

duction of the number of teachers, he expressed no opinion, having not yet had an opportunity of giving the question sufficient consideration. Rev. C. L. Ingles Jr., B.A. said he agreed with most of Mr. Sweeney's paper, and moved that it be printed in pamphlet form for distribution to every member of the Association. Mr. Geo. A. Mackenzie seconded the motion that the paper should be printed. Mr. S. G. Wood thought that it would be sufficient if inserted in both Church papers. Rev. Septimus Jones M.A., said that even if he stood alone, he must dissent from much which Mr. Sweeney's paper contained. He thought Sunday School teachers took the place of sponsors, and that their personal influence would be entirely lost in the system of large classes, suggested by the Essayist, which would reduce the Sunday school to a sort of "sanctified day-school." He had no sympathy with theories which had never been subjected to the test of experience. Rev. Edward Owen said the subject was an important one and needed discussion. He objected to the plan of devoting the first half hour of these meetings to the teaching of a Sunday school lesson, and thus leaving no time for discussion on the main subject of the evening. On motion it was agreed that the debate should be adjourned, till the first order of business at next meeting. The Association adjourned to meet again in St. Philip's school house, on Thursday, January 15th.

DEER PARK.—Christ Church parish has lately sustained a great loss in the removal of Mrs. W. A. Baldwin and her family, who have taken up their residence in the parish of St. Luke's. Ever since the erection of Christ Church they have been most helpful in every possible way, while the Sunday school in particular has been greatly blessed through their faithful and unwearied services. At the annual Christmas entertainment the school presented Mr. Lawrence H. Baldwin, who has been nominally teacher, librarian and superintendent, with an edition of Shakespeare's work, handsomely bound in six volumes, together with an address which was neatly and appropriately responded to by the recipient. At the same time a small piece of plate was presented to Miss Annie Baldwin by her late class.

HASTINGS.—We had a very successful Christmas tree and Concert for St. George's Church and Sunday school on the evening of the 30th ult. which realized a sum of \$100. An excellent and highly appreciated programme had been prepared by Dr. O'Gorman, who was Chairman, and his lady contributed very much to the success of the evening by her musical talent and general devotion to the cause. We received a generous contribution towards furnishing our Christmas tree from the Bible Class of the Rector of Ashburnham, for which we are thankful. The members of St. George's Church, as a further token of their esteem for their clergyman, presented him with a beautiful robe, for which he returned his sincere thanks.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE MEETING, TORONTO.—The annual meeting of the local branch of this society was held in Toronto on 8th inst. the Hon. O. Mowat presided. The chairman's address was pitched in a very high key of congratulation on the growing desire for unity among all "Evangelical" churches. There were several things said at this meeting well worth recording. Mr. Mowat said "There is a great body of religious truth in regard to which we are united, and in the all important departments of Christian works and Christian character our views are almost identical." The Rev. S. P. Rose, Wesleyan, work of the said, "I attribute the smallness of the result of the Christian Church, not to lack of labourers, or money, but to the misdirected energy of the Church in the past, and this misdirection of energy and waste of money, I attribute to denominationalism. If their differences were abominable in Ontario, they were wicked in Manitoba and the missionary regions." The Rev. Mr. Milligan, Presbyterian, said, "I have gone into villages in the country, and seen the rivalry existing in the churches. I believe Satan is in such churches and not Christ." In a later part of his address, Mr. Milligan said, "There can be no true secularity without religion. There is no power which educates men like religion."

From these remarkable utterances we are convinced that these good men have been studying the DOMINION CHURCHMAN, and have not only read, but marked, learned, and inwardly digested our teaching, as their words sound like echoes from articles published in the paper during the past year. Mr. Mowat has learnt that the differences which keep men from visible unity with the Catholic Church are unimportant and wholly inadequate as an apology for disunion. Mr. Rose has learnt, and in words which show him to be a brave, manly, high minded Christian, has confessed that the disunion and rivalry of denominationalism

are "abominable and wicked." Mr. Milligan, has learnt that our secular non-denominational education is a false system. We ask these gentlemen of the Evangelical Alliance to manifest their consistency by at once abandoning those little men-made organizations whose ways are so "abominable and wicked," and come out of the turmoil of the denominational waters into the ark of God's ancient Church, the Church of their fathers and Saviour, which is the only real "Evangelical Alliance."

NIAGARA.

HAMILTON.—The synod of this Diocese is summoned to meet at the Sunday school room of Christ church, (Cathedral), Hamilton, on Tuesday, 27th January next, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of the election of a Bishop for the said Diocese.

Episcopal Endowment.—The committee of this fund have issued an appeal to the several parishes in behalf of its speedy completion.

GUELPH.—Christmas Day.—The interior of St. George's Church, with the new window, and the artistically adorned chancel, was never seen to as good advantage as on Christmas Day. The decorations were confined chiefly to the body of the church, and were of a very graceful character. The Bishop's chair alone was draped in black, reminding all of the loss the diocese had sustained. There was an early celebration of the Holy Communion, at which a large proportion of the congregation were present. There was also a second celebration at the midday services. A strong choir was present and rendered the festival music of the season in excellent style. The prayers were read by the Rev'd. E. A. Irving, and the sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon. There was a large congregation. The text was the message to the shepherds, "The Glad Tidings of Great Joy."

Sunday School Festival.—This much looked for event took place on Thursday evening, the 30th, and was a great success in every respect. There were about 500 children present, including those of the Mission School as well as St. George's. There was a bright service in the Church when the Archdeacon described the memorable incidents of the first Christmas, interspersed with beautiful carols, which were most heartily sung by a chorus of boys and others, Miss Saunders presiding at the large organ in her usual excellent style. At the close the Archdeacon said there was another aspect of Christmas to be seen in the school room, where, through the kindness of various members of the congregation, a feast had been prepared, to which all were invited. Through the indefatigable exertions of Mr. E. Morris, Superintendent, the Rev. E. A. Irving, and the teachers, all the children were arranged in order, and a tremendous consumption of pies, cakes, oranges, and candies, took place. Mr. Irving gave an excellent practical address, pointing out the responsibilities of parents and children, and calling on the men of the congregation to come forward and take part in the Sunday School work. The proceedings closed with the benediction.

The Christmas entertainment at Waterloo Avenue was quite a success. Parents, teachers and pupils all spent a very pleasant evening. The Carols and Band of Hope songs were rendered in as hearty a manner as they could possibly have been sung. Nearly forty members were enrolled in the "Band of Hope," and badges were given them. The gentlemen who promised to come and address the school were unable to keep their appointments. The speeches were therefore confined to Rev. E. Irving and Messrs. Gausby and Howard. About 116 children were present.

HAMILTON.—Unity.—On Sunday, the 23rd of Nov., the Bishop of Algoma preached a very eloquent sermon in St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton, on "The Unity of the Faith." He said:—"There is a growing feeling in favour of unity, both in the Church and out of it. The separations of the non-conforming bodies, and the internal separation from each other, is the cause of great mischief. The 'regimental theory' is often heard of. Men often say 'What after all is the Church of Christ but a great army, divided into various regiments, but under one banner, and following one leader.' But this theory is only for annual Bible Society meetings and Young Men's Christian Association platforms, and it is to be feared is not according to fact. It is but an *ex post facto* theory. There is no doubt but that the cause of Christ is greatly impeded by the divisions among the Protestant denominations. There is not one among them

whose foundation is not true. To some trivial non-essentials, and for the sake of these things the body of Christ is rent asunder. Angels weep, devils laugh and ungodly men smile. If they cannot return to the communion of the Church, why should they not band themselves together? But the Church of England offer a basis for a re-union of all the Protestant bodies. Unity with the Church of Rome is impossible, because she has departed from the simplicity of the primitive faith, but the union of Protestantism is something to pray for, to strive for, and to die for."

HURON.

GLENCOE.—At the conclusion of the Christmas service, the incumbent of the mission, Rev. W. J. Taylor, was presented by the members of St. John's Church, Glencoe, with a handsome fur coat and cap, of the value of \$60, as an expression of personal good will and appreciation of his ministerial labours.

BERVIE.—Rev. J. Ball, late incumbent of the mission of Waterford, Delhi, and Lyndoch, has been, by the Bishop of the diocese, appointed to the Bervie mission.

EXETER.—Christmas in Huron County.—The great Church festivals are more highly appreciated, in remote country places, than in the busier marts of commerce. Christ Church, Exeter, was unusually decorated this Christmas, and the service was hearty and joyous. The incumbent of Christ Church is giving a course of Sunday evening lectures, on the more unknown Scripture characters.

ALGOMA.

A MISSIONARY JOURNEY IN MUSKOGA.—A visit from the bishop being expected early in December, we were ready to receive and attend him through the adjoining mission, to take a taste of his missionary experience. The bishop arrived at Gravenhurst on the 4th December. Next day we started for Ferris Hill station, ten miles away, and after a drive of seven miles, we found the Rev. J. Greeson, the missionary, awaiting us at a corner where the road branched. A church friend, Mr. C., made us welcome to dinner. Back to Ferris Hill church for service at 2.30 p.m., where we spent an hour in Holy Communion. After conversation on business matters, we started for Uffington. Mr. D. gave us food and lodging for man and beast and ministered kindly to our comfort. At Uffington we were welcomed by a crowded congregation. The candidates for confirmation pleased the bishop very much by their earnest attention, and appreciation of their position. Evening prayer, confirmation, and Holy Communion, and then the bishop held a vestry meeting to discuss Church matters. Surely if anything could convince the friends of the diocese of Algoma that the ministrations of the church were valued, that meeting would do it, for each station wanted the missionary to reside near it. The true position appeared to be, that Mr. Greeson was so much appreciated that all wanted him. As we could not "divide the child," arrangements were made for a representative meeting to be called soon, the Incumbent of Gravenhurst to attend, and the future residence of the clergyman to be decided by vote of stations. In the morning (Saturday) up early and off to Parbrook, for service at 10 a.m. Here we found a good church well furnished. After morning prayer, the bishop administered confirmation and Holy Communion, and met the vestry. A good church spirit was shown by the tone of the meeting. At 2 p.m., we had finished and were on our way to Mr. C's (a resident clergyman) for dinner. For three or four miles we managed to travel slowly, but soon the way became almost impassable, the water in many places run down the road in torrents; to add to our trouble it rained heavily all the time, and robes, wraps &c. were drenched. Nothing for it but walk. Fortunately we had a noble horse: he evidently looked upon the whole affair as an amusement, for he cleverly jumped the gathering streams, taking sleigh and leader with him (there had been no drive for some time), every step nearly to the knees, water, snow, slush. The bishop toiled on behind in the middle of the road, where the walking was somewhat better, he gave one the impression that he was used to it. After six miles we stood weary and worn where two roads met, the rain pouring down, the hilly country leading past us and under us, small but rushing torrents of water. We were bewildered, the bishop returned to a house, and found we were near Ferris Hill church, two miles from South Falls, and ten from Gravenhurst. The persons at the house offered shelter, but we pushed on, knowing there was a heavy day before