

however, an amendment was carried as follows: 'That this Synod, while fully in favor of the Consolidation of the Church in British North America, defers pronouncing upon the scheme until the next meeting; such scheme to be commended in the meantime to the thoughtful and prayerful examination of the clergy and laity of the Diocese.' A committee was appointed to consider the whole question and report at next Synod; such committee consisting of the Dean of Huron, convener; Archdeacon Marsh, Revs. Young, A. Brown, T. R. Davis, G. C. Mackenzie, Canons Smith and McCosh, with Chancellor Cronyn, Judge Ermatinger, Messrs. Bayley, Wilson, Imlach, Jenkins and Helmuth.

SARNIA.—His Lordship the Bishop of Huron paid his annual visit to St. George's Church on Sunday, June 21st. The Church was crowded at both services. In the morning he confirmed 28 persons and delivered an earnest and most practical address.

In the evening the church was even more crowded, and his Lordship preached with great earnestness and power.

This was the anniversary of the church opening, and it is needless to say this active congregation appreciate the Bishop's kindness in being present with them on such a happy occasion. The collection amounted to \$167.

In the afternoon his Lordship confirmed 29 persons at Point Edward. Many people could not gain admission to the church, the crowd was so great. His Lordship's addresses was listened to with wrapt attention.

For further items from Diocese of Huron see p 14.

DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

NANAIMO.—*St. Alban the Martyr.*—By the kindness of the New Vancouver Coal Company, the building committee have secured a most advantageous site for the Church on very favorable terms. This site adjoins the boys public school and is bounded on the one side by Nicol street and on the other by Victoria road. Instead of proceeding at once to put up a church which could be used only for Divine service, it has been thought wise to erect first of all a permanent building which may be used as well for Sunday school and general purposes, such as lectures and social meetings; and adjoining and opening out of the larger hall a smaller building to be used exclusively for Divine service. The two buildings may be effectually shut off from each other by sliding doors, and thus, what we may call the chapel, will be used for the Sacraments, daily services, weddings, &c.; but opened to the hall it will be used as a chancel for Sunday Matins and Evensong, or whenever a large congregation has to be accommodated. This will give us all we need until we have sufficient funds in hand to build a church of the capital building stone so plentiful in the neighborhood. Without some such hall as it is intended to erect the work of the parish would have been sadly hindered, as for many practical purposes it is more necessary than the church itself. Attached to the hall will be several convenient class rooms and a kitchen, suggestive of social meetings to come!

Subscriptions to the building fund are solicited and will be thankfully received by any of the Church officers or the Bank of B. C. Nanaimo.

The building committee has left the furnishing and arranging of the Sanctuary entirely in the hands of the Rector, Rev. Geo. H. Tovey, and he will be glad to receive offers of special articles which others may desire to give; but before purchasing or making such articles, the Rector should be consulted, that everything may be in tasteful harmony. Hangings and needlework, as well as more substantial articles will be wanted. The Rector has already obtained funds from English friends, which has

enabled him to provide a carved cedar wood altar; and from further gifts and grants, he hopes to obtain altar vessels. Mr. Ogle, of New Westminster, has given a handsome Sanctuary carpet.

Mission Room.—So soon as the site of the Parish Church was secured, the Rector felt the importance of making some provision for the people at and outside the southern city limits, especially as our white people have a natural hesitation in allowing their children to enter the Indian Reservation. A lot was secured, by the kindness of Mr. Robins, in Gillespie street, and within six lots of the city boundary; steps were then immediately taken to put up a Mission room for Sunday school, services and other purposes. The room is intended to be the first portion of a building which will ultimately become a church for the district. This Mission is entirely a venture of faith, as we have nothing in hand to pay for it; but it was imperative that the steps be taken without delay, if our people were not to drift away from the Church of their fathers. The Rev. E. G. Miller has, with the utmost kindness, volunteered to co-operate in this work, so far as his proper duties will allow.

CEUROH PRESS, ON SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD.

Church Bells [London].

By the death of Sir John Macdonald, the Premier of Canada, the Canadian people have lost a statesman who for the last thirteen years has possessed their confidence to an extraordinary extent, and Great Britain has lost a loyal son. The interest which has been felt in the painful illness with which the great Colonial statesman has been struggling was widespread and extreme. Down to the very last flicker of the candle the Canadians hoped, as it were, against hope, still cherishing the thought of the possibility that their Premier might be spared to them a little longer. It was not to be. After seventy six years of hard work—and recently, in connection with the great election campaign, of excessive overwork—Sir John Macdonald's strength was worn out, and he has died just as his party had won the battle of the election. He will be sorely missed, and his death has the effect of showing us to what importance to England Colonial matters have grown. In these days of Great Britain a great Colonial statesman fills an important place in history. Few foreign potentates are such important persons as he. His Cabinet administers tracts of territory by the side of which most of the kingdoms of Europe are mere patches. His Colony can throw a foreign industry into consternation by raising the tariff by a few dollars. He sits with his finger on the valve which admits emigrants from the Old World. It is his to shape the proportions of a swiftly growing giant, and no hereditary titles, no feudal tenures, or class traditions restrict the range of his traditions restrict the range of his experiments. In such places, be they pleasant or not are cast the lines of a Premier of a great British colony. It was Sir John Macdonald's fortune to be the first Colonial statesman to build up a reputation which should be world-wide.

Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette (Dublin):

The death of Sir John Macdonald, Premier of the Canadian Dominion, removes one of the greatest Colonial statesmen of the age, and a man who, had his lot been cast in the Home empire, would undoubtedly have reached the highest pinnacle of political reputation. He was a great Conservative leader of the Disraeli stamp, whom he was said to have resembled in more than one respect. His death just now is a serious loss to the Dominion, where he was a

tower of strength to British interests and a terror to those who showed a desire to sink their independent nationality in that of the United States.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

At times it becomes the journalist, whose proper study is man and his daily doings, to divert his gaze from the earth to the spacious firmament on high. A paragraph of five lines in the *Daily Telegraph* announces that another triumph in those far distances has been achieved by Professor Palisa, of Vienna. If newly discovered planets are supposed in theory to be like gems in their discoverer's crown, the diadem of the Viennese savant must blaze with extraordinary lustre, for the Professor has discovered no less than seventy seven planetoids in the last seven years. Previous to 1890 the unusually large gap, long noticed as existing between Mars and Jupiter, had sorely exercised the inquisitive minds of our leading astronomers. Mercury, Venus, the Earth, and Mars seemed to be arranged in position as regards the Sun according to an intelligible law; but when we proceeded further into space the law appeared to cease. There surely ought to have been a planet between Mars and Jupiter, but none could be found there, and the scientific world was perplexed. In the early days of this century, however, a very remarkable explanation of the hiatus was about to be given. One night Monsieur Piazzi came across a very small planet about 265,000,000 of miles away from the Sun. Dr. Olbers and Mr. Harding then each found one at about the same distance from the great luminary, whereupon the former hazarded the opinion that the three planets were fragments of a larger one which had burst. This remarkable theory seems now to be placed beyond a doubt by the discoveries of Monsieur Gasparis, Mr. Hind and others. The latest addition to the known numbers of this wonderful family is known at present as No. 310, and is of the thirteenth magnitude. It is, moreover, the eighth discovery of the kind in the last two months. If we take the first thirty, we find that Flora, the eighth discovered in point of time, is the nearest to, and Euterpe, the twenty-seventh in order of discovery, is the furthest from, the Sun, the former being about 211,000,000 of miles away, and the latter 321,000,000; and while Flora, being the nearer planetoid, does her annual revolution in three years and a quarter, it takes Euterpe rather more than five years and a half to complete hers.

If, therefore, there was once a large planet between Mars and Jupiter, which burst asunder, as Olbers supposed, while at a presumed distance of 250 millions of miles, Flora must have been hurled 49 millions of miles in a direction towards the Sun, and Euterpe 71 millions of miles away from it.

Surely it is refreshing at times to turn from the feverish atmosphere of man's paltry controversies to those pure and awful solitudes in which God has caused this multitudinous fragments of a once great planet to roll each in its orbit as accurately as our earth. Imagination may, without being rash or unreasonable, people those diminutive worlds with life and beauty. They have their day and night, their summer and winter, no doubt; but one wonders whether the Piazzis and Palisas of Flora have yet discovered the startling fact that the world they live in was once, in some prehistoric age, a component part of a mighty body, which suffered, what perhaps our own earth may some day have to suffer, the tremendous catastrophe of being riven into hundreds of fragments. In some such way God may fulfil His promise of making for the race of man 'a new heaven and a new earth.'—G. S. O. in *Our Ch Bells*.