

can learn, for the returns are not complete) 12 now in existence, with a total membership of 703, 503 being total abstainers and 200 who have joined for the promotion of Temperance without being themselves total abstainers.

The College at Compton, which is held by Trustees appointed by the Synod, for the education of young ladies in the principles and under the influence of the Church, is now closed.

The Rev. I. Dinzey, the late Principal, found himself in the middle, or towards the end, of last summer's vacation, unable any longer to carry the institution on. The suddenness of the collapse placed the Trustees in a position of great difficulty. They were unwilling to close the college, and for the purpose of keeping it open, for at least another year, they raised a guarantee fund of \$500. It was found, however, that owing to the shortness of time allowed for preparation, and the consequent paucity of promised pupils, the school could not be carried on without the probability, not to say the certainty, of debt which they were unwilling to incur.

The property is mortgaged, but the mortgagees are willing to forego their interest for the present year, in order that an effort may be made to reopen the school in September next.

These matters will appear more clearly in the report of the Trustees which will be presented to the Synod. I have mentioned here because I wish to say that there seems no likelihood of our having a Ladies' College as a permanent institution among us unless the conviction of its desirability becomes a much more practical one than it has hitherto been.

From the report of Bishop's College you will see that that institution is doing a good work, and doing it well.

Through the munificence of Robert Hamilton, Esq., seconded by the subscriptions of other friends of the college obtained by the indefatigable exertions of Dr. Roe, the trusts for the maintenance of the Principal and of the Theological Professor, have been placed in a more satisfactory condition.

Some change has been made in the organization of the institution, the office of Principal of the College and Rector of the School being combined.

Under the able administration of Dr. Lobley, this plan has succeeded admirably.

The Professors and Masters know their work and do it. The strain upon the head of the whole institution is undoubtedly great, but the resulting advantages are great also. And it is of inestimable advantage both to men and boys that they receive during the most critical years of mental and moral growth the benefit they now derive from contact with his fine character, and his powerful mind.

Church education of a more elementary kind is also a matter of no less interest and importance. And it may be as well that I should, however briefly, call your attention to that.

Of Sunday Schools we have in the Diocese 86, with 2,110 pupils. But the instruction that can be given in the best of Sunday Schools will be fragmentary and incomplete (as regards results, however neat and systematic the course may be) unless it is built upon the solid substructure of daily teaching through the week.

And what substructure have we of this sort?

In the curriculums of the common schools of the country a certain amount of Scripture history is prescribed. It may be prescribed though without being attained. And some, who have given their attention to the subject have informed me that not much is attained.

Then there are 20 of these common schools aided by the Church Society of the Diocese, and by the Colonial and Continental Society. In these the teacher is always a member of the Church of England; and the catechism, with Scriptural instruction of an elementary kind, is taught. The Clergyman's influence may be as great as he chooses to make it; and his written certificate of approval is required before a grant is made.

These schools are inspected also by the Church Society's Inspector who reports particularly to the society upon each school every year.

In them, therefore, we may reasonably believe

that religious teaching is effectively given. But they are all too few.

Besides these we have one purely church school—that at Stanstead. And I believe that the work it is doing is a good work. Similar schools were maintained for a time in Coaticook and in New Ireland. But these it was found impossible to continue. And the same may be said of the National School in this city, although in this latter case there are funds continually increasing, which promise ultimately to form an endowment sufficient for the support of the school.

That is the state of religious instruction in the diocese. Something indeed is being done. But it is earnestly to be desired that more were being done.

And now my Rev Brethren and Brethren of the Laity,—I will not detain you longer from dealing with the special business of the Synod. We have many and important matters to consider, and I pray that He, in whose name we meet, may cause His presence to be felt amongst us, and His power to be upon us, to cleanse our hearts, to direct our counsels, and to restrain our lips.

Several reports were read and notices of motion were then handed in.

The remainder of the afternoon was taken up in the discussion of the amendments to the Canons. The Synod adjourned at six o'clock until ten o'clock this morning.

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.—The Synod re-assembled at 10 a.m., on the 14th inst. After prayer the minutes of the previous day were read and confirmed.

The Rev. J. B. Grant, of the Committee of the Diocese of Vermont, was requested to take a seat in the Synod.

The Report of the Committee on Repairs of Parsonages, &c., was handed in and adopted.

It was resolved that Dr. Marsden and R. H. Smith, Esq., be a permanent Committee to report on the qualifications of Lay delegates.—Carried.

A motion was moved by Geo. Lampson, seconded by Dr. Roe—"That the members of the Committee named to apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec for legislation regarding Temporalities, together with such other members as may be named by the Lord Bishop, be appointed a Committee to report at the next session of the Synod, what changes will be required on account of the proposed legislation."—Carried.

Mr. Hemming's motion, as to missions in arrears already referred to in a previous number of the GUARDIAN, was then taken up and it occupied the attention of the Synod the principal portion of the morning. Shortly before one o'clock a division took place and the motion was declared lost, fully two-thirds of the delegates voting in the negative.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—The business of the afternoon opened with the following elections, which took up the greater portion of the time:—

- 1 Trustees of Bishop's College.
- 2 Members of Corporation of Ladies' College, Compton.
- 3 Delegates to the Provincial Synod.
- 4 Boards of Enquiry under Canon X.
- 5 Members of Diocesan Board.
- 6 Members of Executive Committee.
- 7 Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions.
- 8 Nomination of two clergymen and two laymen to serve on the Board of Management of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada.

The only returns handed in were the names of the delegates elected to attend the Provincial Synod.

Lay Delegates—Messrs. James Dunbar, Hon. G. Irvine, J. Hamilton, jr., R. W. Heneker, C. Judge, E. J. Hemming, Captain Carter, J. B. Forsyth, R. H. Smith, Col. Ready and Geo. Lampson.

Clerical Delegates—Revs. C. Hamilton, H. B. Allnatt, Dr. Lobley, A. A. Von Iffland, J. Foster, Dr. Roe, A. C. Scarth, G. H. Park, C. P. Reid,

G. V. Housman, E. A. King, and T. R. Richardson.

E. J. Hemming, Esq., remarked that there ought to be something done with a view to having religious-instruction introduced in public schools, the Sunday-school teachings did not reach the masses, and the amount of ignorance that prevails with regard to Scriptural matters amongst the young was something appalling.

Mr. C. W. Wurtele deemed this the most important matter that had come up before the Synod.

Dr. Roe and his Lordship the Bishop also expressed themselves favourably on the subject, and the following motion was submitted and carried:

Moved by Dr. Lobley, seconded by Rev. Mr. Vial, that a committee of this Synod be appointed to communicate and consult with the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal, and if after such conference it should be thought desirable, with the representatives of other Christian bodies, with a view to the introduction of religious instruction in the public schools of this Province.

Mr. Porteus' motion to amend Canon XIV produced a spirited debate.

Mr. Lampson remarked, from a legal point of view, that it could not be done, and consequently he thought it but right to oppose the motion.

At six o'clock a committee was struck to enquire into the matter and to report to the meeting this afternoon the decision arrived at.

The Synod then adjourned until the first at 10 o'clock.

The Synod resumed their duties at 10 a.m., on the 15th inst. The meeting was opened by prayer. The minutes of Wednesday were read and confirmed. The Report of the Corporation of Compton Ladies' College was read by Dr. Roe and adopted by the Synod.

The Canon for increasing the number of Trustees for this College was also carried.

Several of the Committees handed in their reports.

The Committee appointed to report on the proposed amendment to Canon XIV recommended that it should be allowed to stand over until the next session, which was agreed to.

The afternoon session was brief. A number of minor motions were presented. At the close votes of thanks were accorded to the Literary and Historical Society for the use of their rooms, to the members attending the Synod, the Lay Secretary, James Patton, jr., and the Clerical Secretary, Rev. A. Von Iffland.

A special vote of thanks was unanimously accorded His Lordship the Bishop.

The Bishop thanked all those present for the attention that they had given to the business during the session; and, in conclusion, hoped that when they re-assembled it would be in summer, and trusted that there would be a larger number of delegates present.

The Synod then closed.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

RICHMOND.—On Friday evening last a treat was given to the children attending the Sunday-school of St. John's Church. They assembled at 6.30 in the Town Hall, where a Christmas tree was provided. After a carol had been sung, each child received a gift from the tree, and an apple, orange, and sweets. As soon as the Christmas tree was done with, a concert was begun. Outsiders were charged 15 cents for admission, in order to defray the expenses of the festival, and about \$15 was realized. During the evening Mrs. Jemmett was called on to the stage, when an address was read by Miss Good, and Miss Lewis presented her with a very handsome black fur coat and muff, intended to mark the great good will in which she was held by all denominations of Christians here, and by the parishioners of St. John's Church, more especially. The Rev. G. Jemmett made a suitable reply, and a short farce, entitled "Mrs. Willis's Will," brought a very pleasant evening to an end.

MERRICKVILLE AND BURRITT'S RAPIDS.—Three Sunday-school Festivals, with Christmas trees, were