

The vast changes during this period in the growth and progress of the Church are an earnest of the future.

That all her members may strive together in promoting the cause of Christ in love and harmony and peace, and that your work among us may be long continued and richly blessed, is the fervent prayer of ourselves and of our fellow churchmen.

Dated a Niagara, the 20th day of June, A.D., 1885. W. McMurray, D.D., D.C.L., John W. Ball, J. Geale Dickson, Churchwardens.

To which his Lordship replied as follows:—

MY DEAR FRIENDS—Your hearty welcome, conveyed in terms so attractive and so full of interest, is most acceptable to me.

I will place your beautiful address among my treasures, and I do not doubt that the many points of interest to which it alludes, in connection with this province and its first Parliament, the parish and its church, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and its successes in planting the Church far and near in England's colonies, will attract the eager attention of not a few under whose eye it may come in future years.

We cannot set too high a value upon the principles of life among us, whether in the civil government of the country, or in the institution of our Church for her extension abroad and her steady, increasing work in each parish which are exhibited in and illustrated by the historical facts which your kind address have recorded for my advantage.

When we call the first Parliament, convened in this town in 1792, and then send our thoughts east and west to the numerous provinces linked together in this fair and far-reaching Dominion of Canada, we recognize the power of expansion, of adaptation, of cohesion, amongst the people and in the civil institutions of this country.

The quiet, steady life, and the healthful work of the Church within the parish are illustrated by the pastorate of three clergymen whom you and those before you have known as your only rectors during ninety-three years. May your present venerable rector be permitted to fill up the full century and more with his active energies of mind and body unimpaired and his genial, kindly, loving ways only matured and refined further by his nearer approach to the peace and quietness of the Church at rest in Paradise.

The Church which the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel helped to found and maintain in this country, has expanded until our own diocese, the youngest of five sisters within this Province of Ontario, takes its name and title, as you remind me, not without some fitness, from your own town of Niagara. The progress which the Church in Canada has made under the fostering care of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, proclaims the life which is within her and justifies the hopes which ought to inspire and invigorate her efforts for the good of all whom she can influence.

Discouragement and hinderances which beset and clogged her movements are now wholly removed, and she is free, free in the unfettered exercise of all the intelligence and thought which her members, clerical and lay, can exercise to manifest the divine life that is within her, and to minister to all whom she can reach the priceless treasures of grace and blessing so fully entrusted to her.

To secure a larger success than our widest imagination can picture for the Church of England in Canada we only need the peace and harmony and love for which you offer up your fervent prayer to God.

I cannot thank you as I desire for your kind greeting and for your good wishes for me.

Believe me, my dear friends, your faithful friend and bishop.

CHARLES, NIAGARA.

On Sunday morning his Lordship delivered an eloquent address upon confirmation before a large congregation, and administered the rite to thirty-five persons, who were presented by the Rev. E. Stuart Jones, curate. In the afternoon he visited and addressed the Sunday School. He also preached in the evening.

During his brief visit to Niagara he has won the esteem and affection of all who have had the privilege of hearing or meeting him.

THE BEACH, NEAR HAMILTON.—A regular Sunday evening service was begun on the 12 inst., at this favorite summer resort, by the Rev. F. E. Howitt, of Stoney Creek. The congregation was very large, in the Presbyterian church, the use of which is kindly allowed by the trustees.

HAMILTON.—The Bishop of this diocese has requested his clergy to invite the several congregations to join in a solemn service of thanksgiving, on a day which may be appointed, for the public reception of our volunteers at Toronto, on their return from the North-West, or upon an early day after their return. The

offerings will be devoted to the diocese of Saskatchewan, the scene of the rebellion.

Christ Church Cathedral.—On Sunday, July 12th, a special service was held at 4 p.m., when a very large number, about 500 of the Loyal Orange fraternity and others was present at Christ Church, filling every seat. The sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Massey, M.A., from the text, Deuteronomy vii. 18:—"Thou shalt not be afraid of them, but shalt well remember what the Lord thy God did unto Pharaoh and unto all Egypt." From these words the reverend gentleman delivered a lengthy discourse, dwelling on the history of the Irish church, and various turning points in its existence. Speaking about the society, the members of which he was addressing, he remarked that it was religious and loyal—not factious, not political, not prosecuting, only religious and loyal. He advised them all to be true to God and true to the land of their sojourn, and to those in authority. He was glad to know the members of the society were friends of order, of intelligence and of scriptural moderation, which means moderation in all things. But above all else he would advise them to be true.

SMITHVILLE.—Aid Wanted.—This is new church ground; another point within an extensive travelling mission in the Welland County, undertaken by the Rev. F. C. Piper. The building of a church is commenced, with an excellent subscription list, but help is required to sustain the good beginning. The parish of Grimby has most fraternally subscribed help to the amount of over \$200. The zealous missionary is seeking further aid of about \$500 from Hamilton and other neighbouring parishes. They who love the church, and who think what are the difficulties of the pioneer missionary, will readily contribute to the building fund of the Church at Smithville. Your correspondent begs to ask readers for aid to his young brother, Rev. F. C. Piper, Fonthill, P.O., Ont., in the holy cause to which he has set his hand in the Master's name.

DUNDAS.—Obituary.—The death of Thomas Hatt, Esq., at an advanced age, has lately been announced. The interment took place at St. John's Church, Ancaster, on Sunday, June 28, the Rev. W. R. Clarke, M.A., officiating. The name of Mr. Hatt is identified with the early days of Dundas and with its Church of St. James', which was first opened for divine service, on the last Sunday of 1843. In conjunction with his brother, the late John O. Hatt, Esq., he presented the fine large Bible and Prayer Book, which have been conspicuous objects and in constant use there ever since; and in their parents' names, the same brothers also presented to St. James' Church, the valuable communion service of silver, still in use, which had to be brought out from England, in the year 1817, and which was intended for the use of the Church, whenever it should be built.

HURON.

RIDGETOWN.—Opening of St. George's Church.—The new church erected in this thriving town, was opened on the 5th instant, by the Bishop of Huron, assisted by the Revs. Saunders, Rally, Fletcher, Downie and Shore, incumbents. The Bishop preached in the morning from Rom. xiii. 12, and in the evening from St. Luke xviii. 42. The Rev. J. Downie, a former incumbent, of Ridgeway, preached at 8, from Gal. ii. 20. The church is of brick, in the early English style, 32 by 56, with chancel proper, and bell turret, and has accommodation for 250 persons. The cost has been \$3,000. The contractor, H. Livingston. There is a debt of \$600 on the building. The offertory at the three services amounted to \$180.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—An efficient Organization needed.—At the late session of the Synod, Rev. Canon Innes, read the report of the Sunday School committee. In the report, this very important subject is brought more fully before the Synod than heretofore, and it is to be hoped it will inaugurate a new era in this church work. Having briefly reviewed the work of former committees on Sunday schools, the report thus proceeds:—Your committee, however, though impressed with the difficulties which surround this whole question and the continued unfortunate financial position of the Synod, feels that it is its duty to impress upon the members of the Synod, both lay and clerical, the paramount importance of an efficient Sunday school organization to the future well-being of the Church. It is most desirable that a standard should be decided upon, which going forth to the diocese under the authority of the Synod will, we hope, ensure its general adoption. In the opinion of your committee it is most desirable that some effort to establish as

far as possible a general system for the guidance and help of the clergy of the diocese, so that we should no longer labor under the disadvantage of a mere congregational system. Your committee therefore begs to recommend the following points for the careful consideration and deliberation of the Synod. It does not hope (nor perhaps would it be desirable) that these recommendations should in their entirety be at once carried out; all it asks is that some clearly defined system shall be laid down up to which year by year we are to work; while such facilities shall be furnished by the Synod as will enable the clergy in their several parishes loyally to fulfill the wish of the Synod.

First—The establishment of a diocesan Sunday School Association. This, it would recommend, should be of very simple organization, no fees be necessary for membership, except such as may be required for each school desiring to participate in any special advantages the association may be able to offer. Second—The establishment of a permanent depository for library books, and also for selected and approved appliances such as reward cards, roll books, maps, etc. Third—The establishment of a Sunday school conference, biennial or triennial. Fourth—The establishment of local associations to meet in non-conference years. These should as far as possible combine children's as well as teachers meetings. Fifth—The observance of Sunday school institute days of intercession. Sixth—The authoritative localization of a cheap paper such as *The Dawn of Day, Church Work*, etc. Seventh—The recommendation of a cheap hymnal. Your committee has thus endeavored to sketch out a simple plan towards the full realization of which the whole diocese could gradually work, and which, when accomplished, would, in our opinion, make our Sunday school system tolerably complete. It was also laid over for consideration.

The Chapter House.—There was a very pleasant garden party on the Western University grounds, on Friday evening, under the auspices of the Chapter House Guild. The Guild and the churchwardens are persevering in their church work, though they are depending on casual supply for a clergyman. On the 4th Sunday after Trinity, they had a clergyman from Grey county. The Rev. G. G. Ballard, who will commence his ministry early in September, was appointed by the Bishop. The rule in this diocese is, that the Bishop appoints after a conference with a committee of parishioners, one member to every twenty-five registered voters in the congregation. At a meeting held to confer with the Bishop on the appointment, they could not agree on any one, there being almost as many opinions as there were individuals. The consequence was that the selection was left to the Bishop. Such is the result of the vaunted *vox populi*.

LONDON.—The church folks of the forest city had the pleasure of hearing one of the clergymen of the good old school in two of their churches. In the memorial church at Matins on the fifth day after Trinity, the Rev. Mr. Tocque preached "the glad tidings" to a large congregation, and the same day at evensong he preached in St. Paul's church, an excellent, though a short sermon. Mr. Tocque is here on a short visit from Toronto, endeavouring to recruit his health, which is much broken down by many years labour in his Master's vineyard. He has in his earlier days done effective service in the maritime dioceses. He intends to remain in London a few weeks.

A Well earned and much needed vacation.—To-morrow, (Thursday), the Rev. Canon Innes leaves to spend a health renewing vacation of some weeks on and by the Rocky Mountains. Calgary is to be his headquarters till the first week of September. Last year he had no clerical holidays, and he did the whole parochial work of St. Paul's church without an assistant. The Rev. Mr. Hicks, the lately appointed assistant minister of St. Paul's church arrived from England on Monday.

GODERICH.—The Rev. Owen Jones has resigned the assistant ministry. In the DOMINION CHURCHMAN it is said Rev. Mr. Owens—an error either of the writer or compositor, and not noticed by the proof reader.

INGERSOLL.—Have the churchwardens and parson of St. James' church, Ingersoll, no regard for the authority of his holiness of Rome, or the lay pope of Ontario, that they give their sanction to the holding of special church services for secret societies! On Sunday evening the Masonic fraternity of that town including the members of King Hiram and St. John's lodges, and Masons of other lodges residing in Ingersoll,