

**MARRIAGE IN CHURCH.**—I have further to ask your attention to the fact that the Church requires the persons to be married, to *come into the body of the Church*. It is not contemplated that marriage will be celebrated *anywhere except in God's House*. We can hardly exaggerate the exceeding importance of every usage or regulation which can elevate the sacred character of marriage in the eyes of the community, and exhibit it as an ordinance of God, instituted in the time of man's innocence, and signifying unto us the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and His Church. The disposition to treat marriage simply as a civil contract which may be made and unmade by the law and the courts of the country irrespective of God's ordinance, ought to make us very earnest in inducing all to come to Church to be married, so that the civil contract may occupy only its proper place and the very sacred and religious character of the holy state of matrimony may be fully represented and deeply impressed on the minds of all. I am sensible of the exceeding difficulty of enforcing a rule of the Church, which may have been relaxed when Church edifices were few and far between. This excuse can hardly be said to exist amongst us now, and an earnest and kindly presentation of the weighty reasons for celebrating all marriages in Church will win most persons. Soon fashion will lend its prevailing force to promote the good rule.

**MAY DEACONS MARRY?**—The Civil Law enacts that clergymen may by virtue of their ordination or appointment, and according to the rites and usages of their several Churches or denominations, solemnize the ceremony of marriage. The question whether Deacons may marry was tried in England, and decided in the negative before the House of Lords by Chief Justice Tindal, his brother judges concurring, on the following grounds:—

1. The marriage office is especially one of benediction. 2. Benedictions are beyond the power of a Deacon. 3. The rubrics throughout contemplate the "minister" of the office as a priest. 4. No authority to celebrate marriage is given either in words or by implication to the Deacon at his ordination or at any other time.

Even if valid according to the Civil Law of this country, such marriages are irregular in the Church of England.

The true and safe course amongst us clearly is, that the Deacon when called upon to marry, should at once seek the aid of the priest under whose direction he is placed by the Bishop, in accordance with Canon XVIII, of the Provincial Synod.

**SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.**—I desire to draw your attention to the admirable incentive to study provided for Sunday-school teachers through the examinations conducted by the Church of England Sunday-school Institute of London, under the auspices of the Archbishops and Bishops of England. The Rev. Canon Belt, is the officer of the Institute amongst us. The subjects for the annual examination are conveyed through him. In due course the examination questions are forwarded to him and the answers of the candidates are sent back in sealed envelopes. The certificates of the class or rank in the shape of handsome cards attained by each, are awarded by the examiners in England, and sent to be signed by the Archbishop or the Bishop of the Diocese. I have had the great satisfaction of placing in the hands of several teachers at Guelph, certificates of their having attained a high degree of proficiency. The clergy are, of course, in a position to encourage the teachers of their Sunday-schools to compete in these examinations and to afford them valuable aid in their preparation for them.

The Archdeacon of Guelph, who has had several year's experience, assures me that the teachers in his parish who have been induced to prepare for these examinations, have found

great delight and profit in the effort. As soon as the plan of study is laid before them and they are shown how to use and read the appointed books, they enter into the work with great zest. The subjects and the examinations bear directly upon the instruction which our teachers are called upon to give in our Sunday-schools. Every one will see at once how very much the effectiveness of the teachers and the value of our Sunday-schools must be improved by such a system. I feel that we are deeply indebted to Rev. Canon Belt, for introducing amongst us this opportunity of enabling our teachers to take their place amongst the best teachers in the Church of England, whether at home or abroad.

I earnestly commend to you, my Reverend Brethren, the duty and advantage of spending *time and labor in inducing your teachers to take up the subjects for these examinations and helping them to prepare for them*. The Rev. Canon Belt will, I know, furnish you with all the information you may desire.

#### DIOCESE OF HURON.

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee is to be held at the Chapter House, on Thursday, Sept. 22nd, at 2:30 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. McBeth, representing the Irish Society, preached in St. Paul's Cathedral Sunday morning, and St. James', London South, in the evening Sunday, Aug. 28th. He got the collections in each Church for the Society, which were quite large. He explained the work which is being done, and the way in which it is accomplished.

The following day, Dr. McBeth left for Buffalo, where he was to hold meetings in the interest of the society.

**PERCHE—St. John's Church.**—The annual Harvest Festival of this Church was held on Tuesday evening, Sept. 6th. Through the untiring efforts of Miss Jones, the organist, and a few other ladies of the congregation, the nave and chancel were most tastefully decorated with flowers, evergreens and fruits of the earth, besides appropriate mottoes expressive of gratitude to the "Giver of all" for the bounties of harvest. The service was read by the incumbent, Rev. H. D. Steele, and the lessons by Rev. T. R. Davis, B.A., rector of Sarnia, who afterwards preached a most appropriate sermon from Exod. xxxiii, 18 and 19 verses. Although the congregation was much smaller than usual, owing to a heavy thunder storm and rain, a very liberal collection was taken up in liquidation of the small debt still remaining due for renovating the interior of the Church. Thanksgiving services were continued by the incumbent on Sunday last.

#### DIOCESE OF ALGOMA.

**ROSSEAU.**—The Rev. Alfred W. H. Chowne begs to acknowledge with hearty thanks the sum of \$10 from a friend, Orillia.

**UFFINGTON.**—A beautiful stole has been presented to the little log Church at Uffington, by the Sunday-school children of St. Jude's, Brantford. The Rev. J. Greeson thanks the Rector of St. Jude's for the handsome present.

#### PROVINCE OF RUPERT'S LAND,

PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF RUPERT'S LAND.—*Cont'd*  
LAST DAY.

On reassembling, the following resolution from the Synod of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle was submitted: "That at a meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle held on Wednesday, the 23rd day of June 1886, at which there were present 13 clergy and 9 laity, the following resolution was passed unanimously: 'That the Synod is of opinion that it is very desirable for the welfare of our Church that

some title should be, as speedily as possible, adopted more clearly indicating our geographical position than that by which our Church is at present known as the Church of England.

"The Synod does not desire by such alteration to lessen in the least the bonds that at present unite us with our Mother Church whose liturgy and discipline we prize as our precious inheritance, but we consider that some such alteration would bring the name of our Church more in accordance with the primitive usage of the Church, and would more clearly define our position as belonging to this country.

The Synod is further of opinion that if any change is made in the name of our Church, it is most desirable that the same name should be adopted throughout the Dominion.

The Synod, therefore, very humbly petitions the Synod of the Province and the Synod of the Provinces of Eastern Canada, and the Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia to take this subject into their consideration, that if it is generally thought advisable that a change should be made, some means may be devised whereby united action may be taken in the matter. (Signed), ADELBERT.

Bishop of Qu'Appelle, President.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Sargent, seconded by Canon O'Meara, the memorial was laid on the table.

The Committee appointed to draft responsive addresses to that of His Grace of Canterbury and the addresses reported suitable replies, which were adopted.

A message was received from the Upper House nominating as a committee on Indian work: Revs. A. E. Cowley, Mr. W. R. Mulock, Canon Matheson, Rev. W. H. Burman, Mr. C. J. Brydges, Rev. R. Phair, Arch. Winter, Rev. Owen Owens, Arch. Reeve, Arch. G. McKay and the members of the House of Bishops as members of the committee with the Metropolitan as convener. Also another expressing concurrence in Rev. Mr. Pentreath's motion relative to Union.

Later a message was read from the House of Bishops relative to Mr. Fortin's motion re-Church unity, which was made to read as follows: "That the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land has heard with unfeigned joy and deep gratitude to Almighty God, of the efforts that have been made by the representatives of some of the leading churches in Canada towards christian unity, and it cordially sympathizes with the movement, and is anxious to co-operate in bringing it to a successful issue; and that while it considers that as the subject is likely to be brought before the conference of Bishops at Lambeth next year, no action should be taken till the decision of that conference is known, still, in evidence of its sympathy, it appoints a committee composed of members of the Upper and Lower Houses to confer with similar committees appointed elsewhere as to the best method of accomplishing this." The motion as amended was concurred in.

Concurrence was moved by Mr. Mulock, seconded by Canon Matheson.

The Bishops now assembled in the Lower House to assist at a presentation to the Bishop of Saskatchewan.

Dean Grisdale in a few happy remarks greeted Bishop Pinkham, and then called on Canon Coombs who presented a very flattering and laudatory address on behalf of the Clergy of the Diocese of Rupert's Land: after which Dean Grisdale handed a signet Ring to Bishop Pinkham, who, in replying, said the many acts of kindness of which he was the recipient made his leaving them more and more difficult. He could not find words to express his feelings, but never would he forget the great sympathy and brotherly affection shown him. It had been his delight to do everything in his power to bring together the clergy of the diocese, as he had ever appreciated the value of union and co-operation. There were two things, he wished to emphasize before leaving; the first being the moral strength dependent upon union among