

s, the plots e or founder rs belonged. f the barons rformers of the castle of 1 mummings, The larder ies and sub- keys, geese, ddings, nuts, talians have than English ere invited nor and his onductive to

orating the d evergreen practices. It pirts might d remain un-

existed be- ceremony of ives its origin the Druids. e inhabitants together and n Hall, each aming brand, was carefully emony. The hes, made of

The clergy by the magis- l also to the the evening, he procession th their flam-

(Christmas! times round

o St. Peter's amambulated, he shepherds the different

he town also re procession, ecorated with carried very had with them amented with d the church the Christmas

um. The in- distinction of cle, and con- x, leaving the ds. After the very one took threw it across

ocession, each a distinct body. ay in the tower ll was tolled.

00 lbs., and it essely for the he flambeaux re dress of the very ancient.

There was a regular endowment of ten crowns for the ringing of this bell at the ceremony just described. Considering the large number of persons engaged in it, the processon was conducted with great decorum, and the ceremony was held in so much veneration that fasting was generally observed by those who took part during the whole of the time, eating nothing till about eight o'clock in the evening—the time of its completion. It was said that the flambeau would not burn any one, and yet, says Mr. Cochon, we have seen many a dress and many a cap ignited by them; but, say the good folks, this fire never hurts anybody. It is certainly surprising that no accidents have occurred, when we consider that the lofts over the market-place are always full of straw, and that there are from 2000 to 3000 firebrands, at the least, carried about and brandished in the air. The remains of the flambeaux are considered sacred, and as preservative against misfortune. This custom of carrying flambeaux was only observed in this one province of France, because it is said that at this place, Dreux, there was once a sacred college of the Druids, and that they performed their sacrifices in a temple they had at Firmencourt, and which then formed one of the quarters of the town of Dreux. There is a subterranean church of Notre Dame at Chartres, with the Latin inscription still seen above the portal, "Virgini Paritura." The Druids used to go up to the forest of Dreux, or Cotais, and brought back the mistletoe, which they burned in honor of this unknown Virgin, who was to be delivered of a child. They had a black statue of her, which was believed to be the same as that found in the subterranean church at Chartres.—*J. S. B. in Church Bells.*

CHRISTUS REDUX.

Enl in nubibus descendit  
Olim coeans pro reis;  
Pompa triumphalis splendet  
Millibus caelocolis.  
Alleluia!  
Deus regnat in terris!

II.

Cujus diram majestatem,  
Qui spreverunt joculis  
Cruci fixum, laceratum,  
Nunc videbunt oculis;  
Hi Messiam  
Verum cernent lacrimis.

III.

Corpus ejus passioni  
Caris signis radiat:  
Qua sunt exultationi  
Nobis, quos redemerat.  
Quam spectare  
Mira vulnera juvat!

IV.

Eja! adoremus, Amen!  
Omnes celsum solio;  
Jesu! rerum moderamen  
Sumas cum imperio.  
Rex aeternae  
Gloriae, descendito!

W. H. C. KERR.

Non. Decemb.

—God sometimes washes the eyes of His children with tears in order that they may read aright His providence and commandments.—*T. L. Cuyler, D.D.*

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

ONTARIO.

BATH.—The Rev. Canon Tane has resigned the rectory of Bath.

Presentation.—The Rev. Rural Dean Baker, of Bearbrook, county of Russell, formerly of Deseronto, was presented with a valuable cow by Mr. John Wilson, one of his parishioners, as he was about to visit the Indian and Colonial exhibition. This mark of esteem is highly prized by Mr. Baker, one of the most hardworking and painstaking clergymen of the diocese.

The lord Bishop of Ontario was present at the diocesan chamber, Belfast, on Thursday, the 4th of November, when an address and presentation was made to his grace the lord primate of all Ireland, and who had previous to his appointment to the primacy presided over the diocese of Down, Connor, and Dromore, for the space of thirty-seven years. In addition to the address presented to his grace by the clergy and laity of the united diocese of Down, Connor, and Dromore, an address and presentation was made by the clergy ordained by his grace, the list being headed by his lordship the Bishop of Ontario, who is at present travelling in the Old Country for the benefit of his health. The address from the clergy and laity was accompanied by a silver salver with an accompanying cheque for £500. The presentation from the clergy, ordained by his grace, was a magnificent clock.

PARHAM.—The Rev. Mr. Jenkins has taken charge of Parham mission, in the stead of the Rev. Mr. Stiles, who had to resign on account of ill health.

KEMPTVILLE.—On 23rd November, there was a grand vocal and instrumental concert given in St. James' Hall, under the direction of Mrs. H. Laing. The native talent never sang better, whilst the audience was delighted to find Mr. W. Blackburn acquit himself so well, as he appeared for the first time, in a solo. Messrs. Mayne and Walt afforded invaluable assistance; the Rev. W. F. Gorman afforded much pleasure, by the two pieces he sung with good effect, whilst Miss Mills, of Iroquois, proved by her exquisite and well trained voice, that her education in the Boston Conservatory of Music, had been to some purpose. Miss Magee, of Merrickville, and gold medalist of Hellmuth College, performed, with admirable effect on the piano, and by her skill and taste vindicated the musical training of that institution as being firstclass. Beautifully arranged bouquets, procured from Scrim, in Ottawa, were presented to the Misses Mills and Magee. Notwithstanding the great down pour of rain, the hall was well filled, and \$50 was the result of the financial department.

On Wednesday, December 8th, special services of intercession for an increase of labourers for the Lord's vineyard, were held in St. James' Church. The vicar of Oxford Mills, the Rev. W. A. Read, was preacher and celebrant. He preached an admirable and practical sermon suited to the occasion. The children were catechized, as usual, at 7 p.m.; and at 7:30 there was a service of intercession again, when the rector, Mr. Emery, preached. At 8:30 there was a fairly attended monthly meeting of the Parochial Foreign and Domestic Mission Board.

The Porter Fund.—Acknowledgments.—Mrs. B. B. Smith, \$1; Archdeacon of Kingston, \$4; Rev. T. W. Patterson, \$2; Mrs. Roger, \$1; Anon. from Pembroke, \$4; Rev. K. L. Jones, \$2; per Rev. W. C. Bradshaw, \$4; Rev. E. P. Crawford, \$5; Rev. A. Spencer, \$5; Rev. F. Prime, \$1; Rev. R. L. Stephenson, \$2; Geo. A. Kirkpatrick, M.P., \$5; Wm. Wilson, \$1; H. Hartney, \$1; Judge Reynolds, \$2; Rev. E. Loukes, \$2; Rev. H. Pollard, \$1; S. Keefer, \$1; Rev. W. B. Carey, \$2; Anonymous, \$1 25; Archdeacon of Ottawa, \$2 50; Jas. Shannon, \$2; Rev. J. J. Bogert, \$1; per Mrs. R. Deacon, \$70; Rev. F. Codd, \$5. J. KER McMORINE, Treasurer.

MABERLY MISSION.—Of the many bright and joyful days in connection with church life and work in this mission during the past three years, Wednesday, December 8th, must claim to be the brightest and most joyful of them all. On that day the new Church of St. Alban the Martyr, was solemnly dedicated to Almighty God, by the Ven. Archdeacon of Ottawa, Dr. Lauder, the Bishop's commissary, assisted by the

Revs. T. J. Stiles, T.H.C., mission priest, C. E. S. Radcliffe, B.C.L., of Arthur; G. Scantlebury, of Sharbot Lake; T. L. Geen, of Belleville; and Mr. Austin Smith, of Perth. The services of the day commenced with matins and choral celebration of the holy communion, at which the Ven. Archdeacon acted as celebrant, and the other clergy assisted in the service. The church was well filled with devout worshippers, and thirty came forward with full and joyful hearts to receive the holy sacrament, great reverence, devotion, and attention being noticeable throughout. The Archdeacon preached from text, Nehemiah xiii. 14, a splendid sermon peculiarly fitting to the occasion, full of instruction, wisdom, and advice, which held the large congregation with rapt attention, and many declared that they had seldom listened to a discourse from which they had derived so much knowledge and benefit. He complimented the builder and contractor, Mr. John Acheson, upon the creditable manner in which he had carried out the architect's designs, executed by Mr. George Dawson, of Phona. He stated that it was his duty as Archdeacon to see that churches were properly designed and fitted up, and expressed his perfect satisfaction with St. Alban's, both in design and internal fittings. Everything, he said, was in accordance with the church's law and rubrics. He mentioned in the most kindly terms, the glorious record the Rev. Mr. Radcliffe had left behind him in the erection of this beautiful sanctuary. Evensong was said at 8 p.m., when another good congregation assembled, and Rev. Mr. Radcliffe preached, from the text Exodus iii. 8, explaining the meaning of the word "Shekinah," and applying it practically to worship in the church, and the necessity for great reverence. Another service was held at 7 p.m., and bright, pithy addresses were delivered by the Revs. T. J. Stiles, and C. E. S. Radcliffe, on "Unity," and other suitable subjects. The music of the day was capitally rendered by Mr. Austin Smith, of Perth, and Miss Mary Cavanagh, organist of St. Stephen's Church, Bathurst. Many of the parishioners feel truly thankful to God for the great privilege He had given them. The church is a nice neat Gothic little structure of brick veneer, forty-two feet by twenty-three, with a vestry attached to the south side thirteen by thirteen feet. The interior is lined with ash, varnished on the raw wood. The windows are of stained glass, from Messrs. McCausland & Son, of Toronto, the triplet in the sanctuary is very well designed, the centre pane containing the sacred monogram "I. H. S.," and the other two the "Font" and "Chalice." A wood screen separates the chancel from the nave. The sanctuary is furnished with a handsome altar and credence table, presented by the Rev. F. D. Bogert, rector of St. John's, Belleville. On the altar are the ornaments ordered by the ornaments rubric. The little cross beautifully cut out of marble, was presented by Mr. Radcliffe, in memory of his mother, who died a few years ago. The vases and lamps, of finest quality, were procured at Mr. John Hart's, Perth. The prayer desks, nicely designed by Mr. Hogg, of Perth, look well. Two large chandeliers in the nave, and one swing electric lamp in the chancel, give a clear and beautiful light. The organ, a full toned Dougherty, was procured from Mr. George Thornton's factory, Perth. The altar linen, of fine quality, was presented by the sisters of the Orphanage of Mercy, Kilburn, London, England. The silver plates by the Rev. Mr. Geen, of Belleville. Everything is paid for, and out of debt. All that is needed to complete the church is a good bell. The offertory for the day, which amounted to \$20.41, will be devoted towards this object. It is only right to remember that the Rev. A. W. Radcliffe, rector of North Newton, England, donated about \$450 towards the building of St. Alban's. We also have to thank His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, the Marquis of Lansdowne, for a donation of \$25. Great credit is due to the clergy of the diocese, for their openheartedness and liberality in permitting a canvass to be made in their parishes for this good cause. The Rev. R. L. Stephenson, M.A., rector of Perth, deserves great credit for not only having urged the opening of the mission, but also for having supported it in all its undertakings, with his influence and means. The total cost of church, site, and furniture, amounts to about \$2,000. May God bless the work that has been done, and give grace to the new incumbent, the Rev. T. J. Stiles, for the carrying on of the same.

TORONTO.

St. Anne's.—On the occasion of the recent marriage of Mr. E. A. Mumford and Miss Rosina Featherstonhaugh, they were made the recipients of a valuable tea service, by the members of the congregation of St. Anne's, in recognition of their faithful services for several years as choir master and organist of that church. The following will explain itself.

DEAR MR. MUMFORD,—We beg that you and Miss Featherstonhaugh will accept the accompanying tea service as a slight token of the esteem in which you are held by your many friends in St. Anne's congre-