

Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

FREDERICTON.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Sept. 9.—The Most Rev. John Medley, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of Fredericton and Metropolitan of Canada, died this morning. He was 88 years of age. An obituary notice will appear in our next issue.

QUEBEC.

Ordination.—The Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of Niagara, acting under authority from the Most Rev. the Metropolitan, held an ordination in St. James's Church, Cacouna, P. Q., on Sunday the 4th instant, when Mr. J. M. Kerr, B. A., a graduate of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, was ordained deacon. Mr. Kerr has been acting as lay reader for some time at Barnston, P. Q., but is now going to take charge of the distant and difficult mission of Labrador.

Joined the Church.—One of the first Episcopal acts of the Bishop of Quebec will be the ordination to the diaconate of a gentleman who has come over from the "sects," Mr. C. H. Brooks, a native of Lennoxville, P. Q., son of Chas. Brooks, Esq., a well-known and highly respected merchant, and nephew of the Hon. Justice Brooks of Sherbrooke; attended Bishop's College Grammar School thirty years ago, when the late Bishop Williams was its rector. After having passed through McGill College, Montreal, where he took several medals, he then proceeded to Andover College, Massachusetts. His family being strict Congregationalists, he was eventually made a minister of that denomination about seventeen years ago, and, after having married, he immediately proceeded to Constantinople, Turkey, where he has since been engaged doing mission work for the Congregationalists. Having recently come over to the Anglo-Catholic fold, he, with his wife and five children, returned to his native province about a month ago, and is now at Lennoxville awaiting the arrival of the Bishop-elect, so that he may be ordained deacon and appointed to a mission (probably Barnston) near his native place. Mr. Brooks is a good scholar, of most excellent character, well connected, and a gentleman of culture and refinement, and will undoubtedly prove a great acquisition to the excellent staff of missionary clergy of the Diocese of Quebec.

Bishop-elect.—Prayers were offered in the Anglican churches throughout the diocese on the 12th Sunday after Trinity for a safe voyage for the Bishop-elect and his family, who sailed on September 1st.

ONTARIO.

CONSECON.—For several years our quiet little village was without the service of the English Church. The fine stone building allowed to go to decay shows that the church was once in these parts. Since the appointment of Rev. J. W. Forster, service is held every Sunday afternoon in Kellip's Hall. A subscription list has been started to raise funds to restore the church. This fund will be increased by the proceeds of a very successful entertainment given under the auspices of the English Church choir of Trenton on Tuesday, the 23rd of August. The programme was an interesting one. Mrs. Osborne and Mrs. Taylor, of Wellington, and Mr. VanNorman, of Trenton, took a prominent part in the musical part of the entertainment. The winding of the May pole by the young ladies of Trenton was much admired. The sun flower chorus caused much merriment. Mr. Armstrong gave an Irish reading with a spirit that would do credit to one lately from the "ould sod." Mr. Forster gave a reading and recitation. A vote of thanks was cordially given to the ladies from Wellington and Trenton, and to all who took part in the interesting programme given. Mr. Forster thanked Mr. Kellip for kindly giving the use of the hall free of charge, not only for the service on Sunday, but for the concert as well.

THE MATTAWA MISSION.—Shortly after it had become known that the Rev. R. W. Samwell intended to resign the charge of the Mattawa Mission, the following address, bearing the signature of nearly every adult member of the Church in the Mattawa Mission, was presented to the rev. gentleman:—

To the Rev. R. W. Samwell, Priest in charge of the Mattawa Mission.

REV. AND DEAR SIR:—

We the undersigned members of the various congregations in the Mattawa Mission, learn with regret that it is your intention to resign your position as priest in charge of this mission. While we all desire to express our deep sense of appreciation for the

very faithful and efficient manner in which you have laboured amongst us to promote the glory of God and our own spiritual welfare, those of us who are members of the three new congregations organized during your incumbency are specially grateful for the ministrations of the Church brought to us by you. Recognizing your ability to judge what is better for yourself and the mission, we would not presume to advise you as to the wisdom of the step you are taking; yet we sincerely hope you may see your way clear to re-consider your decision. If, however, this cannot be, we assure you that you will carry away with you our best wishes for your welfare in whatever sphere to which you may be called, and we pray that God will bless and prosper your work there even as He has done here. We are, Rev. and dear sir, yours sincerely,

August 9th, 1892.

[156 SIGNATURES.]

Mr. Samwell replied to this address in the form of the following letter:—

MISSION HOUSE, MATTAWA, August 30th, 1892.

My Dear Friends.—It was with much satisfaction and pleasure that I received from the churchwardens of St. Margaret's, Rutherglen, the address referring to my approaching departure from among you, bearing the signatures of nearly all the adult members of the Church in this mission. I can but feebly express to you the gladness this proof of your attachment has afforded me; but it makes it hard for me to say that I see no sufficient reason for altering a decision which has been arrived at after earnest prayer and consideration of the solemn responsibility involved in the step I am about to take. In glancing back over the three years of my incumbency, I am conscious of many shortcomings on my own part, but this I can say in all truth—that my earnest desires, labour, and prayers have been for your spiritual and temporal welfare, and for the greater glory of an all-loving Father. I have watched for your souls as one that must give account, that I might do it with joy and not with grief. I am thankful that God has permitted me to see some little fruit of my labours: an evergrowing attachment on the part of many for our beloved faith; an increased activity for the church's interest; but, above all, signs which point me to the happy conclusion that the highest means of grace provided by our Blessed Lord in His Church have not been dispensed in vain, but have led to a deepening of the spiritual life among you. It is a difficult matter for a priest who sets before himself a high ideal of duty to secure the approval of everyone, and I cannot affect to think that my experience in this is different to that of other priests. I do most earnestly trust that the affection and good will of which your address is the evidence has not been obtained at the cost of duty and principle; in that case it would be to me a commendation indeed. My conscience, however, tells me that this is not so, for, as far as in me lay, "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." In future years, wherever I may be called to labour, I shall cherish a remembrance of the kindness I have received at the hands of my first flock, and of the many happy days I have spent among you. I shall also think with pleasure of the confidence and harmony that have characterized our relations one towards another. An opportunity will be given me, before I go, to say a few farewell words to you all. In the meantime I will ask you to offer daily, with me, the following prayer:—"Grant, O Lord, that he to whom Thy servant, John Travers, Bishop of this Diocese, shall commit the care of this mission, may be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, and an example to believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity; who shall be pleasing to Thee in holiness of life, and profitable to us in watchfulness and zeal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." That God's blessing may rest upon you all is ever my earnest prayer. Believe me, my dear friends, yours affectionately in Jesus Christ,

ROBERT W. SAMWELL, Mission Priest.

BROCKVILLE.—*Presentation and Address.*—Dr. William Clark, who fills the chair of English literature and other professorships in Trinity College, Toronto, has conducted the services of the English Church of St. Peter's, the past two months, during the absence of the rector, the Rev. Archdeacon T. Bedford-Jones. Dr. Clark's ministrations have been entirely satisfactory to the members of St. Peter's congregation, and the plain and simple eloquence of the doctor's sermons have had many attractions for the members of other churches and denominations. During the summer the Brockville public had the advantage of listening to three interesting lectures by Dr. Clark, viz., Kingsley's "Water Babies," "Savonarola," and Tennyson's "Princess." These were delivered in a pleasant, off-hand conversational manner, and from memory, and were much appreciated. To attest the benefit derived from Dr. Clark's services, and emphasise the expression of their satisfaction, the members of St. Peter's Church made up a

purse of \$70 in gold. Col. W. H. Jackson, Allan Turner and Henry F. J. Jackson were deputed to make the presentation. These gentlemen met the genial and learned professor at the rectory, and the following address was read by Henry F. J. Jackson:

To Rev. Professor Clark, D.C.L., etc.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—The members of the congregation of St. Peter's Church, Brockville, desire to express to you our grateful appreciation of the eminently acceptable manner in which the services of our church have been conducted by you during the past two months in which you have been filling the place of our beloved rector, the Venerable Archdeacon Bedford-Jones.

We beg leave to assure you, dear sir, that your intercourse with our congregation, although it has lasted for but a short period, has made you many personal friends to whom your sojourn with us will be at all times a pleasant memory; and your able administrations have, we trust, individually been of service to us, as well as conducive to our welfare as a parish.

We have to thank you especially for the three public lectures which you delivered on behalf of the Ladies' Guild. The lectures were a source of great pleasure to those who attended them, and it is doubtless agreeable to you to know that they were successful pecuniarily, as indeed the large and respectable audiences gathered to listen to you amply testified.

We beg your kind acceptance of a small gift, not as a measure of our estimate of your worth, but as a tribute of our affection and esteem.

Finally, we pray that the blessing of God may rest upon you and your family all the days of your life.

Signed on behalf of the congregation, A. B. Brod-rick, Churchwarden; Jonathan Green, Churchwarden; Henry F. J. Jackson, Allan Turner, W. H. Jackson.

Brockville, Ont., Sept., 1892.

Dr. Clark replied in feeling and appropriate words, and the pleasant interview terminated.

TORONTO.

OSHAWA.—In the report of the recent examination for university matriculation, the name of Miss Alice Locke, a student of Bishop Bethune College, Oshawa, Ontario, did not appear. It has since transpired that she passed the full examination creditably. Three others whose names appeared in the report passed the partial matriculation. As the whole number sent up to the examination was five, the college has the honour of having passed eighty per cent. of its candidates. In the June examinations at the Toronto Conservatory of Music, Miss Kilner, one of the partial matriculants, passed the first examination for the diploma of the Conservatory. Such a record is sufficient to show that the work in Bishop Bethune College is of an unusually high order. Even better work may be looked for next year, as the college has secured the services of Miss S. Shibley, a Bachelor of Arts of Queen's University, who won high honours during her course, and Miss Emily Bristol, an undergraduate of Queen's in the final year, who also holds a first-class provincial certificate. Both ladies have been highly recommended as teachers.

CASTLEMORE.—The annual harvest home festival services in connection with St. John's Church, were held on Sunday last. The pretty little church was beautifully decorated with grain, fruits and staples, with which Canada has been so abundantly blessed during the present year. There were altogether four services, viz.:—Morning prayer at 9 a. m., Holy Communion at 10.30 a. m., at which fifty-nine communicated, children's service at 3 p. m., and evening prayer at 7 p. m. The musical portion of the last three services was rendered by Christ Church choir, Brampton, under the leadership of Mr. J. M. Crawford, assisted by the choir orchestra. Large congregations were present at all the services, some being unable to gain admittance in the afternoon and evening. The morning prayer and Holy Communion were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Morley, Incumbent of the parish, and the Rev. Canon Farncombe, of Newmarket. The solemn thanksgiving service of the Church of England was beautifully rendered and heartily participated in by the congregation. The Rev. Canon Farncombe preached the sermon, taking as his text Psalm ciii, 13th verse:—"Like as a father pitieth his own children even so is the Lord merciful to them that fear Him." The reverend gentleman developed this oft-repeated simile in a masterly manner, drawing well-known illustrations of parental love from the scriptures, and showing what great hope of salvation God's promises held out to the most erring. He also pointed out that, while at all times we had reason to return thanks to the Almighty for His munificence, we were this year in Canada especial recipients of divine favour.