

er. There can be no more consistent or satisfying celebration of Christmas than by carrying its sunny smiles to the friendless, the suffering; and let all remember that the holidays which bring no blessing from the poor can command no blessings from heaven.

To Our Readers

This month's issue closes Vol. 3 of the WESTERN CHURCHMAN. The venture originated in September, 1896, when the General Synod met in the city of Winnipeg. Its founder and first proprietor carried it on as a weekly paper for some months; as there was not sufficient support forthcoming, it was issued, for a time, under the same management, as a monthly paper. In April, 1897, it passed into the hands of the Western Churchman Publishing Company, by whom it has since been published. Church folks in the North-West have not given it the needed support, and in consequence its issue has been attended with many difficulties.

There seems to be no doubt in the minds of many of our best church people as to the need for a paper specially devoted to the interests of the Church of England in Manitoba and the North-West; but hitherto, there has not been that active practical interest which should have been evinced.

Doubtless there has been much cause for censure in respect of the conduct of the WESTERN CHURCHMAN; for want of judgment, and any other fault of which we have been guilty, we are deeply sorry. We have had much to try us and discourage our efforts; but, in spite of all this, the paper lives, and we trust will live.

Last month His Grace the Archbishop kindly sent us for publication his journal for October; and we expect a similar contribution every month. This alone ought to make the paper of value to all who take a real interest in church work. We have no desire to make the WESTERN CHURCHMAN a partisan paper; its columns are open to every loyal member of the Church of England; and we challenge any one to say that we have ever refused a literary contribution on account of the opinions of the writer. We do earnestly desire to give justice to every party; and we mean to continue the policy which has actuated us in the past, of accepting items of news, etc., from every parish which cares to send the same, irrespective of party.

We again earnestly ask churchmen to give us their support in our efforts to provide a good church paper for the North-West; and we would beg those who have not yet paid their subscription for 1898 to do so at their earliest convenience.

We shall be grateful to our clerical friends if they will do what they can to aid us. Commencing with the January (1899) issue, we intend publishing short church stories by well-known writers, and in this way we hope to make the WESTERN CHURCHMAN take the place of the localized English monthly papers that have of late years been in circulation in the parishes.

The Archbishop's Notes.

On Friday, November 4th, the Archbishop went out to Carman, 57 miles from Winnipeg, which is at present under the superintendence of the Rev. C. O'Meara, Rector of Morden, and is served by his son, Mr. F. C. O'Meara, as lay reader, who attended St. John's College last year. The rector of Morden and his son met the Archbishop, who, during his stay in Carman, was a guest in the parsonage of Mr. and Mrs. O'Meara. The candidates for confirmation were prepared by Mr. F. C. O'Meara under the guidance of the Rector of Morden.

On Sunday, November 6th, there was service in the forenoon in the Church of St. John's, Carman. The Archbishop preached and celebrated the Lord's Supper. There were about forty communicants. In the afternoon the Archbishop baptised several children in the church, and in the evening there was a confirmation service. Twenty were confirmed, of whom twelve were males—thirteen were adults over twenty-one. The congregations were large. Good progress has been made in the removal of the debt on the church buildings. Mr. O'Meara's services seem very acceptable, and there is such a hopeful feeling that probably this parish will soon be self-supporting.

The Archbishop returned to Winnipeg on Tuesday, November 8th, and went to Brandon on Friday evening, Nov. 11th, on his way to the Baldur mission, 175 miles from Winnipeg by that route. On Saturday he went out by the N. P. railway to Belmont; and in the afternoon, along with the Rev. W. E. Hobbes, met several of the parishioners, and discussed with them the building of a church at Belmont. As there is a grant from the S. P. G. Marriott Bequests, in addition to the probability of a grant from the S. P. C. K. if the church is built before December 31, 1900. It seems very desirable that an effort should be made without delay, but there was a good deal of hesitation shown, owing to a poor return from the crops this season. The Archbishop preached in the forenoon in the Presbyterian church, which is kindly given up at that time for the use of the English church. There was a good congregation. During his stay at Belmont the Archbishop and Mr. Hobbes were kindly entertained by Mr. Charles Cannon. On Sunday afternoon the Archbishop proceeded to Baldur and held a confirmation in the afternoon in St. Mark's church, which is an excellent building but not yet out of debt. There was a large congregation. Seventeen were confirmed—again, thirteen were adults over twenty-one. This speaks of good and hopeful work. The Archbishop was also glad to find quite a good number of children in the Sunday school. There was again a good congregation in the evening, when the Archbishop preached. Some considerable progress is likely to be made this season in the reduction of the debt on the church. Mr. Hobbes finds the times rather hard in this district from the unsatisfactory character of the crops. The Archbishop's kind hosts were Mr. and Mrs. George Scruton.

On Monday the Archbishop left for Brandon and returned to Winnipeg on Tuesday. On Saturday, November 19th, the Archbishop went out to Shoal Lake, which is 171