

promote the true spiritual life, to make, not mere nominal members of the Church, but members indeed of Christ, children indeed of God, and veritable inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Hymn 225 was then sung, and Dr. Smithett preached a most effective sermon from Isaiah vi. 8, "whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." It would not be possible to give the sermon which for thirty-five minutes held the attention of the congregation. Point after point was made, and if preaching is ever to have any effect that sermon must. Judging by the rule of *f. s. d.* unfortunately the too common criterion of merit, the sermon was very effective, for it was followed by far the largest collection ever made in the church. Hymns 254, 258, 225, and 198 Diocesan book were sung. The *Magnificat*, *Nunc Dimittis*, were chanted. All was gratifying, everybody seemed pleased, many were delighted. May God be glorified; may His kingdom come; His will be done.

RURAL-DEANAL CHAPTER OF NORTHUMBERLAND.—Divine service was celebrated in St. John's chapel, Peterboro', on Tuesday last, the 4th inst., at 7.30 p.m. Evening prayer was said by the Rev. C. R. Bell, the lessons being read by the Revs. John McCleary and W. C. Bradshaw respectively. In the absence of the two gentlemen appointed at the last meeting, as preacher and substitute, the Rev. Rural-dean Beck addressed the clergy and congregation on the commission of the Christian ministry, selecting as his text Matthew xxviii. 18. There was a satisfactory attendance of the members of the congregation. The chapel has been used for divine worship some time, as a new chancel is being added to the church, and the entire fabric is being restored at the cost of about \$10,000. On the following morning there was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 9 o'clock, the rector being the celebrant, assisted by the Revs. Canon Stennett and C. R. Bell. The clergy then adjourned to the rectory, where the regular meeting of the chapter was held. After the opening prayers by the Rural-dean, the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary and confirmed. It was resolved, on motion, that the next meeting be held in Cobourg, on Tuesday the 9th of May, at 8 o'clock p.m. The Rev. F. W. Squires was appointed preacher, and the Rev. J. W. McCleary, substitute. A resolution was adopted to the effect that in the future the preacher appointed at any meeting of the chapter be expected to give, at least, one month's notice to the secretary, of his inability, should such arise, to fulfil his engagement. Arrangements were then made for holding missionary meetings throughout the deanery in the course of the month of November, and speakers, lay and clerical, were appointed, whose names, with other details, will be published in an ensuing impression of the DOMINION CHURCHMAN. A discussion then took place respecting the Revised Constitution of the Synod, and the proposed new canon. This occupied so much time that it was found to be impracticable to read the chapters from the Greek Testament, selected for consideration at the last meeting. The members of the chapter were entertained at the rectory by the Rural-dean with his accustomed hospitality. VINCENT CLEMENTI, B.A., Secretary-Treasurer, Peterboro', Oct. 6, 1881.

NIAGARA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAMILTON.—Receipts at Synod Office during the month of September, 1881.

MISSION FUND.—*Offertory Collections:* Waterdown \$2.25; Aldershot \$1.00; Ancaster \$17.75. *On guarantee account,* Reading \$32.00; West Flamboro \$35.00.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—*Offertory Collections:* Caledonia \$6.10; York \$10.08; Drayton 95 cents; Glanford \$14.00.

ALGOMA FUND.—*Offertory Collections:* Rothsay \$1.40; Moorefield 4.34.

DIVINITY STUDENTS' FUND.—*Offertory Collections:* Caledonia and York \$2.50; Palmerston \$2.90; Hamilton, All Saint's \$16.80, St. Mark's \$7.05; Nelson \$2.00; Stoney Creek \$2.75; Bartonville \$8.74; The Beach \$8.51; Erin and Garafraxa \$4.00; Burlington \$6.91; Cayuga, St. Ann's 80 cents; Milton \$3.33; Acton \$1.47; Rockwood \$1.46; Eramosa \$1.45; Queenston \$5.04; Ancaster \$3.00; Arthur \$4.70; Parker 75 cents; West Luther 25 cents; Elora \$4.00; Thorold \$6.75; Port Robinson \$4.25; Glanford \$5.00; Stamford \$4.00; Drummondville \$13.51; Riverston \$1.00.

ELORA.—The fifth annual festival of this parish took place on the 3rd and 4th inst. The church was quite filled on the evening of the former day, there being two hundred and fifty persons present. The Service was one of Sacred Song. The choir was assisted by

the best singers of the Alma congregation and by several of the clergy of neighbouring parishes. Rev. C. H. Mockridge, B.D., of Hamilton, who was the preacher, also rendered valuable help in the singing, taking part in three quartettes which were remarkably well rendered. The congregation joined heartily in those hymns which were familiar to them, and showed their appreciation of the sacred character of the service by standing whenever requested to do so. Four clergymen besides the incumbent and two lay readers were present and took part in the service. The sermon, which was a plain and earnest discourse, was founded upon the text, "The field is the world." The decorations were extremely neat and tasteful. The effect of the texts, wreaths, vines, etc., was admirable, and fully repaid the workers for their trouble. The offertory collection at the service amounted to \$25.00. On the next evening an entertainment was given in the drill hall, the net receipts being over \$75.00.

DRUMMONDVILLE.—The Rev. A. Boulton has removed his school which he has been conducting so successfully near Yorkville to this neighbourhood, where he is prepared, I am told, to receive a limited number of boarders and day scholars. He and Mrs. Boulton, I doubt not, will give entire satisfaction to any parents or guardians intrusting children to their care. Mr. Boulton has recently obtained the Bishop's licence to act as assistant or curate in the parish of Stamford during the rector's inability to undertake his entire duty. While the rector was away during the past month, the wardens of All Saints' have succeeded in having the interior of the roof of the church ceiled with lumber and stained to resemble the oak seats and panelling. This it is thought will add much to the comfort of the congregation in the winter, as well as render the church cooler in the summer.

PALMERSTON.—On the evening of Wednesday, 21st ult., the Bishop administered the rite of confirmation to thirteen persons at Palmerston. A large congregation was present and entered heartily and reverently into the service. After the laying on of hands the Bishop delivered a very earnest address to those who had been just confirmed, in which he dwelt upon the seriousness and importance of their act, and urged them to be faithful and valiant soldiers of Christ. He also reminded them of the fact that in the due reception of the apostolic rite of confirmation we receive inestimable blessings from the Lord's hand. And he urged them to see that they received not the grace of God in vain. We trust that their confirmation may indeed confirm them in the way of life, and that they may daily increase in God's Holy Spirit more and more until they come unto his everlasting kingdom.

CHIPPAWA.—The Sunday-school of Trinity church held their annual picnic on 29th September. About two hundred, parents, friends, and children, assembled at Mount Pleasant where a most enjoyable afternoon was spent, and after a bountiful repast, came games, with music from the Black Creek band (numbering some eleven performers) under Mr. Allen, who with great kindness, gave their services free. Such an act as this deserves special praise, as besides their services the time of most of the performers was most valuable to them, and this act of theirs will be remembered by all present with gratitude as well as pleasure. Notwithstanding the many removals from Chippawa, the Sunday-school has more than held its own. The attendance averaging sixty-seven by actual count. During the three years of the present rector's stay, he has baptized ninety-two persons, two-thirds of whom were infants. Sixty-seven have been confirmed, and as many of these were gathered from outside, the loss by removal, as regards number, has not been so greatly felt as was at one time feared it would be. The average attendance at church this summer being as good as at any previous time during the present rector's incumbency. As an instance of this we may state that at the usual communion service last Sunday notwithstanding the storm of rain, some twenty-six remained to partake of that Holy Sacrament. And the greater number thus present this summer is the fairest index of the real growth of the church.

CHURCH PROGRESS. Continued.

I resume my pleasant task in writing notes of our Church progress for your columns. In so doing I still wish to limit myself to the recent period, say, of twelve months. This is enough to furnish most gratifying evidence of steady progress within our borders. My only fear is that my knowledge of this Diocese is too partial, and that in omitting mention of some of its parishes and missions, I shall seem to do them great injustice. But this is far from my purpose. I wish to write of things which I have seen and heard, hoping that they will serve as a criterion by which your

readers may form favourable judgment in speaking of the Diocese of Niagara.

ANCASTER.—The Rev. W. R. Clark, M.A., rector in charge. The church and parsonage, with grounds, here are objects of much interest to visitors at that pretty village. The regular public services are largely attended, and unity prevails in the parish. In November next the balance of the old debt of \$2,000 on the parsonage, will be paid in full. Five years ago this debt seemed enough to destroy all hope of prosperity of the parish for many years to come; some hearts became faint, but industry and perseverance will always accomplish marvellous results. All now are cheerful. Freely as they have received from God, they will doubtless remember freely to give in response to the various appeals of our Synod.

BURLINGTON.—In like manner, the churchmen of this parish have, this year, not only reduced an old debt upon the parsonage, but have greatly enlarged and otherwise improved the building. The Rev. Canon Belt, M.A., has been rector for more than two years, and has charge also of a congregation four miles distant.

HARRISTON.—A new and excellent parsonage is now occupied by the missionary. This is a great benefit. The Rev. W. Massey has been lately appointed, instead of the Rev. W. Craig.

MOUNT FOREST.—A valuable property has been lately acquired here, including a good brick house, excellent garden and orchard. In order to obtain this desirable property for a parsonage, an exchange of the old and too distant parsonage was allowed by the special Trust Committee of the Synod. The Church people of Mount Forest have bound themselves to pay \$1,500 more on the newly acquired property. A church building will be erected here, we trust, very shortly.

GEORGETOWN.—This parish has lately become entirely self-supporting under the charge of the Rev. Geo. B. Cooke. In view of an old church debt and other difficulties, this is a great achievement.

ROCKWOOD.—This station of the Church is in the township of Eramosa, and appears to view as a small village of feeble strength, on the G. T. railroad, about fourteen miles northeast of Guelph. Here we find a new church erection, substantial and of excellent design. Its stone walls are good and strong, and so far, the roof is completed. Not until next spring will the whole work be finished. I must add, the debt plan is omitted by the building committee; the work is paid for as it is proceeded with. All seem anxious to see it progressing, and they are equally anxious to present the completed edifice, on the day of opening, for consecration to God, by the Bishop of Niagara. I am sure your readers will commend zeal when marked with such prudence. Too often, in modern church architecture, a large mortgage is added as a sort of final finish and ornament. We do not need such an appendage to any of our churches; and sometimes, I think that Provincial legislature should interfere by enacting that subscriptions or donations, in trust, for church building, should not be liable to be forfeited and lost by reason of a too heavy mortgage allowed by the building committee, who in time may find out that the mortgage must be foreclosed, and the sheriff called in to sell the building, perhaps to strangers.

BARTON AND GLASSFORD.—I may be allowed again to refer to this parish, only to state that Holy Trinity church, Barton, since my communication to you last week, has been relieved of the balance of debt upon it. The next proceeding will shortly be announced—the act of consecration of that church by the Bishop of Niagara. At a recent service of praise in Holy Trinity church, the amount of offerings was \$150. This service was quite free from outside aid or influences.

CALEDONIA.—Again I wish to allude to this successful parish. In my last I quite forgot to say that when the suggestion was made in the early part of this year, by some one, that it was time to urge the people to build or buy a parsonage, the incumbent greatly feared that such an appeal would be too severe upon a parish which was doing already as much as could be expected. But the appeal was made. The result, owing to the unanimous response of the people, is most cheering—a parsonage (brick) house, three and a half acres, with orchard, garden, etc., debt only \$400.

ARTHUR.—This parish, like Mount Forest, is in the north section of our Diocese, and is a part of a new and extensive missionary field. At Arthur village we now find a very handsome brick church erected. The Rev. Thomas Rixon is the zealous missionary.

I find that when the diocese of Niagara was constituted in 1875, there were in it twenty-seven missions receiving aid from the Mission Board, and twenty self-supporting parishes. The strong parishes must largely aid in supplying the general funds, while they must sustain themselves. The Mission Board grants reported at our last Synod, amounted so \$2,747.

Of the original missions in our Diocese, seven have recently become self-supporting. The aid which they