

liquidated, and last, though not least, Missionary Parishes have been erected into Synodical Rectories. All these things give incontrovertible evidence of a living, active ministry—and demonstrate that our clergy and laity do not suffer the hard times to impede them in their zeal for God's work. The statistics also show a healthy increase in the number of communicants.

OUR WESTERN UNIVERSITY.

Another and a very important matter to which I would draw your attention is that of education the intellectual and spiritual training of the younger members of the community, that they may become fitted hereafter to worthily fill important positions in the Church or State, and successfully and faithfully to discharge the different duties to which in God's providence they may be called.

When we call to mind the immense influence exerted in the mother country in England in moulding the growth of the country, and note the eagerness with which all the leading denominations around us are entering upon the work of education, and the admirable institutions they have established, we cannot but experience a certain sense of humiliation that the Church of England, who was wont elsewhere to be in the van of every such enterprise, should in this important and rapidly-developing diocese be content to leave the field to others. Every year that is lost is simply affording an additional opportunity to others more active than ourselves to take possession of the field we ought to occupy. In this sense delay is indeed dangerous, for we are letting another generation slip from us, which trained in accordance with the pure uncompromising principles of our martyred reformers would be of material assistance to us in the prosecution of every good work.

It should be a matter of deep and special concern to us as a Church and Diocese, to be in a position to send forth not only sound and faithful ministers of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, but men of high culture and training, able intellectually to cope with error in all its varied forms; to go forth like Masters in Israel and powerful champions of "the truth as it is in Jesus."

If ever work fell within the category of Church work, surely it is just such as that to which I have referred; whilst with respect to myself, the fact that I have now for more than a quarter of a century been identified, more or less, with educational efforts, may be regarded at least as a guarantee that I feel the full importance of the subject for which I claim your sympathy and consideration.

Most of you are no doubt aware that I have been waited upon by the Very Rev. the Principal of Huron College, by Professor Halpin and by the Alumni of Huron College; and in an earnest loyal address which reflects the greatest credit upon those who presented it, have been solicited to place myself at the head of a movement for establishing in this city a first-class University, to which the Huron College shall become affiliated, and in which the young men of this section of the country shall find that sound religious and high intellectual training which shall qualify for professional life, and in connection with which they should receive that public imprimatur and scholarship which are usually considered to attend the conferring of a degree. The very fact that this movement has been inaugurated by the Professors and Alumni of Huron College is in itself full of significance and encouragement. At its inception by the late revered Bishop, the enterprise to establish Huron College was, as many of us well remember, contemptuously spoken of by some, ridiculed by others and discouraged by not a few as a futile undertaking that will utterly fail and come to naught; yet, mark the result of the effort. We have acquired the Huron College property, worth now about \$40,000; the Divinity and Classical chairs well and securely endowed, besides a few scholarships, and within the short period of fourteen years the College has furnished the diocese with not less than fifty efficient and faithful ministers of the Gospel—men who by this very act in which they are engaged, and by their generous self-denying liberality are proving themselves abreast of the times, and fully alive to

the spiritual and educational requirements of the country in which their lot is cast. And here I may reiterate what I said in my reply to the address presented to me by the professional staff and the Alumni of Huron College:—"That during the period of fourteen years which have elapsed since the opening of Huron College, the progress of this portion of the Province has been very remarkable"—more so than in any other portion of Ontario. In the year 1861 the population of the Diocese of Huron amounted to 472,745; in 1871, to 600,500; and, calculating the increase at the same ratio during the last six years, we may fairly compute the present population of our Diocese to be about 700,000! The district constituting the Diocese comprises 13 counties, 148 townships of 12,000 square miles, with numerous flourishing towns and villages, and a population larger than that of the present Diocese of Toronto.

The population of the city of London now is larger than that of Toronto when the Provincial University was first established there.

Our body, as a church, feels the necessity there is in the progressive increase of its work of developing the facilities of our local institutions for adequately meeting the demand for more laborers in Christ's vineyard. Encouraging as has been the work of Huron College, yet with its present limited professional staff, it is imperfect to meet the requirements of our young men, who are aspiring to attain that high literary training, coupled with a sound theological course, which will enable them successfully to combat the dangerous tendencies of "a philosophy, falsely so called." I am confident that the people, generally, of this part of the Province, irrespective of denominational differences, would aid us in efforts of this kind, which would place within the reach of their sons the like advantages which other parts of the Province—especially Toronto—so favorably enjoy. It is a mere question of money after all. If the means are afforded us, of establishing a University in this diocese, presided over by godly and learned men from the Universities of the mother country, you would have, in a few years, men coming from such a seat of learning, well and soundly trained in theology and science, who would supply the very want so much felt among us. If we want godly and scholarly men to train our young men, we must adopt the proper and best means for that end. I know we shall be met with the usual argument, by those whose contributions generally consist of throwing difficulties in the way—and that without grudging—"The times are too hard, and the members of the Church of England too poor to contribute to such a work, &c., &c." I unhesitatingly say that I am not of that opinion. While I am ready to admit that there are occasional periods when every country is suffering more or less from financial stringency; yet when I look around me, and consider the marvellous resources of the country and the prosperity of our people generally, I can see no sign of the justice of such remarks, so long as I see the splendid structures which are being reared, and the corresponding way they are furnished, in every part of the country. I feel sure that our people are as well off and as willing to aid as the denominations that stand beside us, and who have made provision for the higher training of their ministers. I would put it to the common sense of our people; I would not speak of the higher aspect of the question—I would not say a word more about our common duty to labor for the glory of God and for the extension of Christ's Kingdom in its purity—but I would put it upon the question of self-interest, and I would say boldly and fearlessly, that there is no form of expenditure which we could indulge in that would yield us as good a return to the Church as giving our clergy a sound Scriptural and a high literary education.

I am quite conscious of many difficulties in our way to consummate this undertaking.

Has there ever been any great and noble enterprise that had not had its difficulties to meet and to overcome?

Difficulties should never deter us from doing a work which we trust will redound to God's glory, and for the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

We thank God for the manifestation of the intense earnestness already evinced in the cause by

many, and we have no fear for the issue in view of such an array of noble, earnest-working and self-denying friends. Once more, I feel my spirit stirred within me to resume, and if spared, God willing, to complete the work which I have been enabled, by God's help, to advance up to the present position. Nor do I doubt that I shall be ably supported, or that I shall fail in securing the needed assistance in our efforts to establish a great and good University.

Beloved brethren of the clergy and laity, we look to you for sympathy; we need your prayers, your influence and your substantial sympathy, and we feel sure you will not withhold these when the occasion calls, and that before long, with God's blessing, the "Western University" will be an accomplished fact, over which we may be able to rejoice and heartily give thanks to God.

His Lordship then read a letter from the Secy. Huron College Association in reference to the results of the canvass. He continued:

In conclusion, beloved brethren, let me say that it is to me an occasion of great joy to be permitted once more to greet you as fellow-laborers in the best of causes. Accept the assurance of my hearty sympathy with you in all your labour and efforts for the good of souls. As we have met here to do what in us lies to maintain and extend the Kingdom of our God, so I trust that the fruit of our united deliberations will be seen and felt, that when we separate to our respective spheres of duty each will carry with him the feeling that some fresh spring of spiritual power has been opened up in his heart, and some new ground discovered of attachment and loyalty to our Scriptural, Protestant and Evangelical branch of the Church of Christ.

Let us understand that we have met here, not merely to legislate for the good government of the Church—making or altering canons, as circumstances may require—but for the great end and purpose how best to promote God's glory and the salvation of our fellow-men. Every other object, however excellent, every other result of our synodical gatherings is insignificant compared with this great aim.

I beseech you, then, beloved brethren, "let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Let us strive and pray for that spirit of heavenly aspirations in all our doings. Such a spirit—under God—will more than all else save us from error and ignorance, pride and prejudice, and knit us together in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy to the only wise God our Saviour be glory and majesty, dominion, and power both now and ever. Amen."

Proceedings of Synod next week.

ALGOMA.

THE REV. MR. WILSON'S TOUR.—Mr. Wilson, who has been visiting the Eastern Dioceses to make known his plans for the education of Indian youth, in the Shingwauk and Wawanosh Homes, arrived in Toronto on Saturday last too late to keep his appointment at the annual festival at St. John's Church, York Mills, on that day. The cause of the disappointment was his detention by the calamitous fire in St. John's N. B., where he happened to be. On Sunday morning he attended St. Peter's Church and preached to a large and attentive congregation. A liberal collection was taken up for him, but as in all other instances, he declined to receive it, stating that his object was merely to make known his plans and create a general interest in his enterprise—not "to go a begging." He stated that God had so graciously owned his work by raising up supporters as to relieve him of asking for the future. At 8 p.m., he addressed the Holy Trinity Sunday School. This school has from the commencement of his enterprise manifested a lively interest in it—by supporting a pupil and aiding in other respects. The large assemblage listened with great interest to Mr. Wilson's address and also to those of Rev. Canon Givins and the Incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Pearson. After several suitable hymns had been sung, Mr. Wilson proceeded to St. George's