

MILLBROOK.—For some time past the Rector and congregation of St. Thomas' Church, Millbrook, have had in contemplation many extensive improvements both of the exterior and interior of the Church. It was proposed to deepen the chancel, build an organ chamber and make other alterations, involving an outlay of about \$2,500. At a recent meeting of the Church members it was resolved to build a new Church on the site of the old one, the probable cost of which will be \$6,500. The architect is Mr. John Belcher, of Peterborough. No doubt the Rector, Rural Dean Allen, will effect the project he has now in view, as his aims are certain to be ably seconded by the people.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

(From our own correspondent.)

OTTAWA.—*Christ Church.—Welcome and Farewell*—On Wednesday evening, the 28th ult., a large number of the adult members of the congregation of Christ Church, Ottawa, attended a social meeting in the school room of the Church, to welcome the Rector, Dr. Lauder, Archdeacon of Ottawa, on his return from his extended tour of about eighteen months in Europe. The opportunity was taken to present addresses of farewell, accompanied by several testimonials, to the Rev. B. B. Smith, Assistant Minister, who has been appointed Rector of St. Peter's Church, Sherbrooke, Diocese of Quebec. Dr. Hill presided, and amongst those present were the Bishop of Ontario, Rural Dean Bogert, Mr. A. J. Cambie, Churchwarden; Mr. Charles Mageo, Mr. Francis Clomow, Rev. Henry Pollard, Mr. E. P. Kemon, Mr. H. Hartney, Dr. Wickstead, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. William H. Rowley, Mr. Charles MacNab, Mr. Richard Bishop, Mr. G. W. Wickstead, Mr. W. R. Wright, Mr. Francis Abbott, Rev. Thomas Garrett, Mr. Albyn Jones, Dr. H. P. Wright, Mr. Lawrence Fortescue, Mr. J. Christie, Mr. C. E. Anderson, Rev. G. J. Low, Mr. Thomas Hector, Mr. Shaw, Mr. A. J. Christie, Mr. C. W. Suay, Mr. Thomas Ridout, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Henry Living, Mr. S. C. Keir, Mr. Russell, Mr. Mills, Mr. Clarke, and others, and a large number of ladies. A variety of refreshments were provided by the ladies of the congregation, and were served by the teachers of the Sunday School, the ladies looking very nice indeed in their tasty caps and aprons. Dr. Hill opened the meeting with a few complimentary and welcoming remarks to the Archdeacon, after which he called upon Mr. Clomow, in the absence of Mr. Cousins, Rector's Churchwarden, who was confined to his house by illness, to read the formal address of welcome, which was as follows:—

The Venerable Archdeacon of Ottawa, D. C. L., Rector of Christ Church, Ottawa:

MY DEAR ARCHDEACON:—I am requested by the congregation of Christ Church to welcome you home after your eighteen months sojourn in Europe.

It has been most gratifying to us to have heard, from time to time during your absence, that your holiday was restoring you to your usual health, and which you well deserved after a quarter of a century's incessant work in this parish.

This evening it is my pleasing duty to congratulate you on your safe return, looking all the better for your visit to your native land, Ireland; also old England and sunny Italy. And I express the hope, a hope in which I am joined in by the entire congregation, that through God's blessing you may be spared for many years to come, and in the language of your country let me conclude by wishing you, on behalf of the congregation, a *cead mille failte*.

H. HILL, M. D., Chairman.

Ottawa, March 28th, 1883.

The Archdeacon replied, thanking the congregation for the kind words with which he was welcomed back to Ottawa. An intermission was then given, during which a duett was given by Mr. Rowan Legg and Miss Denzil. "Jack's Come Home" was splendidly given by Mr. W. J. Johnston, assisted by a chorus of four fine male voices. Miss Hayton, a new member of the choir, recently from England, gave a song in pleasing style, and

was followed by Mr. Cambie reading the following address to the Rev. B. B. Smith:—

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—Having been deputed to address you this evening, I feel my utter inability to do so in words sufficiently strong and appropriate to express the deep and sincere regret felt at your departure from among us. While we can heartily congratulate you upon being appointed the rector of an influential parish like Sherbrooke, and the parish upon securing your services, we cannot strictly say for ourselves that we are glad, as we shall greatly miss you and your visits, and miss your interest in our welfare generally.

Upon an occasion like the present when we are assembled to welcome our rector upon his return from Europe, and to bid you and your wife an affectionate farewell, we know you and Mrs. Smith, who will also be greatly missed in our parish, would rather not make the farewell portion of the evening's proceedings longer than really necessary.

Therefore, reverend and dear sir, permit me to beg your acceptance of the purse and its contents now handed to you, and to assure you and Mrs. Smith that you have the good wishes and sincere prayers of the congregation of Christ Church, Ottawa, for your welfare and happiness in this life and everlasting joy in the world to come.

On behalf of the congregation and for myself,

Yours faithfully,

A. J. CAMBIE,
Church Warden.

Ottawa, March 28th, 1883.

The address was accompanied by a purse containing \$143. Mrs. Donaldson, on behalf of the Sunday School Teachers and Bible Class, presented Mr. Smith with a magnificently gilt and morocco-bound copy of the "Dore Gallery," valued, I am told, at about \$40. It is a beautiful collection of engravings of the master's finest works, along with letter press descriptions. The Sunday School also presented Mrs. Smith with a beautifully designed Easter card and a bouquet. Mr. Smith made a brief reply. He thanked the congregation for its kindness, though it was only in keeping with the kindly way in which he had been treated ever since he had been appointed Assistant Minister in this important parish. The seventeen or eighteen months he had spent with them had been a very happy time. An excellent musical programme was well rendered, and reflected great credit on the choir to which all the singers belonged. The music was under the direction of Mr. J. W. F. Harrison, organist and choir-master. The Rev. Mr. Smith will be unable to assume the Rectorate at Sherbrooke until after Sunday, the 8th April, having to present the candidates for Confirmation to the Bishop on that day at Christ Church.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

THE Standing Committee of the Diocese met on Thursday, March 28. There was a large attendance of members. The Bishop formally announced his intention to resign at the next session of the Synod. He did so, he said, with sincere regret. He had a sincere regard and esteem for the clergy and laity of the Diocese, and in no Diocese had the Bishop received more hearty co-operation. For several years past he had been urged by friends in England to settle in the Old Country. Five years ago he had been offered a position as Bishop in England, and three years ago he had again been urged by the Bishop of Ripon and many leading clergy to accept such position. On his last visit the matter had been urged upon him again in a way he could not refuse. In no case had he sought for such preferment, and on the former occasions he felt that he could not then leave the work which he had inaugurated in this Diocese in educational and ecclesiastical matters. The Cathedral and the Western Universities were two objects very dear to him, and he would not cease to labor to advance the interests of these institutions to the full extent of his power. Another strong reason for his giving consent to the change was the state of Mrs. Hellmuth's health. She was not allowed by physicians to remain in Canada during the winter months, and in summer she was also obliged to go to the seaside. This was his strongest reason for yielding to

the request of the Bishop of Ripon, and the Queen having been pleased to give her assent and consent, he had now only to inform the Committee that he would place his resignation in the hands of the Secretaries on the 1st of July. The Synod will meet on the 19th of June, and a special Synod will be called for the election of a successor within six weeks from the 1st of July. The Synod would have his prayers that God would enable them to make choice of a fit person; and he would also beg that they would pray for him that strength might be given him to carry on his work in the interests of his own Diocese and the Diocese of Huron. The following resolutions were then put and carried by a unanimous standing vote, the Dean being in the chair:—

Moved by Rev. Rural Dean Ballard, of St. Thomas, seconded by A. C. Clark, Esq., of Sarnia, and carried unanimously by the Standing Committee—"Having been informed by His Lordship the Bishop of Huron that his connection with this Diocese is likely soon to be severed in view of his becoming Suffragan of the Diocese of Ripon, with the title of Bishop of Hull, Her Majesty having been pleased to give her assent to the same;

"Be it therefore resolved, That we, as the Standing Committee of the Synod of Huron, desire to put on record our high esteem for His Lordship as well as our deep regret in prospect of his departure from amongst us. We are assured that our Bishop would not entertain a proposition which would involve separation from his present Diocese, to which he has been wedded by labors most abundant during the best years of his life, and where he has achieved so large a measure of success, were it not that he has reasons sufficiently urgent to justify such an important step. We bow in submission to the will of an overruling Providence at this serious crisis of the history of the Diocese of Huron, praying that the Great Head of the Church will bless our dear Bishop in his new sphere of duty, crowning his latter days with joy and peace, and that He will guide in the selection of a successor equal so the occasion. In the administration of this Diocese for the past twelve years we have recognized the consecration of many of those elements which serve to constitute a good Bishop, and which have given our Bishop a wider than a colonial reputation. A ripe scholarship, great wisdom, enduring patience, unflagging energy, unstinted toil, large generosity—these have been unremittingly laid under contribution for the glory of God and for the furtherance of His Church. With feelings of no feigned regret do we look forward to bidding good-bye to our Right Reverend Father in God—a regret, however, which is shared by gratitude and hope—with gratitude to God that with His blessing our Bishop leaves behind him a Diocese which is full of promise of even greater spiritual and financial prosperity than in the past; with hope that, though distant from it, the Diocese shall have the valuable advocacy of his lips and pen and that we may be permitted from time to time to give His Lordship a hearty welcome to the Synods of future years."

Moved by Rev. Canon Innes, seconded by His Honor Judge McMahon, and carried unanimously by a standing vote—"This Standing Committee has learned with pleasure that His Lordship's resignation is not to take place till after the meeting of the Diocesan Synod in June next, and would therefore appoint a sub-committee, consisting of the Very Rev. the Dean, Canons Mulholland and Hill, Rural Deans Ballard and Bland, Revs. W. Young and Gemley, Judge Kingsmill, Messrs. R. Bayly, and V. Cronyn, Skey, Grey, Imlach, Bell, A. C. Clark, A. H. Dymond, to draft an address to be presented to His Lordship at the meeting of the Synod, expressing our deep sense of the value of the services which His Lordship has conferred upon the Church and the Diocese during his connection of now over 20 years, and especially during his Episcopate, and to take such steps as may seem to them best to give in some substantial form a lasting testimonial of our love and appreciation."

The annual service and sermon in connection with the Church of England Institute was held in St. Paul's Church, London, on Wednesday even-