

THE HALDIMAND DEANERY MAGAZINE.

YORK AND SENECA,

According to annual custom the above churches were decorated with fruits, flowers, grain and vegetables by the members of the W. A. and others of the congregations, and Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on the Sunday nearest to the day proclaimed by order of the Governor General as a day of National Thanksgiving, viz., Sunday, Oct. 19. The choirs rendered suitable music, and the Rev. L. W. Broughall, M. A., rector of Hagersville, preached the special sermons, the time of service being, St. John's, York, 11 a. m., and St. Mark's, Seneca, 7 p. m. The services were hearty, the singing was very commendable, and the instruction in the sermons was profitable and appropriate, so that these services were not only enjoyably encouraging, but doubtless spiritually beneficial.

On Thursday, Oct. 16th, general Thanksgiving Day, the usual dinner and entertainment took place (under the auspices of the Sen'r W. A.) in St. John's S. S. Hall, York, being patronized by a large attendance of the residents of York village and vicinity. The dinner was excellent in quality, abundant in quantity, and well cooked and served, eliciting the usual practical demonstration of these good features in the enjoyment displayed at the pretty tables. Miss Russell of Hagersville gave in good style and taste a varied selection of recitations, receiving a plain measure of the audience's appreciation in the encore requested for each piece. Mrs. Scudamore, Miss Maude Renshaw and Mr. F. Renshaw sang duets and solos (the latter in costume as negro comedian) to the satisfaction of those present. Mr. James Kerr and family rendered instrumental selections at intervals during the evening, being assisted by Mrs. Robert Nelles as accompanist. These items were highly applauded. After paying all expenses the Auxiliary added \$25 to its bank account on behalf of parochial and missionary objects. The usual votes of thanks and singing of the National Anthem closed a very pleasant evening.

This year an enthusiastic and vigorous branch of the Jun'r W. A. was duly launched on its useful career in this parish, and after various meetings for work and entertainment, the members held a missionary, literary, elocutionary entertainment and bale party in the S. S. hall on Thursday, Oct. 30th. Mr. W. H. Mellon admirably filled the position of chairman; the order was excellent, and the entertainment splendidly rendered and wisely diversified, including recitations by Miss Zella Wright of Brantford, who was encored for each selection, tableaux vivants representing in three scenes the story of Bluebeard and his wives, also one entitled "Little Black Me" in two scenes. Music by Mrs. Scudamore, Miss Renshaw and Mr. F. Renshaw brightened the

program and was heartily received. During intermission refreshments in the form of coffee, cake and sandwiches were served by the young ladies and their friends. A comedy named "The Calf of Gold" was well presented in two acts by the Misses J. Brooks, B. Lowery, J. Taggart, N. Rixon and Mr. Wm. Clark.

PORTMAITLAND AND SOUTH CAYUGA.

The Bishop of the Diocese visited this parish to administer Confirmation on Monday, Oct. 6th. His Lordship arrived at Dunnville by the morning train, from Cayuga, and was met by the Rector and driven out to Mrs. M. A. Docker's, "The Elms," in time for dinner. The Confirmation service was held at St. John's Church at 3 o'clock. The congregation was not as large as it ought to have been. It is true that the two previous Sundays when the service was announced had been wet, with small congregations in consequence; but a notice had been put in each of the three local papers. It is also true that the roads on the day itself were muddy; but all are accustomed to a little mud and some of the candidates came 10 or 11 miles through it. The Incumbent felt disappointed that a service of such interest and importance should not have been more largely attended. He is, however, not unmindful of the fact that necessary duties made the attendance of some impossible.

The service began with Hymn 270, "Soldiers of Christ Arise." Shortened evensong with special lesson was said by the Rector. Then Hymn 349 was sung, "My God accept my heart this day," during which the candidates, who occupied the first four seats on the north side of the church, ranged themselves in order in the aisle. The confirmation office with its solemn promise, the significant and impressive "laying on of hands" of the church's chief Pastor, and the beautiful prayers followed. Then came Hymn 271, "O Jesus I have promised," after which the Bishop preached a most appropriate and helpful sermon from a portion of the Epistle for the day before, the 19th Sunday after Trinity. After the offertory and benediction Hymn 280, "Thine forever, God of Love," was sung as a recessional.

Twenty-three candidates were presented at at this service; and one, unable by recent illness to come the 10 miles to this church, was confirmed in Dunnville the next evening, the whole making the largest class for some years.

The Incumbent is glad to be able to record that on the first regular Communion Sundays following the confirmation, Oct. 26th at St. John's, and Nov. 2nd at Christ Church, all the candidates made their first communion.

The St. John's W. A. had a well-attended meeting at Mrs. Dickhout's on Wednesday.