

to take part in the deliberations of synod, but he held that according to the canon it should be counted in determining the presence of a quorum.

The Bishop referred the question to the Chancellor, and the Chancellor agreed with Judge Macdonald; but even counting in the delinquent parishes represented did not suffice to form the desired quorum, and there was no other course open but to adjourn.

The hall presents a slightly unfamiliar appearance this year. Instead of the long table running down the centre of the hall which used to serve the useful purpose of accommodating industrious members with writing materials, the seats now extend close up to the platform; the Chancellor, who was formerly seated on the floor of the hall, is now accommodated with a small table all to himself on the platform with the other dignitaries of the Church.

WILLIAMSVILLE.—A very interesting ceremony took place in the suburb of Williamsville in the evening, viz., the laying of the corner stone of St. Luke's Church in that place. At 7.30 p.m. a large number of the clergy of the diocese met the Bishop in what is to be the chancel of the church, to prepare for the ceremony. Besides His Lordship the Bishop, there were present in their robes and took part in the procession, Rev. W. B. Carey, M.A., the Bishop's chaplain, bearing the pastoral staff and wearing a new Sarum Biretta; Rev. Canon White, of Iroquois; Revs. Rural Dean Baker, of Bath; J. K. McMorine, rector of St. James'; W. Roberts, of Amherst Island; C. J. Young, of Lansdowne; W. Johnston, of Wellington, and Norrie, of Ompah; Rev. A. W. Cooke, the incumbent of St. Luke's. Among others of the clergy who were present, but without surplices, were Revs. B. B. Smith, rector of St. George's; Rural Dean Stanton, of Deseronto, and his curate, H. Patton; W. Y. Daykin, of All Saints; M. G. Poole, of Prescott; J. Robinson, of Eganville; J. P. Smitheman, of Stafford; H. Coleman, of Richmond; R. Coleman, of Lanark; J. W. Weatherdon, of Parham; F. Codd, of Frankford; H. Farrar, of Bancroft; J. M. V. King, of Cobden; D. Jenkins, of Avonmore; J. Osborn, of Clayton; L. M. Houston, W. J. Muckleston, of Christ Church, Ottawa; J. Jemmett, of Nepean; J. W. Forster, of Thomasburg; W. Lewin, M.A.; C. P. Emory, W. Quartermain, A. Spencer (the clerical secretary), and many others. The clergy forming the procession having surrounded the corner stone, His Lordship, standing on the steps of the vestry porch, commenced the service with the invocation: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen," followed by the text: "Except the Lord build the house, their labour is in vain that build it," followed by the versicles and responses.

After the commendatory prayer, Rev. A. W. Cooke, the incumbent, read the following paper:

"On this day, the 17th day of June, A.D., 1890, being the first day of the meeting of the synod, Rt. Reverend John Travers Lewis, D.D., being Bishop of this diocese—Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria being Queen—His Excellency Lord Stanley of Preston being Governor-General—Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald being premier—was laid this corner stone of St. Luke's Church for the worship of Almighty God according to the use of the Church of England in Canada. Messrs. John Green and Francis Berry, churchwardens; Dr. Brown, delegate to synod; Messrs. T. Cooke and Wm. McFellerige, sidesmen; Rev. A. W. Cooke, incumbent."

The stone was then hoisted by Messrs. Rodgers & McConnel, a box containing the above paper and copies of the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN and other papers was placed in the cavity; the mortar was spread by Mr. Grey. It was then lowered and His Lordship striking the stone three times, said: "In the faith of Jesus Christ, we lay this foundation stone, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost," after which he used the following very appropriate prayer: "Here let true faith, the fear of God, and brotherly love, ever remain; this place is dedicated to prayer, and to the praise of our most holy Saviour Jesus Christ, who ever liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end." Hymn 215 H. A. and M. was then heartily sung, when the concluding prayers were offered by the Bishop. It could not but be remarked the peculiar appropriateness of one in which the safety and welfare of the workmen engaged in its erection and completion was not forgotten in the words, "O Lord, who wisely orderest all things, both in heaven and earth; to thy merciful protection we commend the workmen employed in this building. Let thy fatherly hand ever be over them; keep them from all evil, accident, hurt or hindrance, and from all unfaithful, profane, or unholy words or deeds; that the work now begun may by thy blessing on their labour, be brought to a happy end; through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Preaching Houses Condemned.—The Bishop then ascended the steps of the porch and addressed the very large assembly to the following effect: It afforded him very great pleasure to meet such a large and attentive assembly of those who had come to bear their part in the present service. It was also

pleasant to him to remember that the present was the 177th church in which he has taken part in laying the corner stone, consecrating or re-opening after improvements during the 29 years of his episcopate. This erection and setting apart to the worship and service of Almighty God should cause not only himself but the whole church to rejoice with thankfulness. Indeed, all should congratulate themselves upon the erection of churches in their midst, whether churchmen or not, as an evidence of social progress. Yet unless a proper idea of the purpose and intention of such erections were held, but very little advancement in spiritual things would or could be accomplished. It helps the common interests of a place to build a church in it, but do we realize what we are doing when we engage in such work? The great question is: What use do we make of such a building? Thousands who have come back to the Church of their forefathers, have imported the idea from the sects from which they came, the idea that churches were mere preaching-houses—talking-houses, where they can meet to hear a fine sermon occasionally, or stay away from when the pulpit fails to yield special attraction. In other words they make the House of God to be a selfish convenience. They fail to grasp the great, necessary truths repeated each time at Matins and Evensong, that there and then "we are assembled and met together to render thanks to Almighty God, to hear His most Holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary as well for the body as the soul." Preaching is good and useful in its place, but preaching is not prayer, it is not praise, it is not worship. The minds of the people must be educated to look upon the churches as Houses of God in which it pleaseth Him to dwell—where the faithful soul of the humblest penitent may be assured of meeting Him in His own House of Prayer. Churches then are not mere lyceums or lecture-rooms, or preaching houses, but rather training houses, in which the soul is trained for God and for the life they are to lead with Him. When Sts. Peter and John went up into the Temple at the ninth hour, it was not to hear the high priest preach, but they went there "to pray." And when Our Saviour entered the Synagogue it was for prayer and worship. It is His Presence there, which elevates and consecrates the humblest frame church, the roughest log church, to be as holy—as much the gate of Heaven as the grandest cathedral. When St. John the Divine beheld that grand Apocalyptic vision of Heaven, he tells us "I saw no Temple there; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it." When we enter the church, then let us seek to realize His Presence there and that it is for His glory and worship that we should come there, and to learn that song of Moses and the Lamb which we are to sing "Around the throne of God in Heaven," but the first principles of which must be learned on earth, for how can we hope to enjoy the worship of Heaven or be prepared for our part therein except we have been prepared therefor by actual worship on earth. He concluded with the ascription.

Rev. A. W. Cooke, the incumbent, then addressed a few pleasant words to those present, urging them to give as God had blessed them, and spoke of some of his brethren of the clergy who, not being able to be present in person, were present in their offering.

A collection was then taken up while the large assembly sang hymn 166, A. and M. (Old Hundred), after which the Bishop pronounced the Benediction. The collection, which amounted to \$52.08, was devoted to the building fund.

The church when completed will be a very handsome addition to the vicinity. Its length over all is 67 ft. 6 in. by 34 ft., with chancel toward the east. The materials are brick veneer on stone foundation. The chancel is to be 26 x 18 feet. In the roof are six "eyelet" windows, the west end having five "lantern" surmounted by a large "rose" window. The building will seat about 200 worshippers. J. W. Power drew the plans, the builders being Mr. Grey, mason work; Mr. Rogers, the carpenter work; McMahon Bros. doing the painting, and Messrs. Elliott Bros. doing the plumbing. The church will be completed about October at a cost of about \$2,500.

Wednesday morning—At 10 o'clock this morning the synod was again opened with prayer, and this time there were enough delegates present to allow the business to proceed.

Judge Macdonald moved, and it was resolved, that the precedent of the session of 1885 be followed, and that this (Wednesday) be considered the first day of synod.

Rev. Dr. Carry, of Port Perry, and Rev. E. P. Crawford, of Hamilton, and Rev. T. W. Barry, Chaplain to the U. S. Army, were invited to a seat on the floor of the house.

The minutes of the last day of last session of synod were taken as read and were confirmed.

The auditors reported everything correct, and the chairman of the committee bore testimony to the very efficient manner in which the books and accounts were kept.

Objection was raised to a clause in the report of

the auditing committee recommending the consolidation of all securities in the hands of the synod. It was urged by Col. Matheson that such an important question should be considered by itself, and should not have been inserted in the report of the auditors.

This clause was referred back to the committee and by them struck out, after which the report was adopted.

Election of Officers.—The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: Rev. A. Spencer, clerical secretary; R. V. Rogers, lay secretary; R. T. Walkem, treasurer; and Rev. Sterne Tighe, Dr. Smythe, and R. G. Wright, auditing committee.

The minutes of Tuesday's proceedings were read and adopted, after which His Lordship the Bishop read an address, giving in detail his work in the diocese since the last meeting of the synod. During the year he has visited all parts of the diocese and confirmed 1,765 candidates, of whom 782 were males and 983 females; he has held three ordinations and ordained eleven deacons and nine priests.

His Lordship read a letter from the Lord Bishop of Toronto, and the clerical secretary read a similar letter from the joint secretaries, asking the synod to appoint delegates to a conference to be held in Winnipeg on the 15th August next, to take steps for the consolidation of the Church of England in British North America.

Letters were read from Messrs. R. T. Walkem and H. Hartney, expressing regret that they were unable to be present and assist in the deliberations of the synod. This is the first time in twenty years that Mr. Walkem has been absent from the synod.

The Toronto jubilee committee wrote asking the synod to purchase books containing reports of meetings and sermons delivered at the jubilee proceedings of the diocese, the diocese of Toronto having incurred a large expense in the publication of these reports.

A report was read from the secretary of the Mechanics' Institute, placing the rooms and papers of the institute at the disposal of the members of the synod. This letter was received with applause.

Memorials.—The parish of Osnabruck memorialized the synod, asking for permission to sell its present parsonage in order to purchase a more convenient one.

The parish of Richmond asked permission to sell lands belonging to the parish and have the money invested by the synod.

The parish of Navan asked permission to mortgage its new rectory for \$500 in order to complete it and build sheds.

Trenton wanted to mortgage its rectory for \$1,500. The parish of Deseronto asked permission to exchange certain lands with Wm. McKee, carpenter.

The report of the treasurer, R. T. Walkem, was presented by the clerical secretary and adopted. It drew attention to the depreciation of the value of land in Ontario during the past four years, but expressed the opinion that this depreciation was only temporary.

Ven. Archdeacon Lauder presented the report of the Mission Board, which reported a decrease of six hundred dollars in the receipts under the previous year, owing chiefly to the prevalence of gripe. The Board, however, by strict economy, was able to carry on the work without any serious hindrance. The receipts of the Board for the year amounted to \$10,545.22, which with the balance of \$2,511.46 carried forward from last year, gave the Board \$13,056.68. The payments amounted to \$12,908.08, leaving a small balance of \$148.60 to commence this year with. The Board expressed its conviction that an annual income of \$13,000 was absolutely needed to carry on the missionary work of the diocese. The report also drew attention to the two bequests, amounting to \$15,000, left by two ladies of Prescott, subject to an annuity of \$600, one-third of the amount being for the rector of Prescott, and the balance for the benefit of the mission fund. The Board wish to impress upon church people the advisability of remembering the Mission Board in their wills.

Mr. Walkem here announced that \$200 had been left to the parish of Wolfe Island by the will of the late Walter Anderson.

The report of the Board was taken up clause by clause and adopted. A number of parishes in arrears for special collections were called to account, and the clerical secretary was instructed to draw the attention of the churchwardens of those parishes to their arrearage.

When the report of the Classification Committee of the Mission Board was reached an interesting discussion as to the assistance that should be given to the various missions took place. A motion to the effect that the parish of Gloucester should receive \$200 instead of being cut down to \$150, as recommended by the committee, was lost.

BARRIEFIELD.—Rev. K. L. Jones' claim, on behalf of the parish of Barriefield, to a share in the surplus funds of the rectory of Kingston, presented last year, was referred to a committee. Hon. George A. Kirkpatrick reported, on behalf of the committee, that the parish had no claim.

Statistics.—Dr. Smythe presented the report of the