

every prospect of Japan becoming a Christian nation. The common people, as in the Apostles' days, hear the Word gladly; but the Buddhist priests, though, as a rule, jealous and cynical, frequently furnish converts to the faith of Christ. Japan is highly civilized, having made such rapid strides in recent times in the arts both of war and peace, that she is called the Great Britain of the East. Her educational institutions are of all grades, from kindergartens to the great University of Tokyo. The people are sober and industrious and of a reverent temperament, there being no such thing as either intoxication or profanity among them. They may even be said to be religious, or rather superstitious in the sense in which St. Paul so characterizes the Athenians. About 300 years ago the Jesuits were received in Japan, and made many converts; but having attempted to interfere in the politics of the country, they were banished and many suffered martyrdom, and a standing decree was published abroad and posted up throughout the country, couched in stringent and threatening terms, against all missionaries, and was strictly enforced for about 200 years, when the decree was relaxed and missionaries began to be received as teachers. Their religion seeming to be different to that of the Jesuits, the decree was everywhere taken down during the thirteen years preceding the year 1872. Eleven of the native Christians came out and organized a Church. Missionaries then learned the Japanese language and began to translate the Bible into it. Their work was completed about seven years ago. The Japanese Christians are divided into four groups, and their numerical strength is in the following order: 1st, Presbyterian; 2nd, Congregationalist; 3rd, Methodist; 4th, the Church of Japan. The total number of Christians is reckoned at about 4,000. The Church of Japan was organized about eight years ago, and has adopted the Prayer Book of the Church of England, with some modifications suggested by the Prayer Book of the Church in the United States. It is already translated into Japanese. There are 30 native clergymen in Japan, and the Church would not die out if no more missionaries were sent there. Mr. Robinson's converts number 40 persons, among whom is a Buddhist priest. In addition to these, others are in preparation to embrace Christianity. Two years after Mr. Robinson went to Japan, the Canadian Board of Domestic and Foreign Missions sent two missionaries out, viz., the Rev. Mr. Waller and Miss Smith, who are stationed at Nagano. At Nagoya there are as missionaries eight married men and seven single women, the latter engaged in teaching and hospital work. Besides the work at his mission stations, Mr. Robinson has established, as a venture of faith, a very successful orphanage, which is supported by the voluntary contributions of those whose hearts are moved to make them without special solicitation. It numbers more than a dozen inmates. They consist of orphans whose parents were killed in the wrecks of buildings, destroyed by earthquakes, and of abandoned children. In conclusion, Mr. Robinson appealed to his hearers to devote not only a liberal share of their means to the missionary cause, but also their sons and their daughters, for they could not be devoted to any more noble career than rescuing the heathen from their darkness and degradation and causing them to rejoice in the knowledge and love of the glorious Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. As some of the Sunday-schools had undertaken to support one or more children at the Indian Homes, so he hoped to see the day when individual congregations would undertake to support a missionary of their own in foreign lands. On Monday evening a very large audience turned out to hear a magic lantern lecture by Mr. Robinson, portraying some of the striking scenery and architecture of the country, together with many features of the customs, manners and mode of dress of the people. The lecture was ably delivered and listened to with the deepest interest throughout. Mr. Yoshero Saiki ably presided at the magic lantern while the lecture was in progress. The lecture being concluded, and some congratulatory remarks having been offered by the Rev. Canon Hincks, Mr. Yoshero Saiki was called upon to address the audience. He presently made his appearance dressed in his native Japanese costume. He ascended the dais and bowing, made some introductory remarks in excellent English, in the course of which he professed more aptitude in, and a greater preference for his own language. He therefore addressed the audience in Japanese, calling upon the Rev. Mr. Robinson to act as his interpreter. Mr. Saiki made an excellent address, in which he expressed his gratitude for the interest those present had shown in the work of the missionaries in Japan, and in eloquent periods in his own tongue bespoke their continued sympathy and co-operation. The collections of Sunday and Monday evening amounted to \$38.64. The Rev. Mr. Robinson and his companion return to Japan within a few weeks. We are sure that all Canadians who have had the pleasure of listening to them, will wish them God-speed, and pray that an abundant blessing may attend their labours.

WINDSOR.—*All Saints' Church*.—The annual harvest thanksgiving services were held this year on the 29th of September, it being a Sunday, and the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels. The church had been suitably decorated with festoons, made from grain in the sheaf, tasseled stalks of corn, evergreens and flowers. Standards, columns and sanctuary, all were adorned with the emblems of the harvest. There were present and taking part in the morning service, the Rev. T. Beverley Smith, B.A., the curate, who read the prayers; the Rev. C. C. Johnson, Canon of St. Alban's, Toronto, who read the lessons; the Rev. H. H. Waters, rector of St. Paul's Church, New Orleans, who read the Ante-Communion service, and the Rev. Dr. McCarroll, formerly rector of Grace Church, Toronto, now rector of Grace Church, Detroit, by whom the special sermon was preached. Appropriate lessons, psalms and hymns were chosen for the service, which was rendered throughout with spirit and feeling, the surplined choir of All Saints' being reinforced by a goodly number of the vested choir of St. Paul's Church, Detroit. Dr. McCarroll delivered an eloquent sermon from a text taken from the parable of the unjust steward: "How much owest thou unto my lord?" By many details in the way of statistics, and by the portrayal of the many advantages which had accrued to mankind by the blessing of God in the civil, religious and material world, he showed how much men had to be grateful for, and that gratitude was a debt due to the Maker and Giver of all things, in whom we live and move and have our being; one indeed which was so great that the momentous question, "How much owest thou unto my lord?" could never be satisfied, for we owe ourselves, our souls and bodies and all that we possess, even the deepest, most constant love of our hearts, to the bounteous Father of all. In the evening the service was semi-choral, the selected psalms being sung throughout. As in the morning, there was an opening hymn and a recessional. The Rev. Canon Hincks, the rector, read the service, taking the lessons. The Rev. W. O. Waters, B.A., rector of St. Andrew's Church, Detroit, delivered an able and telling discourse from the text, I Chron. xxix. 14: "For all things come of Thee, and of thine own have we given Thee." In discussing the origin of the universe and all that it contains, he referred to the illogical attitude of the agnostic and the infidel, their modes of begging the question, and the shifting sands upon which they build up negations to the truths of Divine Revelation. Having shown the relation of the creation, including man, to the Creator, he proceeded to set forth his stewardship and responsibility. The sermon was listened to with profound attention by a large congregation. The new St. Andrew's Church, Detroit, which is now being built under the energetic direction and supervision of Mr. Waters, is to be a memorial church to the Right Rev. Bishop Harris, D.D., late Bishop of Michigan. The offerings for the day amounted to about \$80. This sum, together with the proceeds of the harvest home social gathering, is to be devoted to the liquidation of the consolidated debt of the church. On Monday evening, the 30th September, the harvest home festival was held in the parish school-house, for which an interesting programme of both vocal and instrumental music had been provided. The rector presided and opened the proceedings in the usual manner and gave a brief address. He congratulated the members of the congregation upon the unity and concord which prevailed among them, and the hearty spirit of co-operation which had characterized them during the period of nearly two years that he had ministered among them. He was much gratified by the excellent arrangements that had been made to celebrate the festival of the harvest in a worthy manner, and was glad to see the spirit of joyfulness which became the occasion. The Rev. H. H. Waters, rector of St. Paul's Church, New Orleans, on a visit to his old Canadian friends, was present, and entertained the audience with a humorous and otherwise interesting address. A silver collection was taken up which brought the total amount of the harvest home contributions to about \$100. Truly it may be said of this people, "They joy before Thee according to the joy in harvest."

MEAFORD.—The annual Thanksgiving service at Christ Church came off successfully on Sunday, Sept. 29th. Although the day was showery the attendance Sunday morning was large as usual, and at the evening service the church was crowded. The afternoon service of the Sunday school was interfered with by rain, yet the attendance and good attention given were very creditable. The decorations of the church this year were quite beautiful. The abundance of fruit, flowers, grain, etc., were arranged to the best advantage, and those who took part in making and placing festoons, flowers and banners are to be congratulated, as the whole had a most charming effect, which was noticeable especially in the evening under the electric light. The choir, which had been carefully trained, did its part well, and Miss Foster, the organist, deserves great praise for

the success of the musical selections and the way in which they were rendered. The sacred solo given by Miss Frederica Paul was very much appreciated, as indeed have been the solos given by her so frequently of late to the delight of the congregation. The Rev. W. Henderson, of Warton, preached the sermons, and all three were spoken of as most interesting and earnest. The young ladies of St. Agnes Guild beg to acknowledge the kindness of those who assisted them in the church decorations, and also of the following ladies who sent in flowers for the occasion: Mrs. B. Barracree, Mrs. James Randle, Miss Paul, Mrs. McCarroll, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Sheriff, Mrs. Hare, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. T. R. Moore. Mr. Job Almond deserves thanks for trouble taken to provide grain. The offerings for the day amounted to about \$70, and this together with the assistance of the Ladies' Aid Society, enabled the Churchwardens on Monday to reduce the debt \$100 and pay the interest up to date.

The Bishop of Huron has issued a pastoral urging the clergy and laity of the Diocese to be present at the Lay Workers' Convention at Windsor, Ont., on the 23rd and 24th inst.

WELLESLEY.—On Monday, Sept. 30th, the beloved wife of William Morton, M.D., of this place, entered into rest. The funeral took place on Thursday, 3rd Oct. The remains were taken to Cross Hill Church and were followed by a very large number of people drawn from far and near, for the deceased was held in high esteem. The burial services were conducted by Rev. James Ward, now of Haysville, Rev. C. R. Gunne, now of Gorrie, and Rev. Mr. Wright, the Incumbent of Crosshill. The two first named clergy were former pastors of the deceased, and drove long distances to be present at her funeral. Rev. Mr. Morton of Dundas, brother of Dr. Morton, was among the mourners.

MILLBANK.—The usual Harvest Thanksgiving services were held here Sept. 29th. The church was most beautifully decorated with flowers, grain, fruit, and evergreens, and a beautiful motto, "Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem," adorned the organ corner. The attendance was large and a substantial thankoffering was taken up at the offertory.

MILVERTON.—Arrangements have been made for a mission in this church, beginning Nov. 25th, and continuing at least a week, conducted by Rev. C. H. Shortt, of Toronto. This being the first mission ever held in this parish, it is looked forward to with much interest.

ALGOMA.

EDWARD SULLIVAN, D.D., BISHOP, SAULT STE. MARIE.

EMSDALE.—Monday, September 28rd, Rev. Rural Dean Machin arrived at Emsdale for the purpose of inspecting the work and property of the mission, and kindly preached the harvest thanksgiving sermons. Arriving at Emsdale Monday evening, the harvest thanksgiving service commenced on Tuesday afternoon (24th), 8 o'clock, the church having been beautifully decorated with grain and the fruits of the earth. The Rev. J. Pardoe, of Novar, read the prayers. The service was bright, an excellent sermon being delivered which filled all hearts with joy for their native land, and explained how much gratitude was due to Almighty God for all His gifts to man, both temporal and spiritual, through His Church. After service a vestry was held at which the Rural Dean expressed himself pleased at what was done and being done. September 25th.—The next station taken was Eberston, and was also nicely decorated with leaves, grain and the various products, showing the interest taken by the congregation to make the church look well at that season. One of the richest gifts was from the Sunday-school children, whose treat was held the same day, viz., two chairs for the sanctuary. The Rural Dean and incumbent, after dinner, walked round the land, to see that the stakes were in their places, and to give him, the Rural Dean, a knowledge of the locality and the land belonging to the Church. September 26th.—The next station was Sand Lake, at which place a nice church is being built, but as it was not ready to hold service in, we were compelled to go again to the barn of Mr. J. Wilkin, where we have been holding services during the summer months for the last three years. This we found beautifully decorated with leaves, and texts brought by a lady from England (the daughter of a clergyman), who had come out to visit her brother, one of the members of the congregation. Here again, after service, the Rev. C. H. Machin gave words of encouragement to the people to continue in the good work they had so nobly begun. This church we hope to be able to use before long, but we are short of money to do that part which requires skilled labour. It is strange that for a modest building like this people will not give, or give so slowly that their charity loses its nobility.