

\$2 56. We commend the good cause of Zenana work to all our readers.

THE HAMILTON CHURCH CONGRESS.—Fair progress has been made in obtaining readers of papers and speakers. The latest accession is the Rev. Professor Clark, of Trinity College, who will give an address on "How to make Church Services attractive." We are, however, satisfied that he would not have selected such a title. The point is not to strive after making divine service "attractive," that is a most unworthy aim, but to make it really and truly public worship, that is, an office of common prayer, praise, communion and fellowship, then, and then only, is it worthy of being styled "divine service," and then men's hearts are so drawn out as to love such opportunities. Otherwise the Church is a mere entertainment. We should have liked to have seen an effort made to make this Congress Canadian rather than diocesan. The organization of a Dominion Congress might form a topic for discussion.

HARRISTON.—Confirmation services were held in St. George's church on Tuesday evening last. The Bishop of Niagara performed the very solemn and interesting service in the presence of a large congregation, when some thirteen new members were added to the Church. We very much regret to have to announce that Rev. Mr. Massey, the incumbent of this town and Clifford, is about to sever his connection with the above congregations. The rev. gentleman, during his short sojourn in Harriston, has made friends of the entire population. Mr. Massey has accepted an invitation to St. Luke's mission church, Hamilton, and will be succeeded by Rev. Mr. Bevan.

LINCOLN AND WELLAND TRAVELLING MISSION.—The annual vestry meeting was held at Fonthill at 7.30 p.m. on Easter Monday. The same wardens were re-elected. All passed off harmoniously. We rejoice to learn that the Church of England is gaining ground in Welland Port and Smithville.

EASTER SEASON.—Our correspondent tells us that throughout the diocese, in the cities and towns especially, Easter has been well observed with bright and cheerful religious services. He adds that the leading Christian bodies are manifesting an increased desire to keep Easter as they do Christmas, so far conforming to the Church's practice. In the (Methodist) cemetery church, Hamilton, there was a lovely display, provided by Mr. Sanford, a prominent member. Easter hymns and anthems were well chosen, while the discourses of the day were full of Christ and the Resurrection. The Rev. Dr. Ormison, of New York, was the preacher in the first Presbyterian church, whose subject was also in keeping with the doctrine of Easter.

GUELPH.—The Easter services were of the usual jubilant character, and St. George's Church was crowded at midday and evening services. There was an early Celebration and one at midday, partly choral, when 280 communicants received the Holy Sacrament. The offertory at the two Celebrations was very large.

BARTON.—The Bishop of Niagara preached at Holy Trinity Church on the evening of Easter Day. His subject was the third of a course on the Evidences of Christianity—"The genuineness, authenticity and inspiration of the Old Testament." The Bishop showed how much more the Scriptures have been guarded against corruption than any of the ancient heathen writings, no matter how they may be regarded as reliable by scholars of this day. It is not only very kind of the Bishop to aid his clergy by an occasional sermon, but very necessary that strong words should be spoken by him as an appointed ruler in the Church of this Diocese, against the errors of infidelity.

ANCASTER.—We cannot speak too highly of the practice of holding evening cottage meetings throughout this rural parish. We believe it most useful, and recommend it for general adoption.

HURON.

LONDON.—*Holy Week.*—The last week of Lent was one of marked observance in our city and suburban churches. Matins every day with evensong on Fridays and Wednesdays. On Good Friday there were large congregations, especially in St. Paul's and the Memorial Church, as large as on many Sundays. The Rector of St. Paul's being still confined to his room, Rev. A. Brown took the whole services. This morning sermon was especially excellent and most appropriate to the solemn occasion. The subject of his discourse was "The seven last words of Christ," his text the words "It is finished." Through the

last hours of our Redeemer's suffering the preacher vividly traced every scene and impressed on his hearers His last solemn utterances. The music also was appropriate to the service, rich in solemn deep pathos, especially this beautiful hymn, "Jesus, my Lord, is crucified." The evensong service was equally impressive.

CONFIRMATION IN MEMORIAL CHURCH.—The congregation on Good Friday was very large, each available spot being occupied. It has for some years been the custom that the Bishop hold confirmation service in this church on Good Friday. This very interesting service combined with the prescribed solemnities of the day, makes Good Friday one of increased interest. The morning service was read by the rector, Rev. J. B. Richardson, after which he presented to the Bishop a class of forty candidates for the laying on of hands. Before confirming them his Lordship addressed them very earnestly on the nature of the step they were about to take and the blessings they who lived worthy of the profession they were about to make, would be partakers of. He warned them against the danger of mere formalism, and urged them to avail themselves of the blessing to be derived from the faithful ministry of their beloved pastor. After the singing of a hymn the Bishop preached a very impressive sermon from the text, "What think ye of Christ." He spoke of the great importance of the question, especially in these days, when such a variety of views are held concerning the Saviour. He urged each individual to ascertain exactly his personal attitude and mind toward Christ, and concluded by the setting forth the Saviour's claim upon the hearts and consciences of all men. There was a liberal offertory collection for the divinity Students' Fund. All the Good Friday offerings are devoted to that purpose.

EASTER SUNDAY.—Throughout Holy Week the Church services brought vividly before us our Redeemer in the last scenes of His humiliation and sorrows. We accompanied Him to the garden of Gethsemane, to Pilate's judgement hall, to Calvary, to the tomb wherein never yet had man been laid. On the last day of the week, the closing scene was brought before us, our Lord in the Sepulchre. Easter Day, how changed from the solemn gloom of the Passion Week! Joyous are the services of the day. The heart and voice of the Christian echo the glad sound "Christ is risen from the dead." On Saturday there were large congregations in all our churches. In St. Paul's at early morning communion service a large number were present to partake of the "rich banquet of His flesh and blood." At 11 o'clock service the congregation was very large. Rev. Canon Innes preached a very impressive sermon on the words of the Apostle to the Gentiles, "We shall be saved by His life." He preached a risen, an ever-living Saviour, the life of all who come to Him. The hymns at morning service were "Christ the Lord is risen to day," and "Jesus Christ is risen to-day, Alleluia," the anthem was "We declare unto you good tidings," by Dr. Bridge. The music by both organist and choir breathed a joyous rapture seldom experienced. The number of communicants was greater than we had seen there at any former communion celebration. The increasing number of communicants bears unmistakable testimony to the growth of the Church in our city. In the Memorial Church the number of communicants at Easter Matins was 206. In the Chapter House the number was 100. If we add to these nearly 400 for St. Paul's, we have for three of our seven churches 700 communicants.

BRITISH.

THE BISHOPRIC OF ABERDEEN.—An informal meeting of the clergy and canonical lay representatives in the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney was held in Aberdeen on Tuesday, for the purpose of arriving at unanimity, if possible, in the selection of a successor to the late Dr. Suther as Bishop of the diocese. Dean Ranken, Old Deer, presided, and there was a large attendance. The proceedings were private, but it is understood that the preponderance of opinion was in favour of the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Gascoigne Douglas, B.A., vicar of Shapwick, near Blandford, Dorsetshire, and it is believed that he will be the Bishop elected at the meeting for that purpose convened for the 29th inst. The other names mentioned at the meeting were those of Canon Dowden, St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, and the Rev. J. M. Danson, M.A., St. Andrews, Aberdeen. The Bishop-designate is the youngest brother of the Earl of Morton, and one of his sisters is married to the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, and another to an uncle of the Earl of Aberdeen. He was within one vote of being appointed Bishop of Argyll and the Isles when Dr.

Mackarness was selected. Later in the afternoon a public meeting of clergy and laity was also held for the purpose of promoting a diocesan memorial of the late Bishop. Dean Ranken again presided. Sheriff Dove Wilson, Aberdeen, moved that a memorial be initiated in remembrance of the wise and fatherly rule and the long Episcopate of the deceased Bishop. The resolution was unanimously adopted. On the motion of Lord Forbes, a committee was appointed to consider the most suitable form of memorial and to collect subscriptions. The Rev. C. M. Black, incumbent of St. James' Church, Aberdeen, and Mr. J. P. Cumine, advocate, Aberdeen, were appointed joint secretaries, and Mr. James Agustus Sinclair, accountant in Aberdeen, treasurer to the fund.

THE RIOT IN TRINITY CHURCH, BORDESELEY.—On Easter Sunday the new vicar of this Church, the Rev. Watts, presented himself and conducted service morning and evening. The church on both occasions was desecrated by fearful disturbances, the vicar in church was assailed with all the offensive language common to the street rowdy, and a large body of police was required to protect him. The inhibited vicar, Mr. Enraght, cannot be complimented upon the effect of his teaching, for even his Choir joined in the blasphemous proceedings. It is difficult to understand how men can have been even touched spiritually by the extreme ritual practised at this too notorious church, or taught in any Church sense, who could be guilty of such worse than heathenish indecency, for the heathens do not desecrate their temples. The scene at Holy Trinity, Bordesley, is well calculated to suggest very serious thoughts to those who are following Mr. Enraght's extreme course and his defiance of authority. Depend upon it, that the overwhelming mass of Churchmen will say: "If the out-comes of ultra ritual is such ignorance of Christian principles and such a spirit of rebellion against law and decency, we will not have it, but will insist upon moderation, more time being given to teaching, and above all we will insist upon clergymen obeying the law of the land and the authorities of the Church."

A YEAR'S PROGRESS OF THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—The annual report of the Council of the Episcopal Church in Scotland just issued possesses more than usual interest. Subjoined are some of the more important statistics contained in the statement:—During the year four new churches have been added, the number now standing at 206. Sixteen of these are in Edinburgh, fourteen in Glasgow, six in Dundee, and four in Aberdeen. Away from these large centres of population, the Church seems to be strongest in the north-east—Aberdeen district—and weakest in the south-west. In regard to members or adherents, there is an increase of upwards of 8,200, the numbers being 70,747 against 67,438 the previous year. More than one-half of this addition is in Edinburgh alone. Including parsonages, the average stipend appears to be something less than £220—not a very large figure considering the unusual proportion of a wealthy people—landed proprietors, &c.—who belong to the Church. But the average landed proprietor's weak point is not, certainly, over-liberality in ecclesiastical matters. In this respect, with the usual exceptions, they contrast unfavourably with the "merchant princes" of other denominations. Missionary effort, which many regard as a sound test of a Church's well-being, has considerably advanced—the years 1881 and 1882 showing respectively £2,514 and £3,718, the latter amount including a donation of £600 from an anonymous contributor. The next item one is rather sorry to see. It is the sum of £7,223 for Government grants to denominational schools during the year, being an increase of £350; and there are now 63 schools, against 57 in 1881. The discussion on the subject, however, seems to indicate that the quality of the teaching is below the average of other schools, the percentage of passes, in three subjects, being about 10 less than in any of the latter. The report, as a whole, in these days of Church declension, may be considered as fairly encouraging, the returns indicating that the Church is doing something more than holding its own. And its influence is to some extent also operating elsewhere. The Scottish people in the seventeenth century decisively rejected a liturgy thrust upon them by Royal statute; but an observer of the signs of the times cannot fail to see that the voluntary adoption of such a service in Presbyterian Churches is not now such a far off event as forty years ago it might have seemed.

NOTHING LIKE IT!—A finer collection of Watches, Diamonds and Jewellery than that now displayed at Woltz Bros. & Co.'s is not to be seen in the Dominion. Watches of the finest grades, blue-white Diamonds, rare and sparkling, and Jewellery of the latest and most attractive styles. Everything is first-class; everything is genuine. 29 King Street E. Toronto.