore let us take heed that the reaction does not carry us down and we forget the promises of the new and better life that we were to live. "Ye did run well," said St. Paul to the Galatians. But they were being hindered and were running wildly and not for the goal. The resurrection of Christ carries with it the promise of the Holy Ghost, by whom we are upheld and strengthened; and so constant prayer for his aid that we may run with patience the race that is set before us and that the memories and the blessings of the Lent and the Easter may go with us through the years.

The *American Church Times* says:—

According to Bishop Coxe Protestantism has forfeited its right to the name. It no longer 'protests' but sleepily allows the Roman Church to fleece the government. Archbishop Lynch once said very frankly that the Roman Church proposed to govern the United States as it does Canada. The spectacle of Sir John McDonald's complete subservience to the Pope in the matter of the Jesuits' Estates, is at least as instructive to us as it is a discreditable piece of party policy in him. It has been reserved for Canada to attempt to turn back the wheels of English progress five centuries. We thought Magna Charta was well understood.

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* says:—

The *Guardian* has been writing very strongly against "Cathedral Musical Festivals." It points out that reverence in public worship is not the prevailing characteristic with an ordinary English congregation. The absence of this devotional atmosphere is attributed to "over familiarity, want of imagination, want of training in devotion and of faith." Our contemporary adds, that "one great cause is the notion, in itself a terrible irreverence, that 'Church' is a matter of show, a social performance in which there is no harm in staring about and noticing what goes on." Any improvement that has taken place of late years it considers to be put in jeopardy by the increasing tendency to employ sacred buildings for popular uses, and, in addition, to charge for admission. The case of the "Three Choir Festivals" is referred to, where not only money is taken for all the seats, but the performance more resembles the regular oratorio performance in the Albert Hall or the Birmingham Town Hall than a sacred service in a cathedral. The *Guardian* sees an imminent danger ahead, inasmuch as these musical festivals have a tendency in the direction of secularizing the sacred buildings of the Church. Aestheticism, and the worship of Art rather than religious devotion, are at the bottom of these musical services. So says the *Guardian*—a newspaper not given to thinking a narrow or hypercritical view of such questions.

[We are obliged to hold over a number of Home Field items from various Dioceses, and reports of Vestry meetings, received too late for this issue].

Another Offer.

"THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY" and the "CHURCH GUARDIAN" for one year for FOUR DOLLARS,—the subscription price of the former alone.