

CONSECRATION OF A CHURCH AT POTTON, O. E.

As the Church gives best evidence of vitality by active exertion in the Missionary field, so any occasion of breaking fresh ground and extending her influence into localities in which it has hitherto been unfelt, must be deeply interesting to true-hearted Churchmen. Such an occasion was recently presented in the consecration of a new Church in a portion of the Township of Bolton, which has only been occupied for a short time, as a field of missionary enterprise, by the Church's Ministers.

The Rev. John Godden, the active and indefatigable minister in the adjoining Township of Potton, has officiated on alternate Sundays in a school-house, at a point locally known as Rexford's Corner, for upwards of two years. But feeling the impossibility of forming and training in the Church's ritual a Church congregation in a secular building, he determined to make an exertion to erect a Church-edifice on the spot. This he has, under the Divine blessing, happily accomplished after a year's unintermitting toil—during which he has solicited and obtained liberal contributions from the members and friends of the Church in various directions. Newfoundland, his own native country, Montreal, and some large-hearted friends in the Eastern Townships, together with a grant of \$100 from the S. P. C. K. and the same amount from the Diocesan Church Society, have all contributed to this consummation of his labors, and thus on Friday, September 28th, he had the happiness of witnessing the fulfilment of his long-cherished wish in the setting apart for the worship of Almighty God by the act of consecration by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the seemly and commodious house of worship, in the erection of which he had so earnestly laboured.

The weather was unfortunately boisterous and inclement, but this did not prevent a congregation, sufficient to fill the building, from assembling. There were present of the clergy of the District, besides the Lord Bishop and the Rev. J. Godden, Messrs. D. and R. Lindsay, W. Jones, Francis Codd, and G. Slack, and of the laity a sprinkling of zealous male and female members of the Church from the adjoining Townships. The petition for the consecration having been read by the Incumbent, the service was proceeded with according to the customary ritual.

The solemn prayers for a Divine blessing upon the various acts of devotion to be performed within the Church, were impressively said by the Bishop, the sentence of consecration being read by the Rev. Geo. Slack.

Morning Prayer was said by the Incumbent and the Rev. R. Lindsay the Rev. D. Lindsay and Wm. Jones reading the Lessons. The well-trained choir from Mansonville in Potton, led the chants and hymns.

The rite of confirmation was administered by the Lord Bishop to eleven persons, eight females and three males, many of them being of mature age. The Bishop preached a truly impressive sermon, in the close of which he solemnly reminded all present that the ministers of the Church did not come in their *own name* to amuse or merely to interest