

Port Maitland and South Cayuga.

The Christmas Tree Socials on the 26th and 27th of December passed off pleasantly and successfully. Last year we felt ourselves a little "scarce" one evening, and uncomfortably crowded the other. This year the number both evenings was sufficient to make the social a hearty one, while no one felt crowded.

The Christ's Church tree came off first at Mr. Thomas Docker's. Soon after 8 o'clock the short programme was given, which was heard by more than is usually the case when a programme is given in a private house. For the preparation of the three carols which were sung we are indebted to Mrs. Hornibrook. Recitations were given by Miss Taylor and the following Sunday scholars: Minnie and Andrew Armour, Tessie and Archie McDonald, Nettie McKee and Harold Hornibrook. The incumbent then gave a report of the S. S. attendance for the year, and presented the prizes. Sunday School is held from May to October, inclusive—26 Sundays. 47 names appear on the roll but of these 11 had attended less than 5 Sundays and might be looked upon as visitors, as in fact several of them were. Of the remaining 36, 12 (or 33½ per cent.) had attended 20 Sundays, or over; 9 (or 25 per cent.) had been 15, but under 20; and 6 (or 16½ per cent.) 10 to 15 Sundays. The rule of a prize for those only who had attended 20 Sundays had been broken and a book been given to all who had been 10 Sundays—though of course much cheaper ones. We give the names down to 15 Sundays:—Hattie Hamilton and Mabel Bain 26, Percy Hamilton 25, Archie McDonald 24, Willie Bradford, Minnie Armour, Harold Hornibrook, Jessie McDonald, Julia Hamilton, Lillian Hornibrook 23, Hugh Bradford 22, Mary Stephens 20, Aggie Stephens, Howard Jones 19, Ruby Drake, Millie Thomas 18, Evelyn Hornibrook, Harry Hamilton, Percy Siddell 17, George Docker 16, Ethel Logan 15. The tree was next relieved of its load of presents to the delight and satisfaction of the children. Brilliantly lighted by candles, it was admired by all, but when the cotton batting at its base, meant to hide the tub in which it stood, suddenly assumed the role of illuminant, some consternation was felt. Fortunately the fire was put out in time. Refreshments were then served, during which the collection, amounting to \$6.45, was taken up, and soon afterwards the gathering broke up.

The same order was observed the next evening at Mr. Tom Blott's. The children sang very well two carols, the practicing of which had entailed for some of them a walk on one or two evenings when it was more pleasant in doors than out. Recitations were given by Maurice, Willie and Robbie Blott, Edith, Nina and Kenneth Rowden, and Bertha Wickerson, and a reading by Ethel Bate. The incumbent reported 35 names on the roll, 3 classed as visitors, leaving 32 more or less regular attendants. Of these 7 (or about 22 per cent.) had attended 20 Sundays or over; 9 (or 28 per cent.) 15 to 20 Sundays; and 9, 10 to 15 Sundays. Prizes were presented according to the same rule as at Christ's Church. The names of the prize winners down to 15 Sundays were as follows: Alice Blott, Vernon Bate 24, Ethel Bate 22, Birdie Patton, Pearl Diette 21, Guy Bate, Lottie Bate 20, Helen Blott, Willie Blott 19, Robert Blott, Ernest Bate 18, Delos Diette 17, Percy Diette 16, Valery Bate, Kenneth Bowden, Clara Blott 15. The presents from the tree, which was very prettily decorated, were distributed by Mr. Robert Duffy. The collection amounted to \$7.75, and some contributions have been received since. As on the night before all seemed to enjoy themselves and went home happy when the national anthem had been sung.

Robbie Blott and Andrew Armour, two small chaps, made their first public appearance as reciters and did very well.

The presentation to Mrs. Hornibrook of an envelope containing a sum of money in appreciation of her services as organist, was a pleasing feature of the Port Maitland social.

On Sunday, Dec. 30th, the rector found in the vestry of St. John's Church two vestry chairs, the gift of the W. A. The thoughtful kindness of the Society is much appreciated.

The Rev. W. Bevan of Caledonia will conduct the services on Sunday, Jan. 20th. Collection for Diocesan Missions.