

ALGOMA.

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PORT ARTHUR.—*St. John's Church*.—The different reports presented to the vestry of St. John's show that this western parish in Algoma is progressing most favourably. The Rev. W. C. Bradshaw, the present incumbent, arrived here from Denver about the middle of August last, and took charge. Since then the parish has been steadily growing and prospering. The warden's report submitted to the Easter vestry shows that during the past year they have paid the running expenses of the church, amounting to \$1,532.45 for the year, and laid out in repairs to church property \$1,022.50, paid off old liabilities of \$119.65, and contributed by way of special offertories for missions and Christmas, \$92.05; making in all, \$2,767.66. The present net debt of the parish, which is a floating one, amounts to \$1,051.96, same being \$295 more than last year. Against this, however, \$60 was, subsequent to the production of the wardens' accounts, subscribed at the vestry meeting, and \$100 given by one firm provided another \$200 is subscribed, which in due course will be done. Special repairs above mentioned have resulted in the placing of a good furnace in the parsonage and building a good basement and cellar under same, and also having the interior painted, papered and renovated, thereby making the parsonage, as has been found during the recent winter, very comfortable. The foundation to the church had to be taken out in many places and rebuilt, and a stone furnace erected underneath, and the necessary preliminary work for a room under the chancel has been done. The receipts of the church have been more during this year than they have been for very many years, which of itself must show the increase in the interest of the parishioners, particularly when it is remembered that this year has been one of great depression in this district. The report submitted to the vestry by the incumbent was very interesting and shows the following official acts which have taken place during his short regime of eight months. He had held during that period 290 services, including Bible classes, auxiliary meetings, guilds, etc.; paid 453 visits, communicated 588 persons, baptized 46 children and adults, presented 43 persons for confirmations, married six couples and officiated at the graves of five persons. These figures certainly show that the incumbent has not in any way been neglecting his duty. According to his report, the average morning attendance since his incumbency has been 96 and the evening 120, both of which are increasing. During Lent services were held daily and the average attendance on the week day services, including Ash Wednesday, Harvest Festival and Holy Week, was 72. The other daily afternoon services during Lent averaged 24. This is the first time that there have been daily services during Lent in the parish. The total number of communicants on Easter Day was 94. Fifty new names have been added to the roll since August, which now numbers 121. The attendance at the Sunday-school for the last few Sundays has been the highest ever yet attained, that of Easter being 140. During the year several valuable gifts to the church have been made by individual members, one having presented the furnace for the parsonage, and also the funds for the re-decoration of the interior of the church, which now presents a very pleasing appearance. Another member presented a silver paten, which was supplemented by other members by subscriptions providing for the purchase of the solid silver chalice and a cruet. Other members have presented prayer books and hymn books for the use of strangers, so that there is sufficient on hand for all worshippers. Others have contributed towards placing book shelves in the library and other improvements to the church property, to all of whom, at the vestry meetings, votes of thanks were passed, acknowledging on behalf of the congregation the liberality of their gifts. There were different reports presented which were found to be very interesting, the first one being that of the Women's Auxiliary, which shows that same had been organized on the 26th March, 1894, the first membership being 18, which has since increased to 43. During the year they have had different entertainments and sales of work, which resulted, together with their fees, in a total of \$230.86, of which they have handed over to the wardens \$171 and retain a balance of \$58.66, the difference being expended for material for sales, etc. The Young People's Guild, through their president, also presented their report, which showed that they commenced the year with a balance of \$173.82, which amount they have paid over to the wardens for general church purposes. During the last winter the sum of \$69.65 was made, of which amount they have \$58.10 on hand, having expended \$8.40 for lamps for the school-room, etc. The report of the Band of Hope, organized in September, 1894, showed a membership of 30 girls and 32 boys. They have contributed towards the improvement of the school-room and also have a balance of \$4 on hand. The St. John's Circle of King's Daughters also submitted their report. They have a chancel committee duly

appointed to look after the chancel, etc., and it was this society through whom the \$69.65 was raised for the purchase of the communion service to supplement the gift of the paten above mentioned. Their work consists in visiting the sick, and relieving cases of distress and otherwise aiding the clergyman in his parochial work. The Junior Auxiliary, consisting of Mrs. Gibbs' Bible class of young women, reported a membership of twenty, their object being to stimulate missionary zeal. Their report showed \$24 to have been raised for such purposes, all of which was duly expended for different missionary objects. In addition to the above, the Sunday-school children on Easter Sunday, through their mission boxes, presented at their service \$21.73 for Indian Homes. There was no report from the St. Andrew's Brotherhood recently organized. The same wardens were unanimously elected and the delegates to the Triennial Council and Provincial Synod nominated and a finance committee appointed. From the above any one can realize that St. John's Church, Port Arthur, is endeavouring to do its duty, not only in maintaining the church in its own town, but also to aid in having the Gospel preached elsewhere. Surely such parishes should have a say in regard to the future of its diocese and Church government.

BROADBENT MISSION.—*St. Stephen's Vestries, Easter, 1895*.—Wardens—Messrs. William Bartlett and Edward Broadbent. Sidesmen—Messrs. H. E. Broadbent and William Kottka, all re-elected. Organist—Mrs. Broadbent. Delegate to Diocesan Council—Mr. James Bartlett.

DUFFERIN BRIDGE.—*St. John's*.—Wardens—Messrs. James Vigrass and James Brownlee, both re-elected. Sidesmen—Messrs. Arthur Fry, Oxlen Mott and William Hall. S. S. Superintendent—Mrs. Cobb. Delegate to Diocesan Council—Mr. James Vigrass.

SEQUIN FALLS.—*St. Paul's*.—Clergy warden not appointed. People's warden—Mr. Andrew Kerr, re-elected. Sunday-school Superintendent—Mrs. Emes. Sunday-school re-organized and prosperous. Organist—Mrs. Cobb.

British and Foreign.

The Ven. Archdeacon Farrar, D.D., Canon of Westminster, has been appointed Dean of Canterbury.

The Rev. H. E. Hulton, vicar of Great Waltham, has offered £1,000 towards the restoration of Little Leighs Church, near Chelmsford, stated to be the oldest in the county.

Bishop Cowie, of Auckland, who has been elected Primate of New Zealand, was appointed to his See in 1869, and is the senior Bishop of the Church in the Province of New Zealand.

The charitable bequests of the late Earl of Moray include three sums of £5,000, to be expended by the incumbents of St. James' Church, Piccadilly, St. Mark's Church, and by the Bishop of London.

The Bishop of Sierra Leone may visit the West Indies in the latter part of this year, in order to enquire into the prospects of a steady supply of earnest and devoted Christian men being forthcoming in the future for missionary work.

The C.M.S. are sending out fresh workers to strengthen the mission in Uganda. One clergyman, three laymen, and one lady worker have been accepted for Uganda. The stations of two other ladies have been fixed in that country. It is expected that the party will be ready to start in the course of the next two months, by which time it is hoped that more volunteers may have been definitely accepted.

The latest report states that there are now 125 Y.M.C.A.'s in France, with 1,886 members, 1,386 associates, and 795 juniors. Three associations own their own buildings, and two engage the whole time of their secretaries. Switzerland reports this month 390 associations, with 6,420 active members and 1,600 associates.

His long-continued ill-health has compelled the Bishop of Bedford (the Right Rev. Robert Claudius Billing, D.D.) to resign his duties as Bishop-Suffragan in the London Diocese. He will be permitted to retain his title, as now that the choice is extended the Bishop for North and East London will be known as the Bishop of Stepney.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has written a letter to the Rev. Prebendary Webb-Peploe, who, as chairman of the National Protestant Church Union, lately sent a copy of Lord Halifax's speech on re union with

Rome, and asked His Grace to make some public announcement upon it. His Grace says, "I have given full consideration to your letter and its important enclosure. I feel, however, that I should be setting a precedent fraught with much difficulty hereafter were I to put forth official utterances with respect to the speeches of clergy or laity to members of the private societies to which they may belong. I did not gather that the speech in question was to be regarded in any other light than as the expression of the individual opinion of the speaker; and, indeed, if I am not misinformed, it has already been made clear in the newspapers that he did not express the sentiments of the society generally. But while I must abstain from the task of commenting upon speeches thus delivered (a task which might, indeed, be endless), I have no hesitation in saying that in my opinion—to quote your own words—"any corporate union with Rome, so long as she retains her distinctive and erroneous doctrines, and advances her pre-territory primitive and unscriptural claims, is absolutely visionary and impossible."

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

Will Someone Explain?

SIR,—Will some of your readers explain the apparent contradiction in these two passages: "Not as though I were already perfected," Phil. iii. 12; "He has perfected them for ever, them that are sanctified," Heb. x. 14. The Greek text has the same verb and tense for "perfected" in each case. S. D.

"The Rock" and "To Dip."

SIR,—The calls of Holy and Easter Week have prevented my writing earlier. I do not deem it necessary to say much more; Mr. Cayley has conceded pretty much all I contend for. I repeat, I do not question the etymology of the word Petros or Petra, nor are we bound to take any authority that may derive Rock from the former and apply it to Peter the Stone. I do contend for the use of the English word and symbol *Rock* in the Bible, that it is only applied and strictly only applicable to God—that in the very nature of the thing it is most inapplicable to man; and as a matter of fact certainly most inaccurate when applied to Peter, whom the Holy Spirit represents as a denier of Christ, and subsequently as a dissembler.

Mr. Cayley proves perfectly the truth of my position when he has to resort to authorities other than the Bible to uphold the reading of Rock as applied to a very shifting, unstable stone. And Mr. Cayley well knows that once we leave the Bible and look for authorities elsewhere, thence come contradictions, heresies, divisions. As regards reading immersion for dipping into our rubric, let me briefly remind Mr. Cayley once more that the "divers washings"—baptisms—Heb. ix. 10, of God's Jewish Church, were applied by sprinkling. Mr. Cayley as a conservative Churchman knows the force of that argument. That God's servant the Messiah should sprinkle many nations with clean water, Isaiah lii. 13 and Ezekiel xxxvi. 25. Water is the symbol of the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is ever shed and poured forth.

The learned Schleusner says the word Baptizo in the New Testament "never signifies to immerse," and as a matter of fact the advocates for immersion cannot produce one single instance of baptism in the New Testament where immersion can be proved—but on the contrary, that of pouring is more reasonably understood. Mr. Cayley refers to Romans vi. and Colossians ii., where the baptized are spoken of as buried and raised up from the dead by baptism. I grant these passages look like immersion; but let me remind Mr. Cayley before the symbolism can have any force, he must first prove that the burial referred to was anything like our own. And again, it is not only our burial and resurrection which are sacramentally indicated in baptism, but our whole new life in Christ. Baptism stands as the entrance, and pledge and signification of the whole completed life in Christ our Head—our death unto sin, new birth unto righteousness, circumcision, crucifixion of the flesh, washing, justification, sanctification, salvation, our completion in Christ, our ascension into heaven, and sitting with Christ in heavenly places; how could the symbolism of immersion apply to all these? No, we are baptized with water unto the Name—that is character of God—that that character may be formed in us by the Holy Spirit.