

THE CHURCH OBSERVER

Muir, and S. Fenn (Halifax) as provisional representatives.

The Wardens' report showed an income for the year of \$894.51; expenditure \$856.23; leaving a balance in hand of \$38.28. The ordinary collections (Sunday) amounted to \$153.94. There were three special collections during the year aggregating \$162.17, which with \$66.40 to the general Fund, B. H. M., made the offerings for extra parochial purposes \$228.57. The contributions for parish work amounted to \$630.24, bringing up the total voluntary offerings to \$858.81. There were certain sums of money for parish work raised in various ways which cannot be included among voluntary offerings, as they involve to a certain extent a *quid pro quo*, but which indicate parochial activity. Such are the proceeds of concerts, entertainments, ice-cream sales &c., a number of which were held during the year. Attention was called to the listing of Shelburne among so-called delinquent parishes in the matter of assessment for Income of See. It was pointed out that Shelburne, so far from being in arrears, had \$1.50 to its credit on that account.

But as its assessment had always been paid in April and October, while the diocesan accounts were closed March 31st. before the April payment was sent in, it may have been considered necessary to class Shelburne with parishes in arrears.

The publication of such a list without some such brief explanation was felt to be a distinctly unnecessary exasperation.

AMHERST.

The young ladies of the parish are preparing for a sale of fancy

work, ice cream, home-made candy &c. &c., to come off on June 8th.

Mr. Willis, Divinity Student, of Montreal, who spent last summer in the parish, assisting the Rector in parochial work, arrived here in May, and will again engage in the same work, during the summer.

The ladies who have done such good work in paying for the electric light in the Church with the proceeds of their needles for the past seven years, have in addition undertaken to help in the lighting of the Parish House.

NEW GERMANY.

Since the last report from this extensive and difficult-to-work mission, the usual routine work has been carried on more or less, with little interruption. A new Altar, to be made of oak, has been ordered, and was to have been in its place in the Sanctuary of the church of S. John-in-the wilderness, New Germany, on Easter Sunday, but owing to difficulty of obtaining properly seasoned wood it was not made and is not now expected until Whit Sunday. The Altar will be paid for from "special offerings" made for that purpose, on Easter Sundays of 1897 and 1898. The Priest in charge obtained the services of Mr. A. B. S. Stirling, student at King's College, Windsor, for Holy Week and Easter. He was well received and well liked during his short stay in our midst. He not only assisted in the services, but took four services alone, owing to the Priest in charge being "housed."

On Easter Sunday two services were held in S. John's church. the prayers and lessons being taken by Mr. Stirling, Holy Communion and sermons by Mr. Mellor.

The choir was assisted at both

services by a quartette from the New Germany brass band, and in the evening the full band was present and rendered sacred music. The church was filled in the morning, and in the evening it was filled to overflowing. The offerings for a new Altar, the collections, and children's Missionary offerings came to about \$20. On Easter Monday morning Holy Communion was celebrated at Northfield, a district 10 miles away. On Easter Tuesday evening, a Sale of Work was held in New Germany, which realised over \$25: and which, after paying all expenses and making a gift to the brass band, and paying off existing debts, left a balance in hand of \$9.67 which will be applied to the purchase of new lamps for the church. On the 18th of April, Mr. A. B. S. Stirling left us to return to College, and on the evening of the same day the Rev. J. W. Smith arrived to take up the work, so that the Priest in charge might have an opportunity to take a much needed rest from public speaking. Preparation of candidates for Confirmation is now the order of the day, and it is no easy matter as they are so widely scattered, a great amount of speaking and travelling being necessary. We hope to give the Bishop a hearty welcome here in July next. It is always a treat to have him visit us, as one always feels better for contact with him. May his future visits always be productive of good in various ways, as his past visits have been.

Efforts are being made to introduce the "Church Observer" into the homes of Church people in this mission.

The Sunday school at New Germany was re-opened on the third Sunday in April, with a fairly good attendance.