

was a very happy meeting. The readings, recitations and choruses showed the careful training by the organist and the school in its every department evince the valuable superintendence of the rector, Rev. Canon Smith. The appearance of Santa Claus at the close of the meeting was heartily greeted by the little ones.

**WARDSVILLE.**—The Sunday school entertainment of St. James' Church was one of the most successful ever held in Wardsville. Christmas Carols, dialogues, readings and recitations as well as vocal and instrumental music made the meeting a very bright and pleasing one. The school is flourishing. The voluntary contributions for the year were over forty dollars, not bad for Wardsville. One young scholar, a female, had 499 credit marks out of a possible 500.

**NEWBURY.**—Christ Church, as also St. John's Church, Glencoe, are with St. James Church in the Wardsville mission. One report from the Sunday-school of Newbury is equally favourable with that of Wardsville. Their entertainment was held in the Newbury Town Hall on New Year's Eve. To Miss Graydon and the several Sunday-school teachers deserved credit is given for their unwearied labours in training the young members of the Church in true doctrine and discipline. The Incumbent, Rev. W. J. Taylor, has our hearty congratulations for his prosperous Church nurseries.

**DORCHESTER.**—The increase of the number of communicants in the Church is an unerring proof of her growth and real prosperity. The number of the confirmed in all our missions is very great, and increasingly so. The number of Church communicants published annually would be very instructing and encouraging. In the three feeble churches in Dorchester mission, there were, on the 4th of this month, received into the full communion of the Church, thirty-three young candidates by the apostolic rite of the laying on of hands.

**THE FOREST CITY AND THE FESTIVAL SEASONS.**—Not only has the numerical strength of the Church grown, but, what is greater importance, the Church principles, order and doctrine are better known, and more firmly established in the minds and hearts of her people. This is manifested by the observance of her festivals and the more decorous order of her services. The festival of the Circumcision was duly observed by her members in her houses of worship. In St. Paul's Church there was a very large congregation, and an excellent appropriate sermon from the text Eph. v. 1 was preached by the rector. On Epiphany there was the service for the day and a brief address from the rector. The congregation was small, the morning being very unpropitious. The observance of Epiphany is a new thing here, and the only church in which it was observed was St. Paul's.

**WALKERTON.**—His Lordship the Bishop of Huron has appointed Rev. James Ashton, sometime Incumbent of Princeton, to be the Incumbent of St. Thomas' Church, Walkerton.

**THORNDALE.**—New Year's evening, the twenty-fourth anniversary of St. George's Church, Thorndale, was celebrated in connection with the Sunday-school Christmas tree. The tree presented a very handsome appearance, laden with its fruit of various costly gifts numbering about seven hundred. The attendance was large. The Incumbent, C. W. Ball, presided. There was excellent music by the choir and the Sunday-school children, and Mr. Cosgrove, of St. Mary's. There were addresses from several visiting friends. The proceeds of the entertainment were fifty-three dollars, to be devoted to the parsonage fund.

**INGERSOLL.**—The reception by the Lord Bishop of Huron in the basement of St. James' Church on Saturday evening, January 3rd, was a very pleasant affair. The ladies of the congregation had very tastefully prepared the repast provided by them for the occasion. The interchange of friendly greetings and the presentations by Rev. E. M. Bland and Major Hipkins to the Bishop and Mrs. Baldwin, and the circulation of the tea and coffee by the ladies of St. James', were much appreciated. When the ceremony of introductions was over, and the good things of the feast had disappeared, Rev. Mr. Bland briefly conveyed to his Lordship the congratulations of those present on this, his first visit to the parish. Major Hipkins seconded Mr. Bland's remarks in a few appropriate words. On Sunday at matins his Lordship, assisted by the Rector, Mr. Bland, conducted the services which lasted

until 2.30 p.m. The Bishop preached a most impressive sermon. The Bishop assisted by Mr. Bland administered the Holy Communion. At evening the congregation was so large that many could not obtain entrance to the church. The service was conducted by Mr. Bland, after which his Lordship admitted to full communion of the Church thirty young candidates presented by the Rector.

**BOTHWELL.**—At the Sunday-school entertainment of Grace Church, held in the Town Hall on Christmas eve, an address accompanied with a purse of money was presented to Mr. Thomas Burnside, who has long and faithfully fulfilled the office of Sunday-school superintendent. The presentation was made by Alice Clarke and Fred. Squire on behalf of the Sunday-school teachers and scholars.

**MARKDALE.**—The annual Christmas tree entertainment of Christ Church, Markdale, Rev. J. Ward, Incumbent, was held in the Orange Hall on Tuesday, the 30th ult. Notwithstanding the very unfavorable state of the weather and roads, the attendance was large, the hall being completely filled. The singing and recitations of the Sunday-school scholars were well rendered. The Christmas tree was laden with valuable presents and looked beautiful when illuminated.

**WOODSTOCK.**—The annual meeting of the Bible Society was held in new St. Paul's Church on Wednesday evening, 7th inst. There were fully five hundred people present, who were addressed by the ministers of the town. All the ministers in Woodstock in an Anglican Church!

**CHAPTER HOUSE.**—Rev. Mr. Hicks, at the request of Bishop Baldwin, has consented to officiate in the Chapter House for a few weeks, the Dean being still unable to perform any clerical duty, and the Rev. T. O'Connell being incapacitated for officiation since his severe illness. Rev. Mr. Hicks was educated in Huron College, and was ordained by Bishop Hellmuth. He officiated as assistant to the Ven. Archdeacon Elwood for five years, and then left to accept appointment as assistant in Trinity Church, Winnipeg. This position he occupied for two years. He was then deputed on a mission to England. Previous to his departure he was presented with a purse of money by the congregation of Trinity Church.

**PORT STANLEY.**—Winter in this Canada of ours is not so dull and inhospitable place as is represented by some. The thermometer may move many degrees below zero, but the cold has little effect on the warm-hearted Canadians. The sleigh rides and social gatherings, and even the Church festivals, are very delightful affairs. The benevolent motive that urges Church members, ladies especially, to labour preparing for the Church socials, and to brave the midnight air of the Christmas tide, adds to the pleasures no little. Port Stanley has had its holiday party. Jan. 8.—The concert and charade which took place on Tuesday evening last proved a success, the Town Hall being completely filled. The programme, with a slight exception, was faithfully carried out. Messrs. Green and Helyer, of this city, were not the least prominent, and afforded much entertainment, the former in an instrumental selection, and the latter in a vocal performance. Miss M. Raymond and Mr. Pope, also of this city, performed their parts in a suitable manner. The Literary Society of St. Thomas also added considerably to the entertainment, their part being more especially the charade, which was creditably done. Rev. H. Banwell, the Incumbent, acted as chairman on the occasion.

**HUNTINGFORD.**—A short time ago, an entertainment under the auspices of Huntingford Guild, in aid of Christ Church, took place, which was very successful. The net proceeds amounted to \$47.

**EAST ZORRA.**—Christ Church, Huntingford and Trinity Church, were tastefully decorated for Christmas. The services were well attended and heartily rendered. The Huntingford congregation presented the rector, the Rev. Geo. W. Racey, with a Christmas gift of \$50.

Christ Church Sunday-school had a treat given them by the teachers at the residence of Mrs. Dawson. They assembled on Wednesday afternoon, 31st ult., at two, and spent the afternoon enjoying themselves, playing games, etc. After refreshments had been served by the teachers, a present of books, which was a gift from Mrs. Dawson, was distributed among the scholars by the rector.

## ALGOMA.

**MARY LAKE MISSION.**—Divine Service morning and evening was held in Christ Church, Port Sydney, and in St. Mary's Church, Beatrice, on Christmas Day. Both churches were appropriately decorated, and gave evidence of earnest work on the part of their respective congregations, as well as a display of good taste. A striking feature of the decorations in Christ Church, Port Sydney, was a "Screen" in the form of three arches, the centre arch being somewhat higher than the others, and surmounted by a plain Latin Cross bearing the initials I. N. R. I. in white and scarlet. Each arch bore appropriate texts, breathing the teaching of the day. A good congregation assembled to commemorate the incarnation, and the spirit of "Good-will" was practically displayed by an extra large offertory, which in accordance with the Bishop's pastoral was handed to the Clergyman. Although kept waiting for over an hour (on account of some heavy travelling,) a large congregation greeted the Incumbent on his arrival at St. Mary's Church, Beatrice. In spite of the crowded church, room was found for a small party from Port Sydney, and additional interest was given to the service, by having an organ (kindly lent for the occasion) to accompany the singing. This was the first Christmas service for some years in Beatrice, and the appreciation of the people was evinced by the large and attentive congregation, and a most liberal offertory. The Rev. R. W. Plante conducted both services.

**PORT SYDNEY, MUSKOKA.**—A most successful Christmas festival for the Sunday schools of Christ Church, Port Sydney, and Holy Trinity, Brunel, was held in the Music Hall, on Tuesday, Dec. 30th. Many children walked from five to eight miles through a steady down pour of rain. The children entered very heartily into the various amusements provided for them. A bountiful Christmas tea was afterwards partaken of. Before tea all united in singing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Each child then handed the Incumbent a Christmas offering for the Indian children of Algoma. This being a freewill offering on the part of the children, was the most pleasant feature of the evening. Tea over, games and music were the order of the evening. A pleasing effect was now produced by the singing of that glorious Christmas hymn, "O come all ye faithful" by a quartette of voices behind the scenes. A curtain gradually rose and disclosed to the expectant children "The Tree" in all its brilliancy. The candles had almost passed the stage of usefulness before the last gift was handed down, not a child was forgotten, and the picture of true happiness manifested on the faces of all the children, would doubly repay the many kind friends who so generously assisted us in providing for the little ones, special prizes were awarded to those scholars whose attendance, conduct and lessons merited such. Prizes were also given for the best answers (written) to series of Bible questions given during the summer. As these prizes were nearly all donated from friends outside, the interest was thereby greatly increased, six beautiful prizes were thus carried off. Three in each division (junior and senior) each bearing the names of the donator. The following gives the list of those who awarded these prizes: His lordship the Bishop; the Ven. Archdeacon Lindsay, Waterloo, Diocese of Montreal; the Rev. Canon Henderson, Montreal; the Rev. A. H. Baldwin, Rector of All Saints, Toronto; A. Sydney Smith, Esq; and the Incumbent.

**Presentation to the Incumbent.**—A most unexpected incident at the above festival was the presentation of a beautiful clock to Mrs. Plante, from the teachers of the Sunday School, followed by an address to the Incumbent, the Rev. R. W. Plante, expressive of "goodwill" on behalf of the various congregations in the mission, which was practically manifested by this gift of an elegant new cutter, robe, and harness, being a joint wedding and Christmas present. This happy festival was closed by singing the Doxology. Although specially for the children, yet the congregations of both churches were well represented by adult members also.

**GRAVENHURST.**—Mr. Ennis desires to return sincere thanks to the Ladies of the C. W. M. A. Toronto, for a packing case containing books and toys for a Christmas tree, and useful articles of clothing, for the Sunday-school at Northwood and the poor. Also \$2 kindly given by the Bishop of Algoma for the same purpose.

**HILTON.**—The Rev. H. Beer, desires to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of a pair of beautiful cushions for the chancel of the Jocelyn Church, from Miss M. Cartwright and Miss Baldwin, Toronto. He