

on the 16th of that month, the surpliced choir of St. Alban's, under the able direction of Dr. Davies, assisting. Since that date, owing chiefly to the energetic labours of the incumbent, the congregation has steadily increased in numbers, until now the temporary church is well filled at the Sunday services. Some time previous to Easter, practices of men and boys were inaugurated with the view of instituting a surpliced choir. There was such a hearty interest taken in this matter both by those practising as well as by the ladies of the church, who supplied the cassocks and surplices, that the choir were vested and took the services in a most creditable manner on the first Sunday after Easter. Ever since then there has been a steady improvement in the rendering of the Church's services, which are now noted at St. Barnabas for their great heartiness and congregational singing. On the fourth Sunday after Easter the Lord Bishop of the diocese held a confirmation in this church, at which a goodly number were presented for the Apostolic rite. The service was well rendered, and the singing, both by the choir and congregation, excellent. The church was crowded to its utmost capacity, and many were obliged to stand throughout the service. The Bishop, in his address, took occasion to congratulate the congregation and rector on the rapid strides church work had made in the parish, and to thoroughly and heartily endorse the surpliced choir, and all that a surpliced choir meant, as being entirely Catholic and Anglican. He wished the congregation good luck in the name of the Lord.

KINGSTON.—Last Tuesday evening All Saints' church was packed with worshippers, and many people had to stand until the close of the proceedings. The altar was decked by beautiful flowers and illuminated by many wax tapers. The service began by the moving of a procession, consisting of his lordship the Bishop of Ontario, Rev. Messrs. Spencer and Daykin, and the surpliced choir. When the preliminary service was finished, the Bishop addressed the candidates for confirmation, twelve in number, seven females and five males. He warned them against growing up in ignorance of the doctrines and discipline of the Church. In the present day it was very necessary that those concerned should be warned against ignorance of the history of the Church, her faith and discipline. Thousands have left the Church because they were ignorant of her history. He exhorted them to understand their own religion. Young men and young women, as they go out into the world, and into such a world as is in Canada, cannot fail to hear hard things said of the Church of England. They will hear her doctrines misinterpreted, oftentimes caricatured. Sometimes people will say her doctrines are not scriptural, but superstitious; sometimes they will be called popish, and because young men and women, brought up into the Church, could not answer the objections, they have fallen away, become victims and proselytes to some miserable sect of a few years existence. He wished them to understand the Church was not a sect. A sect is something cut off or lopped off from something. The Church was never cut off or lopped off. It is the Catholic Church of England, and has the same incorporate existence she had 1,800 years ago, varying with civilization and with the changes of the world. If they study her history they would become firm churchmen, and would be benefitted educationally. In doing this they would be studying the history of the British empire, and would be fired with zeal on learning of the martyrs and heroes of the Church. They would not then become "victims of some wretched mushroom sect of last year's growth." He referred to the ritual of All Saints' church, intimating that it was different from the ritual used in other churches in the city. It is in accordance with the wide comprehension of the Church of England. Mere ritual itself is useless. They must have a ritual because they cannot do without it. They could no more escape forms than they could escape from their shadow when the sun is shining. He was sure the ritual satisfied them, and he wanted them to prove to the world by living godly lives, that the ritual did satisfy them. He spoke of religious excitement, and said they all knew the results of revivals. Often physical exhaustion was taken for religious impressions. He warned them to beware of impressions got in this way. Depend upon impressions, secured not by excitement, but by prayers, and by the instruments which God gave to the Church.

His lordship deprecated the comparatively new idea of holding evening celebrations of the Holy Eucharist as entirely contrary to the mind of the Church of England, and added that confirmation was generally administered by him in the morning, so that the first communion would at once follow. This confirmation, however, being in the evening, they could not communicate immediately, but he admonished the candidates to receive their first communion without delay.

TORONTO.

TORONTO.—St. James'.—A meeting of the Toronto chapters of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was held in the schoolhouse on Tuesday evening, to make further arrangements for the convention of the Canadian chapters on June 9th. The six city chapters were all represented, and it was stated that two more would be organized before the date of the convention. An executive committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Heath, Reid, Rae, Wenslow, Code, Medforth and DuMoulin (secretary). A letter was read from Mr. Hotelling, president of the organization in the United States, stating that a suitable delegate would be sent from the States to address the convention. Letters were also read from several Canadian parishes on the subject. The question of having an annual Canadian convention, or sending delegates to that in the States, was discussed, and it was decided to be the opinion of the meeting that the former course would be the better. This decision, however, it was clearly shown, was merely that of the Toronto chapters, and that the coming convention alone could officially decide the matter. It was resolved to have an early celebration of the Holy Communion on June 9th, with an afternoon session, and service for men only in the evening, the sermon to be given by a special preacher. The secretary particularly requests that chapters which have not already done so, communicate with him without delay, as arrangements have to be made for the reception of delegates.

COBourg.—Sunday, the 27th ult., witnessed, in St. Peter's church, the most interesting services of confirmation and the induction of the rector, Rev. A. W. Sprague, to the formal possession of the rights, privileges, and emoluments of one of the oldest and important rectories of the diocese of Toronto, or, indeed, of the whole province. His Lordship was the guest of the rector. Morning prayer was held at 8 a.m. At the 11 o'clock service the church was crowded. The rite of confirmation and first communion was administered to forty-seven candidates—18 males and 29 females; prior to which His Lordship addressed the candidates, showing them the responsibilities they were assuming; that the promises made for them by their sponsors at baptism were, in themselves, now being carried out in their becoming members of Christ, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven; that they were now being admitted to the full fellowship and communion of the Church; and that being sons and daughters of Almighty God the Father, who was ever more prone to show mercy and pity than righteous indignation and just punishment upon evil. In the afternoon the special monthly children's service was held, at which His Lordship again addressed his hearers, his remarks being specially adapted to the scholars of the Sunday school, who were made to understand, in such language as suited their tender years, that they were under the care of a heavenly Father, "who neither slumbers nor sleeps;" who is about their path and about their bed; and "spies out all their ways,"—the text being "Thou God seest me," which, if always remembered through life, would prevent much wrong-doing and its consequences.

The induction of the rector took place immediately before the usual evening service. The Mandate of Induction, a lengthy legal document, conferring the peaceable possession, rights, privileges, and emoluments accruing from the Glebe lands and house of residence appertaining to the rectory and living of Cobourg, was read; the keys of the church were then handed formally by the churchwardens, Mr. Burn and Mr. Osler, to the rector; as also the church books by the Bishop, who, in formal words, admonished the rector to teach no other doctrine than that of the Church of England as set forth in her liturgies and articles. The Bishop then preached an able and eloquent sermon upon the duties of the clergyman to the parishioners, and they to their clergyman; advising and entreating all to set aside petty bickerings and jealousies; to love and aid their minister for the work's sake. The whole sermon was really a masterpiece of careful and ornate preparation,—one that was acknowledged by all to be worth remembering, and to say "that it was good for us to have been here." Bishop Sweatman held confirmation services at Gore's Landing, where Rev. George Ledingham is pastor, and on Tuesday, at Grafton. During his episcopacy, of some twelve years, the Bishop has confirmed, in all parts of his diocese, over 15,000 candidates. Having to make annual tours for this purpose, often to very remote and isolated parts, even where no railways exist, it cannot be said that the life of a Canadian bishop is a sinecure; or that the *otium cum dignitate* is now-a-days, at least, a motto of the English Church, her bishops and clergy.

NIAGARA.

HAMILTON.—Ascension Day was duly observed as the annual festival at the Church of the Ascension, by a celebration at 10.30, and festival evensong at

8 p.m. The church was exquisitely decorated with flowers, a reredos of flowering cherry and scarlet japonica with a centre of exquisite roses, formed a striking feature, whilst sprays of the pure white cherry, fastened to the dossal, made a most artistic effect. The pulpit was also very handsomely decorated with the same beautiful white cherry, intermixed with rich coloured tulips. The font was equally beautiful with roses and wisteria. At the evening service the Bishop, the Dean, and five of the clergy of the city were present, Canon Sutherland, of St. Mark's, being the preacher. The offerings were for the diocese of Algoma, and amounted to \$86. The choir, augmented for the occasion, sang for anthem, "Unfold ye Portals," from Gounod's Redemption, and, during the offertory, "Lovely appear," from the same beautiful work. A large and devout congregation was present, and joined heartily in the hymns and chants.

ALGOMA.

MARKSVILLE, ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND.—Having left St. Joseph's Island for the mission of Sudbury (Algoma) Rev. C. Piercy requests that all communications in future be addressed to him at Sudbury.

ILFRACOMBE.—On Thursday, the 15th inst., Miss Catherine Jane Fair, of Christ church Sunday school, entertained her scholars at her residence in Charlton. The weather was favourable, and the children were amused with a variety of games. After tea, Miss Fair presented a gift to each of her scholars in addition to a picture book and Bible or testament according to the age or qualifications of the children. The Rev. L. Sinclair, incumbent, expressed his pleasure in the proceedings of the day, and sincere gratitude that the children had such a valuable and kind teacher as Miss Fair.

QU'APPELLE.

REGINA.—The Synod of the diocese of Qu'Appelle will meet this year in St. Paul's church, Regina, on June 3rd, instead of in the cathedral town as in the past. The Bishop proposes to hold a Quiet Day for the clergy on the day following the Synod. The vestry of St. Paul's church decided, at their recent Easter meeting, to set about the building of a permanent church in place of the temporary wooden structure now in use. The rector, the Rev. Leonard Dawson, B.A., is chairman of the building committee, on which the following gentlemen have consented to act: Messrs. H. LeJeune and J. D. Sibbald, churchwardens, R. B. Gordon, Hayter Reed, James Brown, W. Stevenson, G. T. Marsh, D. L. Scott, Q.C., and others. At the preliminary meeting seven gentlemen promised \$3,300 towards the fund, six giving \$500 each and one \$300. It was decided to obtain plans for the church, the first part of which would cost from \$12,500 to \$15,000.

GRENFELL.—The church of St. Andrew, in the Weed Hills, eleven miles south of Grenfell, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Qu'Appelle on Sunday, 11th May. The little church was crowded, in spite of the inclement weather, and looked very beautiful with its tinted windows, and the abundance of exquisite flowers which loving hands had arranged in the altar vases and on the retable. The Bishop entered the church at 11 o'clock, preceded by the Rev. G. Nelson Dobie, as staff-bearer, and followed by the Rev. Frank J. Baker, incumbent of Grenfell, who acted as chaplain, Psalm 122 being read in passing up the church. After the singing of the *Veni Creator* the Litany was said, after which the Bishop proceeded with the consecration service. The church having been duly set apart and dedicated to the service of Almighty God, a procession was formed, the clergy leading the way, followed by the churchwardens and congregation, for the consecration of the churchyard. Returning to the church the service of Holy Communion followed, the Bishop preaching a practical sermon on the nature of divine worship and the necessity of its public celebration, taking as his text, "My house is the house of prayer." The offering of alms was devoted to the building fund, and amounted to \$13.65. The Bishop expressed himself as much pleased with the new church and its handsome and tasteful appointments. In the evening His Lordship preached at St. Michael's, Grenfell, basing a powerful exhortation to a life of real self-denial on the words, "Shall I offer unto the Lord of that which doth cost me nothing?"

QU'APPELLE STATION.—The choir of the Pro cathedral gave a performance of Farmer's Hymnal Oratorio, "Christ and His Soldiers," on SS. Philip and James' Day, 1st May. There was a crowded congregation, and the different numbers were given with much spirit and feeling under the direction of Mr. E. Harold Dee, the Brother superior of St. John's College, who acts as organist and choir master. The