

gathered, and after evening prayer, the Rev. A. F. Echlin delivered an address upon "Christ the Head of the Church." The Rev. B. B. Smith followed with some remarks explanatory of the nature and objects of the Clerical Union, and gave a short address on "The due observance of the Lord's Day." With this service closed a very pleasant and we trust profitable meeting of the Union. The next meeting will be held, by the kind invitation of the Rev. E. Loucks, at Picton, in the month of August.

TORONTO.

THE REV. WM. CROMPTON, travelling missionary in the diocese of Algoma, preached on Sunday morning last, at St. Stephen's, and in the evening at St. Matthias. He has been invited to preach on Sunday next in the morning at St. Luke's, and in the evening at St. Mark's, Parkdale.

ASHBURNHAM.—We clip the following from the Easter address of the Rev. W. C. Bradshaw, Incumbent. As to numbers, we stand pretty nearly as we did in 1879. There are now in connection with St. Luke's, 105 families, representing 545 souls, and at St. Mark's, sixteen families, with an aggregate of about seventy-five souls. This makes the total Church population of the parish to be 121 families, or 620 individuals. In other respects, I think the church shows tokens of advancement—a parsonage under course of erection, and, I believe, an increased offertory. Our communicants' roll has, through deaths and removals, suffered sadly during the last eighteen months. And yet to-day we still number in both churches at least 185, viz.: twenty-five at St. Mark's and 160 at St. Luke's, of whom no less than 142 communicated on Easter day. This shows that nearly one-third of our Church population are communicants—an unusually good proportion. Through the year nearly twenty names have been struck off, while, to partly meet this deficiency, over fifteen new members were added at Christmas and Easter. There are now on the Sunday school roll, 153 pupils, viz.: 45 boys, 58 girls, and 50 in the two infant classes. The average attendance since Easter last, has been 105. By the erection of a suitable building to be used as a parsonage the church here has added greatly to its present position and future permanency. It is the beginning of an endowment, in fact, which will benefit your Incumbent, whoever it may be, very materially, and will prove a considerable advantage in securing the permanency and progress of the parish. Paid 524 visits, held nearly 300 services, preached or lectured 159 times, baptized twenty-nine persons, administered the Holy Communion on forty-three occasions, held thirty-six Bible classes, performed the marriage service six times and ministered at the graves of ten individuals. Churchwardens' report states that the receipts from Sunday collections amount to the sum of \$1,036.03 for fifty-five Sundays, making an average per Sunday of \$18.83. This is a small advance on former years, as shown by the following figures:—Average for 1878, \$16.50; for 1879, \$18.20; for 1880, \$18.32; and for the ecclesiastical year to this date \$18.83, as above stated.

NIAGARA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAMILTON.—Receipts at Synod office up to 30th April, 1881.

MISSION FUND.—*Offertory Collections*.—Grimsby \$10.00; North Arthur \$2.00; Omagh 60 cents; Dunnville \$5.00; Stamford \$6.12; Drummondville \$8.85; *Parochial Collections*.—Waterdown and Aldershot \$9.25; Dundas \$2.65; St. Thomas's, Hamilton, \$27.00; *On Guarantee Account*.—Drayton \$16.00; Morefield \$75.00. ALGOMA FUND.—*Good Friday Collections*.—Stamford \$4.60; Drummondville \$10.65.

SYNOD ASSESSMENT.—Amaranth West \$2.00; Ancaster \$8.00; Omagh and Palermo \$2.00; Merriton, Homer, and Grantham \$5.00; Chippawa \$8.00; Clifton and Queenston \$5.00; Caledonia \$6.00; Rothsay and Houston \$4.00; Grimsby \$8.00; Wellington Travelling Mission \$3.00; Niagara \$10.00; St. Catharines \$16.00; St. Barnabas \$2.00; Hamilton, Ascension \$16.00; Lowville, etc., \$4.00; Walpole, South, \$3.00; Stamford and Drummondville \$8.00; Orangeville 10.00; Mount Forest and North Arthur 4.00; Fort Erie and Bertie 5.00; Cayuga 4.00; Georgetown 6.00; Elora and Alma 4.00; Palmerston 2.00.

WELLAND.—At the vestry meeting in Holy Trinity church, Messrs. W. G. Thompson and James Brown were appointed representatives to the Synod; Messrs. Jas. Lamont and L. Clarke Raymond were appointed wardens. On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the marriage of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Caswall, some of

the congregation proposed to celebrate the event by presenting them with various articles of tin ware. All the members who heard of the project, eagerly endeavoured to show their kindly feeling towards their energetic, hard-working pastor, and about the middle of the week before last, quite a number of young ladies and gentlemen assembled at the parsonage at about eight o'clock in the evening, laden not only with tins of every imaginable pattern and finish, from the humble tin pail up to the gaily painted and japanned filters, but also with certain creature comforts. Afterwards some of the ladies took possession of the culinary departments, and supper was served up and duly disposed of, the presentation of the gifts took place and were received by the rev. gentleman and his estimable lady as they were intended by the donors; not as anything intrinsically valuable in themselves, but as a token of the kindly feeling that exists between the congregation and the clergyman. But this was not all. On Friday last other members of the congregation, who could not participate in the former surprise party, supplemented that by presenting the rev. gentleman and his lady with a very pretty tea set. Mr. Caswall is a worker, and by God's grace, his work is prospering. The Sunday schools here and at the Feeder Junction are well attended. The children on Sunday morning at this school sang very nicely indeed, and over fifty were in attendance. The financial statements made on Monday night at the vestry meeting by Mr. Van Norman, one of the churchwardens, and by Mr. Caswall, were very encouraging to the parishioners. It appears that the united parishes of Welland and Fonthill have raised somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$1,000 within the year, instead of \$400 or \$500, as in previous years.

HURON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON.—The Rev. Mr. Ramsay, of the Churchin Ireland, has just arrived here, having been appointed assistant minister of the Chapter House.

PETERSVILLE: St. George's. The Lord Bishop of Huron confirmed a class of nine candidates presented to him by Rev. Dr. Darnell, on the third Sunday after Easter. There was a good congregation, among whom were the teachers of St. George's Sunday school, many of whom are members of St. Paul's church. St. George's is really a handsome ecclesiastical building, the chancel especially, with a chaste, well-designed stained East window over the Communion Table, bearing on one light the Lamb with banner; and on the other the Cross and Crown. The first prize at the diocesan competition examination of Sunday school teachers, was awarded to Miss McKinnon, a teacher of St. George's Sunday school.

ALGOMA.

The Lord Bishop of Algoma left on Monday last for Sault St. Marie. All letters will be forwarded to the above address.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

The Synod met February 11th and following days. The principal subject discussed in the report which has been sent to us, was contained in resolutions founded on a letter addressed by the Rev. J. H. Geare. His proposals were these:—"That providing my stipend shall remain as it is—viz., £350 exclusive of house rent £50—I will undertake to get a clerical friend from England, and myself be answerable to him for his stipend, and in every way provide for his wants and comfort. The Church people will have nothing to do but to continue their subscriptions faithfully, so that I may not fail through lack of their good faith to carry out my agreement with the clergyman I have in view. He would have his licence from the Bishop, and be to all intents and purposes my assistant curate. I should also ask the Synod to allow me a reasonable time, say four months, to obtain such assistance; and during the interim, the present arrangement made by Mr. Fuller and myself would naturally go on, and my stipend remain in statu quo. If my plan should fall through, after the time agreed upon has expired, the Synod can then make their own arrangements to procure an assistant minister, or make fresh propositions to myself, which we should then consider."

After some discussion the aforesaid proposals were agreed to.

Our correspondent complains that the Church in Belize which he attends, although erected over a year, has never been visited by its rector, although he has been many times importuned to come and see them, nor has the church ever been consecrated. Church matters are in a very low state.

Correspondence.

All Letters will appear with the names of the writers in full and we do not hold ourselves responsible for their opinions.

THE SAULT ST. MARIE MISSION.

SIR, I made some little time ago an arduous mission trip to St. Joseph's Island, for the purpose of placing in resident charge Mr. Beer, a candidate for Holy Orders, and opening the last of three new churches which have been built in this mission, and paid for in full, by the liberality of friends of mission work during the past year. Our journey down was somewhat trying, the thermometer stood at thirty-two degrees below zero, there was in places about a foot of water, sometimes more, between the recently fallen snow and ice, which froze up the runners of our sleigh so hard and fast that sometimes the horses could not move them, and we had frequently to get out and knock them clear, in which operation our legs and feet became encased in ice. At one o'clock our horses gave out, and there was nothing to be done but to cover them over with buffalo robes and feed them. We then made a large fire at the edge of the ice, cut our frozen bread and bacon with an axe, thawed them by the fire, and boiled our kettle. During our picnic meal we kept moving and revolving before the fire to keep up circulation. We were twelve hours exposed on the ice, and then could not make our proposed destination for the night, and therefore decided to put up at the first house we came to, but houses up here are few and very far between; we reached one, however, at 8 o'clock, and then it took us a good hour and a half to rub down and get the ice off our horses and do them up for the night. This was rather a rough experience for a new missionary, he however bore it extremely well, but still it was not as bad for us as for two men, who with a powerful team were conveying provisions over the ice to a lumber shanty and were obliged to throw off part of their load, for we had the secret satisfaction of feeling that we were engaged in the highest and holiest work in which it is possible for man to be employed, while they were merely pursuing their usual vocation under greater difficulties. The visible effect of even itinerant mission work on the Island of St. Joseph in the past is certainly most encouraging, and augurs well for the future, and not a little praise is due to the missionary zeal displayed by my former assistant, Mr. Rowe, who is now in full charge of the North Shore.

On my return journey alone, I had a narrow escape, as the horse and sleigh went right through the ice and I had to jump with the reins in my hands to save myself from going under. On my arrival home, among other encouraging letters, I was much cheered to find one from a rural friend offering to build and furnish a frame church entirely at his own cost, with the request that his name should not transpire. Surely such generosity and beneficence on the part of one, should stir up the feeling of liberality in many to offer freely according to the blessing of the Lord our God as He has blessed them.

Remember, in the missionary Diocese of Algoma we have neither building, surplus commutation, superannuation or widows' and orphans' Fund. I require aid still for three more churches, also for a small mission house for St. Joseph's Island, and a small debt upon the parsonage here.

Yours truly,

THOS. W. APPELBY,

Missionary.

Sault St. Marie, April 5th 1881.

INCIPIENT MARIOLATRY.

SIR, — Your correspondent R. Johnson ought to remember that all minds are not constituted alike, and that a line of reasoning which may appear perfectly clear and unanswerable to one, may in the estimation of others be very weak and indefensible. He should also remember that human language has many imperfections, and that very often different constructions may be put upon the same brief sentence. If he kept these facts before him, he would not be so very severe in his criticism of S. G. Wood. With regard to the hymn which has called forth the correspondence in your paper, I quite agree with Mr. Johnson in thinking that it is not necessarily "a direct address to, if not an invocation of the Blessed Virgin." It can be taken as an example of the figure apostrophe. Such is the light in which I have always regarded it. Still there is no denying the fact that many great and good men hold the same opinion on the subject as Mr. Wood does, and that if he is in error, he errs in good company.

Erroremque suum quo tueatur habet.