

PARKDALE.—On the invitation of the rector, a ten days' mission was conducted in this parish by the Rev. O. P. Ford, commencing on Monday evening, Nov. 27th. The services each day were as follows: At 7.30 a.m., a celebration of the Holy Communion, with an appropriate address; at 12 noon, a meditation; at 4 p.m., short evening and an instruction, and at 8 p.m., a mission service consisting of prayer, the singing of hymns, and a sermon. In addition to the usual services on the Saturday, there was a children's mission service at 3 p.m., and the meeting at 4 on this day was for women only, the address being upon the three Marys at the Cross of Jesus; the Virgin, type of all those who give themselves up entirely to the religious life; the wife of Cleophas, type of those who serve their Master in the Christian home, and Mary Magdalene, type of all who have abandoned the life of sin for the life of holiness. On Advent Sunday there were two celebrations of the Holy Communion, a children's service at 3 p.m., and one for men only at 4 p.m. The address to men was one much needed upon "true manliness." The sermons on Sunday, on the "Christian home" in the morning, and "The four last things" in the evening, were most impressive. The addresses at all the services were very earnest; none could fail to be touched by the earnest appeal and encouragements of the preacher. The addresses at the Holy Communion were chiefly upon prayer and the Holy Eucharist. The subjects of the meditations were the four last things, the Passion, God, and the fruits of the mission. The instructions, although each was complete in itself, formed a continuous course on Baptism, Confirmation, two on the Holy Communion, Absolution, Matrimony, and the Holy Catholic Church. Each was a clear and forcible enunciation of the teaching of that branch of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church to which we belong. The evening sermons were upon subjects of a more general character, the Missioner leading his hearers step by step through the work of repentance. At the close of the mission all felt that great good had resulted from the effort which had been made. Some who only attended the latter part of the mission regretted that they had not earlier availed themselves of the opportunity of listening to and profiting by the faithful evangelical teaching of the Missioner. It is earnestly hoped (D.V.) that a mission on a larger scale may be attempted at an earlier day. *Laus Deo!*

HASTINGS.—The Rev. J. McCleary begs to acknowledge the receipt from Mrs. E. O'Reilly, of the C. W. M. A., one box of clothing for a poor family, books and toys for a Christmas tree, also a Communion set for St. James' Church, Alnwick. All the articles were very suitable, and the Communion set was very good and beautiful, and gave great satisfaction.

DIXIE.—*St. John's Church.*—The annual Christmas festival of the Sunday-school in connection with this church excited more than usual interest this year, on account of a presentation to the organist, and likewise to the superintendent of the Sunday-school. Miss Price, the organist, was made the recipient of a purse containing \$20. To Mr. C. Pallett a handsome family Bible was given. Each of them were agreeably surprised. They replied to the address in suitable terms.

NIAGARA.

The bishop is preparing a series of sermons to meet some of the chief statements of infidel and agnostic writers. His Lordship will do good service with his pen in this direction. He has already delivered two very interesting and practical sermons of the series.

We are glad to hear very favourable reports that Mrs. Fuller is progressing favourably towards recovery.

OBITUARY.—Joys and sorrows are ever closely intermingled. But to those who love the name of Jesus neither earthly joys nor earthly sorrows will be of much weight even at Christmas tide; all thought of these will be lost in the one great thought that at Christmas Jesus was born; Jesus, Whose life they are trying to copy; Jesus, Whom "having not seen they love," and Whose face they long to see.

The Rev. E. A. Taylor, missionary at Palermo and Omagh, died on December 23rd. Mr. Taylor was ordained about eleven years ago by the late Bishop Bethune. He was appointed to Albion and Mono. This mission was far too arduous for one of his delicate constitution, and on resigning it after a few months, he took charge of Palermo and Omagh in the Diocese of Niagara, where he continued working zealously till he was prostrated by severe illness about eighteen months since. He partially recovered, though never able to resume active duty, but continued more or less unwell, until he peacefully expired a few hours before Christmas morning.

Mrs. Green, relict of the Rev. Thos. Green, many years rector of Niagara, died on Christmas day.

Mrs. Sarah Milne, of Ancaster, relict of the late Alexander S. Milne, barrister, aged 71 years, died on December 27.

John Roles, at Hamilton, late of Belleville, aged 80 years, on December 30. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord . . . for they rest from their labours."

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. R. Gardiner to be rector of Willand; the Rev. A. G. E. Westmacott to Moorefield, Wellington, N.B.; the Rev. C. R. Lee, B.A., incumbent of Mount Forest, to be Rural Dean of Wellington, *vice* Rev. R. Conner, left the deanery and removed to Port Colborne.

ORANGEVILLE.—*St. Mark's Church.*—The Festival of the Nativity was as usual duly observed in this parish. The church was beautifully decorated. The altar had white frontals, with the monogram "I.H.S.," in gold letters, in the centre, and the *Alpha* and *Omega* at either side. There has also been erected a temporary rood screen bearing suitable Christmas mottoes. At Evensong, on Christmas eve, the church was so very much crowded, extra seats had to be provided. This service was in connection with the Sunday-school. The children's hearty responding and singing, especially the singing in the processional and recessional hymns, was of a very pleasing character, giving evidence of careful training. The incumbent, the Rev. A. Henderson, preached an eloquent sermon on the occasion, on "Loyalty to Church doctrine and Bible truth." There were two Celebrations on Christmas Day, at 8 and 11 o'clock respectively.

On Friday, the 29th inst., the annual S. S. Festival was held in the Town Hall. The children occupied seats on a raised platform. The entertainment, which was highly successful, financially and otherwise, consisted of short addresses by clergymen from neighbouring parishes, good music and singing, choice dialogues, etc., previous to which all were treated to a bountiful supply of good tea and cake.

ST. CATHARINES.—*St. Barnabas' Church.*—The decorators in this church have evidently worked hard, and to good purpose. The slender wreathings which is here altogether used instead of the old-fashioned heavy style, is more elegant and suitable for church adornment. The rood screen, covered with evergreen, and decked out with bunches of white and scarlet berries, surmounted with banners and a running Christmas text in straw tissue; the windows prettily diapered in green; the altar with its white frontal and vases of choice flowers; the fine display of banners and designs in different parts of the church, all combine and present a truly festive appearance. The font, with its cross and delicate festoons of evergreen and red berries, is a beautiful object. The Christmas services on the eve and day of festival were attended by large and devout congregations, the number of communicants being larger than at any previous Christmas. The choir was assisted by eight instruments in addition to the organ, and the carols and hymns were rendered with soul-stirring emphasis and spirit. Excellent sermons were preached by the Rev. A. W. Macnab, incumbent, and the Rev. R. T. Nichol, of Port Hope. Great improvements have lately been made in this church. The chancel walls are now covered with a rich, dark paper, set off by a dado in handsome gilt figure of ecclesiastical pattern, and a skillfully chosen frieze border. The ceiling is panelled in light blue and neutral shades. All this, and the colouring of the nave in warm salmon tint, with stencil work above and below, produce an admirable effect. We are informed that the work was carried out by parishioners, "all for love and not for reward."

HAMILTON.—St. Luke's Mission Sunday-school has a large and increasing roll. At the end of six months 125 scholars are reported in attendance. The chapel has recently been enlarged, and looks neat and well arranged. The Christmas decorations were excellent. We wish all concerned a Happy New Year.

BARTON.—*Holy Trinity.*—A rural-decanal meeting, for South Wentworth and Haldimand, is appointed for the 18th inst., to commence at 10 a.m. A missionary service will be held at 7.30 p.m., in the same church.

ALGOMA.

HILTON, ST. JOSEPH IS.—The Rev. H. Beer desires to thank Mrs. Jeffrey of Marquette, Mich., for five dollars given to Mrs. J. Marks to purchase a carpet for the chancel of Hilton Church.

On Dec. 5th the Rev. H. Beer was presented with a beautiful sleigh robe by Mrs. Marks, assisted by a few members of the congregation. This pleasant event gives him fresh encouragement to continue his efforts for the spiritual welfare of the people.

GRAVENHURST.—Mr. Wm. Funnis acknowledges with sincere thanks, the gift of a parcel of Christmas presents from Mrs. O'Reilly, Toronto, for the Sunday School at Northwood.

GORE BAY. The Rev. W. Macanley Tooke begs to acknowledge, very gratefully the sum of \$5, per H. L. Morphy, Esq., from the Thadford Sunday School to the Sunday Schools of this Mission.

BRITISH.

DEAN GEDDES.—*Restoration of Tatsfield Church, Surrey, England.*—We heartily congratulate this venerable friend, whose name is so familiar in the dioceses of Canada, on the restoration and re-opening of Tatsfield Church in Surrey, England, on the 19th November. Dean Geddes was appointed here on his leave of absence from Christ's Church, Hamilton. The *Sussex Advertiser* has an interesting account of the occasion. The church dates from the end of the 11th century. We remember when visiting Tatsfield Church, feeling deeply impressed by its stately and venerable appearance. Although somewhat decayed and weakened by the hand of time, it seemed to tell us of its days and years of national prosperity and adversity, of individual joy and sorrow, of Christian faith and hope. Our esteemed Dean Geddes is still busy and successful in the trust of the parish committed to him in England. The restoration of the church has been accomplished chiefly by private subscriptions, aided by two grants, each of £20, one from the Rochester Diocesan Society, and the other from the Incorporated Church Building Society.

Lay workers in the Church have good reason to rejoice at the prospect of Bishop Benson's elevation to the Primacy, for his Lordship has not only welcomed lay help in his Cornish parishes, as the only possible means of providing small hamlets with spiritual ministrations, but he has admitted licensed Readers to Holy Orders under special conditions. In Truro diocese a Reader who has performed his duties to the satisfaction of the Bishop, and has secured the necessary testimonial of continuous and efficient service from his parish priest, is received as a candidate for Holy Orders, and we believe that many such men have been ordained since the diocese was constituted. The importance of this fact at a moment when things seem ripe for the development of lay help in the Church is obvious.—*Church Bells.*

It was recently suggested by a correspondent that a Prayer-book Churchman and a *Church Bells* Churchman were synonymous terms; and when we say that, as far as we are acquainted with his Lordship's public acts and utterances, we believe that we might apply either term to him, we can give no better evidence of the satisfaction which we feel at his probable acceptance of the post.—*Ibid.*

Every eye will look with admiration to the marvellous results of the few years of his episcopate; he has turned a stronghold of indifference and Dissent into a flourishing diocese; he has quadrupled the number of churches, and roused the dormant activity of the laity as no other Bishop of recent times has done; he has made for himself an enviable reputation in every Cornish home, and to his personal qualities—scholarship, charity, true-heartedness, and a commanding presence—every one who has once seen him will bear witness. Altogether, we have much reason to be gratified at the appointment of Dr. Benson to the chair of St. Augustine.—*Review.*

The Church press generally speaks in equally glowing terms to the above of the new Archbishop. The marvellous success of Dr. Benson in Truro diocese, the very centre of Methodism, shows how men's systems collapse when the Church of God comes in the power of strong convictions and earnest loyalty.

The last occasion on which Archbishop Tait preached was, we believe, at Martin's-in-the-Fields on behalf of the Guild of St. Martin, a society founded by the Rev. A. H. Stanton, of St. Alban's, Holborn, for the postmen of London. The last public act of the deceased was the confirmation of the young princes, the sons of the Prince of Wales. The last Bishop the Archbishop consecrated was the Ven. Charles James Branch, D.D., who was consecrated in the private chapel of Lambeth Palace on the 25th July last to be Bishop-Coadjutor of Antigua. The last church consecrated by his Grace was one which serves as a chapel-of-ease for the parish of Bexley, which took place on June 11.

THE CHURCH IN SPAIN.—Senor Cabrera, "Bishop-elect of Madrid," left Ireland on the 8th Dec., for Spain; after an extensive tour of meetings held on behalf of the Spanish, Portuguese, and Mexican Church Aid Society, in the course of which he visited Belfast, Derry, Limerick, Cork, and Waterford. A large number of bishops, it is reported, are in favour of the con-