

Moved by Dr. Smithett, seconded by C. W. Paterson, and resolved, "That the Offertory at these services remain in the hands of the secretary, subject to a vote of the Deanery."

After tea, the passage of Scripture appointed was read and discussed.

HENRY BURGESS,
Sec. D. of D. & V.

Betham, 26th Jan., 1877.

NIAGARA.

To the Clergy of the Diocese of Niagara:

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN: Having now nearly completed my round of confirmations in every congregation in the diocese, and anxious to be in a position to comply with the summons of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to attend the meeting of a Second Lambeth Conference in 1878 (should a gracious God be pleased to continue me in health and strength till that year) without feeling that I had left undone in the diocese that I ought to have done before leaving it, I would avail myself of this method of requesting you to commence as soon as practicable (where you have not already commenced them) classes of instruction, preparatory to confirmation. As that instruction affords the faithful minister perhaps the very best opportunity for dealing closely and faithfully with the young members especially of his flock, I would urge upon you that that instruction should be made as thorough as possible, not confining it merely to informing the mind, but also to influencing the heart and forming in your catechumens sound Christian principles of thought and action. As such will require from you months of unwearied labour, I give this notice early in the year so that all may have time for giving it. None of you need wait to commence your classes for this great work till you can be sure of presenting a large one, my wish being to afford to our people, desirous of availing themselves of this apostolic rite, the opportunity of profiting by it, when so desirous, and the size of the diocese enabling me to extend this privilege to them, I am very anxious that they should be thoroughly prepared for it. Commending you and all your works and labours of love to God's gracious care and blessing,

I am, reverend and dear Brethren,
Your Bishop and friend in Christ Jesus,
T. B. NIAGARA.

Bishop Hurst, Hamilton,
January 24, 1877.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ERIN AND GARAFAXA.—On the 22nd, 23rd and 24th January missionary meetings were held in this Mission, Erin and Garafaxa, which, notwithstanding the exceedingly inclement weather that prevailed during these days, were well attended. Addresses of an interesting and practical character were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Boulbee, of Georgetown, and Massey of Lowville, the deputation; and the aggregate sum realized was \$14, which, it is gratifying to think, is, in spite of the hard times, more than that of last year. The almost impassable state of the roads made it laborious and trying work for the deputation, but the interest in the mission cause awakened by the addresses of strangers who come expressly for the purpose, usually contributes not a little to the success of the collector when the house to house canvass is made.

HAMILTON.—Sunday the 20th, here, was marked by a rare absence of clergy from the city. The Rev. Canon Hebden, to be sure, held his usual services in the Ascension; but not one of the other Churches had its regular ministers. At St. Thomas' Mr. E. J. Fessenden officiated in the absence of Mr. Richardson. At All Saints' the Very Revd. The Dean took the services that Mr. Sutherland was prevented, by illness, from holding. At the Cathedral The Lord Bishop conducted both morning and evening service; and owing to the absence of Mr. Spiers the only assistance was by Mr. Morrell, Principal of Wentworth School, reading the lessons in the evening. The Bishop's evening sermon was one that might often be advantageously taken as a model. It was a plain spoken, honest outburst of feeling against

the state of morality, followed by advice and exhortation for the future—severally his Lordship dealt with the vices by which our youth are most easily led away—novel reading, gambling, drunkenness, licentiousness—vividly drawing the picture of the various stages through which one passes after having taken the first fatal step. The advice and counsel, so impressively given, must have had weight with many of his hearers.

Last Thursday evening the usual Fortnightly Readings, &c. were held in the Cathedral School Room. The proceeds, this time, being in aid of the Organ Fund. On the same evening was an entertainment consisting of Sciopticon views and refreshments, in the Ascension School Room, for the benefit of their building fund. Two such affairs on one evening is a circumstance worthy of the "Ambitious City." How they were managed without the audiences of either being interfered with is accounted for by the situation of the two School Rooms—one in the upper and the other in the lower end of the city—both were successful.

ERALC.

HURON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Jan. 27.—This has been a week of more than ordinary interest in the churches of the city and suburbs, the annual Missionary Meetings being held here. On Tuesday evening the C. M. Meeting was held in the Chapter House, Very Rev. the Dean presiding. Excellent addresses were delivered by Revs. R. H. Starr, W. H. Tilley and Jeffrey Hill. The meeting was not so large as might be expected from the importance to all Churchmen of the subject. Same evening, the Missionary Meeting was held in St. George's, Petersville. The speakers were Rev. Canon Innes, who presided, and Rev. J. Gemley. Owing to a misunderstanding as to the time of meeting, the meeting was not so large as it would otherwise have been. There was, however, a comparatively good collection, though the collection for the W. and O. Fund had been on the previous Sunday.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, CITY.—The Missionary Meeting was held in this Church on Wednesday evening, the Rector, Rev. Canon Innes, presiding. After the opening prayer, and singing the hymn from H. C., "To preach the acceptable year of the Lord," the Rev. Chairman, referring to the great object of the meeting, introduced the first speaker, Rev. S. W. Young. Right earnestly and eloquently did Mr. Y. plead the cause of missions, thoroughly confuting the objections so frequently urged by their opponents. The objections, repeated daily, are that Missions notwithstanding all the expenditure of time and money, had accomplished little or nothing; second, that home duties, not foreign Missions, demand our chief or entire attention, and that, when so much home-work remains undone, it is wrong to waste our energies on foreign Missions; and third, that it is better for those in darkness to remain so, as by bringing to them the light of the Gospel we thereby place them under greater responsibilities. He met the objections by proving that the first was absolutely contrary to established, well-known facts. That so far from the second objection being valid, they who most exerted themselves in behalf of foreign missions were always the most earnest and persevering in the discharge of home duties, and in ameliorating the condition of their own home and their own country. In reply to the third objection, it was met directly by the command of our Lord: "Go, teach all nations." He spoke of the vast mission fields of China and Japan, and the work done and doing there—of the progress of Christianity, and the accompanying civilization and elevating of the people in those densely inhabited empires. Foreign mission work he declared to be the strongest proof of life in a Church—to be the best promoter of home missions and personal religion, and to bring down blessings on those engaged in it. He suggested three means by which the congregation could help missions: first, by prayer—earnest faithful prayer for their success; second, by engaging personally in mission work; and third, by giving money liberally, cheerfully—giving money, which is essential to mission work.

Rev. W. H. Tilley, in an excellent address, told of what had been accomplished in many countries by the missionaries of the Church. He described

the state of Mexico before a European had set foot upon its shores—of the conquest of that semi-civilized country by Spanish discoverers and the conversion of its people to the Christianity of Rome by Spanish priests, with the introduction of the Inquisition—of ages of darkness and ignorance—of the recent reformation, from the reading of the Bible—of the similarity of this Reformation with that of England, priests and people casting off the incrustations of ages and retaining all that was pure and Apostolical, arriving at the same conclusions that had been arrived at by the martyrs and confessors of the Apostolic Church in England—of the recent election to be bishops of the two priests who had first cast aside the unauthorized additions of the dark days to the truth, the bishops-elect now awaiting consecration by the constituted authorities of the American Church. In that country there are forty-five congregations that, with their bishops, will be in communion with us of the old church, the Church of England.

Rev. R. H. Starr expressed his delight at again addressing a congregation in old St. Pauls. The work, he said, that prompted them was that of christianity. He met the objections urged against the mission work by pointing out the great achievements in the mission field. He appealed to the logic of facts. In India there are now 500 missionaries and 46,000 converts; in China and Japan 180 missionaries, 7,000 converts and 10,000 communicants. Madagascar, in the year 1860, had very few converts, but has now 200,000. More has been done, greater advance has been made, greater numbers have been led from the darkness of heathenism and false religion, to embrace the truths of the Gospel within the last ten years, according to the means, than was ever done before. He showed the power of the Gospel in elevating nations from the very lowest depths of degradation to which it was possible for man to fall, to civilization and, immeasurably above other blessings, to the knowledge of the one true God.

Mr. E. B. Reed, Secretary of the Synod, in a very good address, presented to the meeting some interesting reports of the Diocesan work done and being done. The synopsis we give presents a very imperfect idea of the meeting, being not from notes taken, but from our memory, and impressions deeply made upon our mind. Thursday evening was the missionary meeting in the Memorial Church. A large attendance and a good collection. Saturday—this evening, the missionary meeting is to be held in Christ's Church.

ALGOMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Missionary Bishop of Algoma, who, since the close of navigation, has been engaged in visiting various parishes and missions in the Dioceses of Montreal, Toronto, Niagara and Huron, for the purpose of "telling his tale," and endeavouring to keep up an interest in his dependent Diocese, started on Wednesday, 24th inst., on a Visitation and Confirmation tour through the Muskoka and Parry Sound Free Grant Districts, which form the southern portion of the Missionary Diocese of Algoma. Appended is a list of appointments:—

January 26th to 31st, Gravenhurst, Alport and Uffington. February 1st, Muskoka Road; 2nd, South Falls; 3rd to 6th, Bracebridge and Stoneleigh; 7th to 7th, Falkenburg, Barnsville and Hutton's. Sunday, 11th, Port Sydney and Huntsville; 12th, Scotia; 13th, The Cedars; 14th to 16th, Stisted Road, Coulson's and Port Sydney. Sunday, 18th, Brunel, Beatrice and Ufford; 19th to 23rd, Parry Sound Road, Ullswater, etc.; 24th to 26th, Rosseau, etc.; 27th, Brasley's, and thence into the Parry Sound District and the Magnetawan.

It is not faith, nor repentance, nor baptism, that actually saves, but the power of Christ. He does the saving, we do the receiving. The Word does not teach that, "believing and being baptized saves;" but "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," by the Lord who makes the promise.

Oh! what deep humility there is in deep pleadings of the cross!