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Prayer, adapted from a Gregorian melody, and a final benediction, which seemed to drop like the gentle dew from heaven, and to fill each heart with a peace that was not of earth. The voices are all well attuned; the style of singing is as refined and cultivated as are the manners of the singers, who in life and conversation would put to the blush any one of those white persons who affect to despise them because they are black—black but comely applies literally to several of the troupe.

On being called upon by one of the city clergy, they expressed their regret that the Church in the South had been absolutely asleep, so far as the coloured people were concerned, and that even yet she had done next to nothing in the way of mission work among them. As a necessary consequence the Roman Catholic, the Methodist, Episcopal, and Baptist bodies had well nigh monopolized the field, and the Church was nowhere. As an example they quoted the city of Nashville, Tenn., in which the Bishop of Tennessee had but one church, and that frequented altogether by white people.

ERRATUM.—In the "Lessons of the Hour" in our last issue the sentence in the middle of the third column of the page should read thus:—

Mr. Oliver said:—"He was one of those who believed that in the two Christian sacraments he had the two services which his Lord and Master had especially appointed, and especially consecrated. . . . As to the absolution, he was prepared to defend it against all comers; and as long as he held that he was a Christian minister he held that he had a power and authority in virtue of his office which his people had not, or else his office meant nothing. . . . He did not believe in regeneration by baptism, but he was not ashamed to say he did believe in the possibility of regeneration in baptism; and the man who told him that regeneration was not possible closed heaven against his babe. Was he to be told that a man could not enter into heaven without regeneration, and that a child could?"

Diocesan Intelligence.

ONTARIO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

The following circular has been issued: To the clergy of the diocese of Ontario. Reverend and dear brethren:—As his Excellency the Governor-General has this year appointed a Day of Thanksgiving earlier than usual, I think it advisable that the customary Harvest Thanksgiving Services should, if possible, be held on that day. Will you therefore kindly call upon your people to observe Thursday, October 20th, as a day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for His having so bountifully bestowed upon us "the kindly fruits of the earth," and also for His other mercies to us during the past year.

I would recommend that, wherever possible, there be a celebration of the Holy Communion; the offertory to be devoted to whatever Church object you consider most deserving. I remain your faithful Brother, J. S. LAUDER, Archdeacon and Commissary. Ottawa, October 1st, 1881.

PERTH.—Thursday September 29th, being the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, was celebrated in the parish by a harvest thanksgiving evensong. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion with grain and autumn leaves, fruit, flowers, vegetables, and banners. The altar was vested in white and over it at the back was a white dossal bearing the holy monogram I. H. S. in red barberries, and bordered simply with wheat-ears and grapes, emblematic of the Blessed Sacrament. It was lighted with six candles in silver candelabra lent by members of the congregation. Around the font was grouped a profusion of choice vegetables and exquisite flowers, forming a striking *tout-ensemble*. The choir stalls (temporary) were perhaps the most artistically decorated part of all, bunches of scarlet-geranium being alternated with the ripe flowers of the maize with excellent effect. The office was said by the Rev. Mr. Gwyllm the earnest deacon in charge of the mission of Lanark; the lessons being read, and an admirable sermon preached from the text, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof," by the rector the Rev. R. L. Stephenson, to whom the congregation owe

this church of St. James, large enough for a cathedral, and possessing one of the finest open wood roofs in the country. Upon the entrance of the clergy the congregation rose and sang "Onward, Christian soldiers." The office throughout was that of St. Michael, except the hymns, which were chosen with reference to the thanksgiving. The congregation was large and the service hearty. This was the first service of the kind here, and it is a pleasure to see the way in which the custom is spreading, not only must it enforce the teaching of the apostle, "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights," but it, as it were, consecrates the everyday life of the people, shewing them how their holy mother the Church, is never forgetful of them, but from the cradle to the grave stands even with loving hands, full of blessings for them if only they will claim it.

STIRLING.—The church in the village is undergoing some repairs, and receiving the finish internally it has been waiting for, for many years. The brick walls are to be gone over with alabastine, giving the church a more cheerful appearance. For a long time smoke in winter from defective flues has been a sore burden to bear, the incumbent now trusts sore eyes are over, one handsome brick chimney, at a cost of \$80, to do the work of the two old stone ones. The grant of the S. P. C. K. made some years ago but just received, is being speedily applied where most needed. The new church at the outstation of this mission, the 8th line of Rawdon, which will be a handsome and neat little structure, is progressing nicely, and the new incumbent Rev. T. Godden, hopes it will be ready for use in the beginning of November. Being the first church of England in the county outside of town or village, it is therefore an object of some interest, and especially is it thought so by the people of the settlement, who subscribed liberally towards its erection. The beautiful toned bell continues to give satisfaction. The ladies who faithfully worked for it feel glad that they have it fully paid for, and something over towards carpetting the chancel.

LANARK.—The lately appointed missionary the Rev. D. V. Gwyllm, is faithfully labouring in the mission field here. In addition to three full services on Sunday he has many week-day services and from house-to-house has cottage lectures for the instruction of the younger members of his flock in the principles of the Book of Common Prayer. The Rev. A. C. Nesbitt, Rural-dean, has signified his intention of visiting this mission with a view to stirring up the different congregations to give a deserving and hard-working missionary an adequate support. Were our archdeacons and Rural-deans to follow Mr. Nesbitt's example, the archdeacons might earn their salaries, and we would have less of "empty titles" and "sham" dignitaries.

TORONTO.

SYNOD OFFICE.—Collections, &c., received during the fortnight ending October 1st, 1881.

MISSION FUND.—*Missionary Meeting*: Cardiff \$3.00; *Missionary Collection*: St. Paul's, Brighton \$1.52; *January Collection*: Cardiff 50 cents; *July Collection*: Cardiff 50 cents; St. Paul's, Mono 79 cents; St. John's, Mono \$1.18; St. John's, Mono Mills \$1.78; Roach's Point, \$3.00. Collection at consecration of Christ Church, Bobcaygeon \$4.92; collection at consecration of St. John's, Dunsford \$1.42.

PERMANENT MISSION FUND.—A. R. Boswell, subscription to October 1st, \$25.00; Rev. Professor Jones, on account of subscription \$20.00.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—*October Collection*: St. Mark's, Parkdale, in full of assessment; \$11.40; Adjala and East Mono, balance of assessment; \$14.74; St. Anne's, Toronto, on account of assessment; \$9.00; Georgina, balance of assessment \$7.18. *Annual Subscriptions*: Rev. Joseph Gander \$5; Rev. W. Stewart Darling \$5.00; Rev. Alexander Sanson \$5.00; St. Paul's, Perrytown, a thank-offering after harvest on the occasion of confirmation \$4.44.

DIVINITY STUDENTS' FUND.—*April Collection*: Cardiff 50 cents.

ALGOMA FUND.—*Day of Intercession Collection*: Cardiff 50 cents.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The Rev. R. Harrison having removed from 88 Lumley-street to 86 Grosvenor-st., requests his correspondents to address their letters, etc., accordingly.

We were happy to receive a call from the Rev. P. T. Rowe, Garden River, diocese of Algoma; also from the Rev. W. A. Reid, Oxford Mills, diocese of Ontario. Mr. Rowe has been labouring very

successfully as a missionary among the Indians for several years in the diocese of Algoma. He preached at St. Mark's, Parkdale, on Sunday morning last, and at the Church of the Ascension in the evening. Mr. Reid preached at St. Luke's in the morning, and at Holy Trinity in the evening.

APSLEY.—St. George's church after having been repaired and altered was reopened for divine service on Wednesday, September 28th. Those who remember this church in its very unchurchly aspect—outwardly imposing in shabbiness, and within worse, with its unpainted woodwork and utter negation of everything ecclesiastical; its walls and ceiling hung with thick brown paper, kept in place, where kept in place at all, by strips of calico and pieces of wood—all this owing to the very poor circumstances of the congregation—will hardly recognize the old church in the renovated one. The old uncouth structure called a tower, is surmounted by a lofty spire having four neat minarets at the base and four small louvres, and for a terminal the symbol of the faith, the banner of the Captain of our salvation—a foliated cross gilt. What was a doorless, unfinished, wooden porch, is now a neat chancel oriented, with a triple window suggested by the ruins of Rivaux Abbey, having a ribbon of coloured glass round each compartment, the panes ruby and blue alternately, the arches wine colour, all filled in with figured glass. A handsome circular window above the chancel window—the gift of the builder, Mr. Joseph B. Hawley—has eight lights of blue and ruby forming a double-rounded Maltese Cross. All the stained glass is the gift of Mr. George Stethern of Peterboro'. Within, the woodwork of the chancel is stained a rich dark colour; there is a large panel slightly recessed where the altar stands (six feet long, two wide, and three feet high) giving room for a reredos when such can be supplied. The communion table is made of solid hardwood; the front of the chancel is a lofty triple arch supported by light pillars, meant, with the windows to convey the truth contained in the Athanasian Creed. Above this is a large open arch to allow the light from the circular window to enter the body of the church. On each side of the chancel is a small room having a window to the east, giving that end of the church an odd but pleasing appearance. A suitable pulpit and reading desk stained the same colour as the chancel, the walls of which are calcimined blue. The effect is great and peculiar, it is suggestive and somewhat puzzling. The pews (free) are re-arranged; an entrance porch is at the south-west corner, and at the west end a convenient vestry or schoolroom. The walls are plastered and calcimined, the ceiling also, which is arched, making the building look much loftier inside than it does out. The work has been done by Mr. Joseph B. Hawley, of Apsley, who has entered into it with spirit and great good will. All this has involved a heavy outlay, and all, except the two items mentioned above, has been supplied by friends of the church in England, originated by a dear old lady, a faithful daughter of the church in Toronto. All that is wanted to complete the ecclesiastical furniture is a font and a Litany-stool, and if any friends of the Church amongst the readers of this paper will help to furnish these, such help will be gratefully acknowledged by the incumbent of the mission.

At the reopening were the Rev. Dr. Smithett, of Ormeau, Rural-dean, and Mr. C. Rolles Bell, of Lakefield, Mus. Bac. Mr. H. C. Avant, of Bobcaygeon, was expected but a sudden attack of illness prevented him from coming. The church was filled, some having to stand. The communion table had a rich white frontal—it being the eve of St. Michael and All Angels—on which is embroidered in gold and colours a Cross Flewry, this was presented by a lady in England. The service began with a processional; the prayers were said by the incumbent, to the end of the Apostles' Creed, then by Mr. Bell to the close, who also read the lessons and presided at the organ, which was lent for the occasion. The incumbent then remarked that if all this generosity by friends at so great a distance should result only in a building ornamental to the village, and internally pleasing to the eye, he should be grievously disappointed—it would be a waste of money. His earnest prayer is that it may conduce to a larger attendance, a more devout and reverent worship, and a greater conformity to the mind of Christ. He had much pleasure in introducing again two old friends, Mr. Bell of Lakefield, who, though in ill-health had consented to come again, and Dr. Smithett who is the father of this mission, and of an adjoining one, and indeed of the Rural-deanery of Haliburton. Mr. Bell said he was very glad to have been able to come, it was a pleasure to him to help on any such occasion, and he was much gratified by meeting so large and attentive a congregation. He hoped now they had been so helped by friends who are deeply interested in the holy Church throughout all the world they will do all they can to help themselves, and to encourage their clergyman, considering that the one great object of this benevolence is to