

important parts of the service, and deserves to be mentioned and elaborated on if there were sufficient time to give it that attention its practical usefulness calls for.

The definition of the word hymn, is a spiritual meditation in rhythmical prose or verse, constituting praise and prayer to God. Hymns from the earliest period have held a most important place in the services of the Sanctuary; contributing to the piety of the Church. At the Creation we are told, "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Heaven itself is Choral with Anthem, and the Angelic hosts sing "Holy! Holy! Holy! is the Lord of Hosts, the whole earth is full of His Glory."

Hymns under the head of congregational can be distinctly traced to the Chorale found at different periods in the various Churches of Christendom.

The first distinct style was the Latin Hymn tune, which existed between the 4th and 12th centuries. Its melodies, consisting of scales or modes, both major and minor (but quite different from those we now adopt), known as plain song, and, as a rule, both words and music were written by the same individual.

The founders of Latin Hymnology were, Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, a. d. 366; and Ambrose, Bishop of Milano. As you are aware, many hymns are attributed to the Ambrosian school. The best known specimens are, "Redeemer of all nations come" (*Veni Redemptor*) and "Maker of all things glorious" (*Deus Creator*).

The Ambrosian music, which had held undisputed sway for two centuries, was supplanted by the Gregorian, Gregory, Bishop of Rome, a. d. 604; and Fortunatus, Bishop of Poitiers, a. d. 609. Mark the transition to the Mediæval period of Latin Hymnology.

The two best hymns of Fortunatus, are, "The Royal Banner is unfurled" (*Vexilla Regis*), and "Sing my tongue the Saviour's battle" (*Pange lingua*).

Here, I must not pass without mention, the Ven. Bede, a. d. 735, the Monk of Yanow, not only the Father of English learning, but the first English Hymn writer.

(To be continued.)

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

ONTARIO.

NEW EDINBURGH.—The usual fortnightly meeting of the White Cross Brotherhood was held on Saturday, March 26th, in St. Bartholomew's church, the President, Rev. Mr. Hannington, in the chair.

The Rev. Mr. Garrett, of Rochester, addressed the assembly. He said that man was by nature inclined to evil. The impurity of the present day was more intensified than that form of evil in old times. The course to be followed was 1st, to preserve the image of God in ourselves, 2nd, to educate those who had not fallen, 3rd, to restore those who have fallen. The principle we must have in view was the preservation and the restoration of fallen human nature. For this it was necessary to put on the whole armor of God, and we must begin when young to fight against evil suggestions. We must fight on, not be weary in well doing, so that at the close of life we might be able to say with St. Paul, "I have fought the good fight of faith."

Mr. Magee said that the previous speaker had struck the keynote of the Brotherhood's work; to keep pure ourselves and to keep others pure. Our own efforts avail little unless we have support from on High. We must endeavour to be pure in deed, pure in speech, and pure in thought. We must have patience with self and patience with others.

Though it was a good thing to have a sensitive conscience, we must not allow conscience to become morbid and despondent. Only by divine aid can we receive strength ourselves. For, had not the pure and gentle Son of God said, "Without Me ye can do nothing."

The counsellor (Dr. Wicksteed) reported that he had received a letter from the Rev. Canon Damoulin, of Toronto, referring to his crushing attack on the promoters of the Rose Bible. He had been sent the constitution of the Guild of the Iron Cross, from Philadelphia. This guild was especially adapted to the needs of the workingmen, and was eagerly joined by them in the United States. The pledges were threefold, viz., temperance, reverence, and chastity. He intimated his intention to organize a branch in the city next autumn. The meeting then adjourned to the call of the chairman.

NORTH HASTINGS.—The Rev. E. Scannell, who has had the honour of being the pioneer missionary in this wide and rough section of the country, has been offered and has accepted the mission of Sydenham.

OTTAWA.—*Society Prevention of Cruelty*.—A small number of the members of the Executive Committee met on the 28th March in the city hall. There were present the Rev. Mr. Dawson (chairman), Messrs. Thompson, Kirkpatrick, G. T. Macfarlane, R. J. Wicksteed, and Secretary W. C. Baker. Mr. Wicksteed announced that a petition had been got up for presentation to the Police Commissioners for the purpose of placing Inspector McKenzie on the force. The ladies had given up the idea of giving a fancy ball for the object of raising funds. To take the place, however, it was intended to give an instructive and interesting lecture at an early date. The speaker then strongly advocated the formation of a Ladies' Auxiliary as a means of strengthening the society. Secretary Baker had every reason to believe that the formation of a Ladies' Auxiliary would do the society much good. In conversation with a friend recently, connected with the Halifax Society, he had heard that that society had made rapid strides to success since the establishment of the Ladies' Auxiliary. The proposal of asking a grant to the funds from the City Council was then discussed, it being agreed that this should be done, but the amount was not determined on.

WEST WINCHESTER.—The Rev. R. Wyndham Brown desires to acknowledge the following contributions to the proposed Church at West Winchester: R. Hamilton, Esq., D. C. L. Quebec, \$25; Mrs. Thrall, \$5; Miss Tomkins, Kemptville, \$5; Rev. F. Codd, \$1.30; Rev. Mr. Godden, \$1.20; Rev. K. L. Jones, \$1.; Rural Dean Nestbitt, \$1. A concert lately netted us \$75. The work goes on well. I regret that having received an appointment in the Diocese of Fredericton, I have to leave this work. I trust that a strong hand may be found to carry it on. Will friends in future kindly address contributions to H. H. Bradfield, Esq., Treas. Building Committee, West Winchester, Ont.

NIAGARA.

PALMERSTON.—A special meeting of the Ruri-decanal chapter of Wellington was held here on Monday and Tuesday, March 21st and 22nd. The object of the meeting was to confer with the Lord Bishop of the Diocese on several topics of importance, and also to elect a Rural Dean, to succeed the Rev. P. L. Spencer, lately removed to Thorold. The Bishop of Niagara has adopted the plan of attending one Ruri-decanal meeting in each deanery every year to hold conference with the clergy. His Lordship comes full of counsels and plans for furthering the work of the Church, and increasing the spiritual life of the members. By these visits of their Bishop, and by his encouragement and excellent advice, priests are greatly helped in their work. The whole day was taken up in discussing such matters as the following:—1. Proper celebration of the centennial of the Colonial Episcopate, and the Jubilee of the Queen. 2. As to the best way to make missionary meetings successful. 3. Advantages of establishing village depositories for selling devotional books, Prayer books, etc., in each parish. 4. Duty of opening and closing vestry meetings with prayer. 5. Desirability of establishing branches of the Woman's Auxiliary of the D. and F. Missionary Society in every parish. 6. Use of good native wine in the Holy Communion. 7. Discouraging the use of the burial office in houses. 8. Offer-tories for the Jews on Good Friday, etc.

His Lordship also expressed his views regarding the office of Rural Dean, declaring that while he held the Rural Dean to be the Bishop's officer, he intended allowing each deanery to indicate to him (when a vacancy occurred) the man whom the clergy would prefer to have placed over them as R. D., he reserved to himself the power of appointing or, if it seemed right to himself, of rejecting the nominee of the clergy, the appointment in all cases to be for the space of three years. The members of the chapter in private session balloted for a Rural Dean, the vote standing on the third ballot for the Rev. R. S. Radcliffe, M. A., 4; for Rev. A. J. Belt, Harrison, 5. His Lordship was pleased to confirm the election of the Rev. Alfred J. Belt, M. A., as Rural Dean of the county of Wellington. Mr. Belt is one of the youngest, if not the youngest, of the Rural Deans in Canada, being only in his 31st year. The Rev. R. S. Radcliffe was appointed sec. treas. The following clergy took part in the several public services of this meeting, viz., Revs. Jas. Morton, Geo. B. Cooke, A. Bonny, R. S. Radcliffe, B. O. L., R. T. D. Webb, G. H. Webb, W. R. Blachford, P. T. Mignot, and A. K. Griffin, of the diocese of Huron. The Bishop acted as celebrant at the early celebration on Tuesday morning, his handsome pastoral staff being carried at all the services by the Rev. R. S. Radcliffe, acting chaplain.

HURON.

The Rev. David Williams, classical professor and asst. clergyman at the Chapter House, London, has arrived at his new sphere of labor, and took part in the services last Sunday, the fifth Sunday in Lent, he is a graduate of Oxford.

PETROLEA.—On Wednesday Evg. the church was crowded to the doors, owing to a visit of his lordship bishop Baldwin, who came for the double purpose of conferring baptism on several who wished it, and also to speak in the interest of foreign missions. His lordship baptized some 18 young people, after which he preached a most excellent and eloquent sermon on missionary work. The offertory was for the mission fund of the diocese.

BURFORD.—*Trinity Church*.—This recently enlarged and pretty edifice was filled to overflowing on Monday, the 21st ult., when the Bishop of the Diocese was present and administered the solemn rite of confirmation to ten (10) candidates, presented by the Incumbent, Rev. W. H. Wade. His Lordship's address, based on Rom. xii. 1, was delivered with his usual earnestness and power, and was greatly appreciated by the crowded congregation which comprised all the resident ministers and many members of other denominations in the neighborhood. He touchingly referred to the removal of Mr. Wade from the parish, who enters upon his duties as rector of Old St. Paul's, Woodstock, on Easter Sunday.

PRINCETON.—*St. Paul's Church*.—The annual missionary meeting was held on Tuesday, March 22nd, and although the night was cold and stormy, was attended by a congregation of 80. The Incumbent, Rev. W. H. Wade, read the shortened form of Evening Prayer, after which very earnest addresses were delivered by the Revs. A. Brown, of Paris, and J. Gander, of Drumbo. Rural Dean MacKenzie, of Brantford, was to have been present, but was taken ill en route and had to return home.

FOREIGN.

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland is to meet on April 19th.

The Church of Chigwell, Essex, rendered famous by Dickens in his "Barnaby Rudge," has been restored and enlarged at a cost of £5,000.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man is making strenuous efforts to re-establish during the Jubilee year the ancient cathedral and chapter in the Isle of Man.

An anonymous donation of £2,000 has been made to the Clergy Distress Fund, just opened by the sons of the clergy at the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The amount already received exceeds £4,000.

All the bishops of Tasmania and Australia (Brisbane excepted), have handed over her jurisdiction to the Privy Council in England.

The assistant Bishop of Madras (Dr. Caldwell), recently ordained fifteen native lay agents to the diaconate, and one native deacon to the priesthood.

More than £25,000 have already been subscribed to the Church House Jubilee Memorial, and over £50,000 to the Imperial Institute. The Archbishop of Canterbury has offered a free site for the former in the Palace Grounds, Lambeth.

The Archdeaconry of Marlborough, in the diocese of Nelson, New Zealand, has become vacant by the decease of the Ven. Henry Francis Butt. The late archdeacon, who was in his seventy-first year, was a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was admitted to holy orders by the late Bishop Selwyn.

The Bishop of Bedford, speaking on lay ministrations at the recent meeting of the London Diocesan Conference, urged the organising and honoring of such service. He held that the Church could not afford now, any more than in her earlier days, to dispense with any gifts offered in the cause of truth.

The Bishop of Chester presided at a recent meeting held in furtherance of the Fund for Church Extension in Cheshire. The scheme was for the formation of nine new parishes in the rural deanery of Stockport,