

Hymn 390, A. & M., and an able and interesting speech by Mr. W. P. Sweatman on "Systematic Offering," brought the evening's proceedings to a close. We had omitted to state that Rev. James Hervey, of the adjoining parish of Stafford, had been invited to join the deputation, but failed to make an appearance.

DIocese OF MONTREAL.

[From our own Correspondents.]

Our good Bishop has met with another severe loss in the death of Mrs. Robertson, his youngest daughter. Mrs. Robertson has been ill for a short time, and a great sympathy was felt for the Bishop even in that; now the sad news will evoke deeper and more widespread sympathy. Mrs. R. was but a little over a year married. When the Bishop lost Mrs. Bond by death his daughter was his domestic stay and solace, and continued so till her death. His Lordship will feel it deeply. He will miss her in Bishop's Court; he will miss her aid (for we believe she gave him no small aid) as a confidential secretary. Bishop's Court will seem a desolate place to him, and the Diocese feels for him, and many prayers, doubtless, will go up for him in his trouble to the Throne of God.

THE Montreal Diocesan Theological College has been receiving several contributions to its funds which considerably help to strengthen it.

THE Bishop and the Committee on Grants are taking steps to make effectual the resolution of Synod, defining what should be regarded as the minimum stipend of all the missionaries. The clergy will be grateful, and their charges will reap good results. The people will receive more pastoral visitation, more mental and spiritual aid from the pulpit, more Church literature in the Parish and Sunday School once their minister in holy things knows he can keep his family in decency of dress, in suitable education, and can get his library added to now and again.

ARCHDEACON EVANS and the congregation of St. Stephen's Church have lately been working with great energy to secure sufficient funds to complete the new church, and have been eminently successful. Nearly \$2,000 was given for the purpose in Christmas gifts alone, and it is the intention to begin the work of putting up the body of the church, and building the towers and steeple as soon as the weather is a little milder, and Archdeacon Evans hopes in the course of the summer to see his beautiful church finished and perfectly free from debt.

ST. LUKE'S.—The annual soiree of the Sunday School, under the presidency of the new Rector, was a very happy and cheery one. Canon Baldwin was present and addressed the children and friends.

BOLTON CENTRE.—The Incumbent (Rev. H. Clayton) has re-opened his historical classes, which in the earlier years of his mission did a great deal of good. He gathers his people, young and old, male and female, in the parsonage, or some place appointed, and a period of Church History is read with references to various writings bearing on the same. In short, it is somewhat like a college lecture, only made more adaptable to a mixed company and allowing more freedom of comment both on the part of the hearers and of the lecturer himself. The same thing might be adopted in other parishes and would do a world of good in grounding the people in the principles of our Most Holy Faith.

LENTEN Services have begun pretty generally throughout the Diocese. In the country stormy nights and blocked roads are proving great preventatives to good attendance, and this is required to make hearty services.

FREIGHTSBURG.—The Founders' Festival in connection with the Bishop Stewart Memorial Church, held in last week of January, gathered a large and influential assemblage. A list of benefactions was

read out during the evening; and taking courage from what has already been done, the Rector expressed his hope that the 75th anniversary in 1884 would witness the dedication of the completed structure to its sacred purpose.

DIocese OF HURON.

(From our own correspondent.)

LONDON TOWNSHIP.—A new Church has just been opened on the Eighth Concession to meet the needs of a large but too long neglected body of Church people. It is but two years since regular services were begun by Rev. R. Fletcher, and now a commodious Church building costing \$2500 has been erected, and nearly entirely paid for. It was opened for Divine service on the first Sunday in February, and large congregations assembled to take part in the services. The collections during the day amounted to \$125. The Incumbent was assisted by Rev. Canon Innes, very Rev. Dean Boomer and Rev. Canon Smith, who preached sermons suitable to the occasion.

The season of Lent has again returned, and arrangements are made for its proper observance in the several parishes. Classes for confirmation are also being formed in many parts of the Diocese.

The Bishop of Huron is expected to sail from England for New York in the "Germanic" on March 1st.

DIocese OF NIAGARA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

HAMILTON.—St. Thomas' Church is being thoroughly renovated internally, the walls and ceiling of the nave to be frescoed. The chancel is already handsomely designed in the same style.

St. Luke's Mission is yet unsupplied except by casual assistance.

ACTON AND ROCKWOOD.—We are glad to learn that this mission in the hands of the Rev. W. J. Pigott, is in a very satisfactory state. One of the most correct and thoroughly finished and equipped Churches in the Diocese, which Mr. Pigott is building at Rockwood, is nearly complete, and will be we hope consecrated during the coming summer. Occupying a commanding site, this new building will be a credit to the Diocese. The delay in opening is we believe caused by the determination of the Incumbent to have no debt upon the building, so that it may be consecrated at once. We believe Mr. Pigott also hopes to improve the Church property at Acton by the addition of a Parish room, new chancel, vestry and priest's study, in the form of an end transept to the present building. This when surmounted by an ecclesiastical bell turret, will add to the dignity and give a Churchlike appearance to St. Alban's, Acton, which at present we are compelled to say is dull and bare.

While writing you on this subject your correspondent is glad to be able to add that the progress of this parish keeps pace with material improvements. The communicant roll is steadily increasing, the services are growing in the true characteristics of congregational worship. The Sunday School is very flourishing. Dissenters are coming to ask "whence are these things," and many remaining to find Christ, while peace and harmony reign in love between the pastor and his flock.

DIocese OF TORONTO.

(From our own correspondents.)

CONFIRMATIONS.—The Bishop has issued his annual list of Confirmations, &c., to be held in the various parishes. His Lordship proposes to hold Confirmations at sixty-five different places in the Diocese before the 9th of next October. The months of April and August are not taken up in his proposed list of journeyings, but almost every other day is fully occupied.

S. P. C. J.—These letters set forth the name of a society which does not receive that general support

it should obtain, and which its merits deserve. They are the abbreviated form for writing the "Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews," of which Rev. Johnstone Vicars is Secretary. The list of contributions received by him for the last three months amounts to \$102.25. Mr. Vicars has issued an appeal in behalf of God's ancient people, and advocates a special collection in aid of the Society he represents, to be taken up in every parish on Good Friday. The circular issued bears the cordial endorsement of the Bishop of Toronto.

NORWAY.—The incumbent of this parish, the Rev. C. Ruttan, is about to erect a new church in the village of Leslieville. The demands of the place call loudly for increased accommodation, and we hope Mr. Ruttan's efforts will be crowned with success.

CREDIT.—This is, we believe, the banner parish of the Dominion for liberal Christmas offerings to the clergy. At one church in the parish, which has not by any means a very large or influential congregation, the incumbent was cheered by receiving \$103 as a token of the people's appreciation of his zeal and efficiency. At St. John's Church, Dixie, under the same zealous priest, valuable presents were made at Christmas to the Sunday School Superintendent and organist. The former received a Bible, the latter a purse of over \$20.

LAKEFIELD.—St. John Baptist's Church.—A missionary meeting was held here on the 10th of January. Owing to the prevalence of diphtheria in the village, and to the severity of the night, the attendance was not large. The meeting, however, was a success in other respects. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. C. Bradshaw and W. Farncomb. The offertory was nearly seven dollars.

BARRIE.—Trinity Church.—The new organ to which reference was made in a recent number of the GUARDIAN was opened on Christmas Day and gave general satisfaction. The choir consisted of fifty voices and gave evidence of excellent training. The organ was built by W. H. Clark, of Indianapolis, and is finished in walnut and Californian white wood. There are two manuals having 61 notes instead of the usual 58, the full complement of pedals, 23 stops, and nearly 2000 pipes. There are 3 pedal stops of 16 and 8 feet tone respectively and 5 couplers. An organ recital is spoken of at an early day.

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE LIBRARY.—Mr. John Macdonald, one of Toronto's liberal merchant princes, has generously donated to this library copies of the maps and books of the Palestine Exploration Society as far as completed. He has also arranged that so soon as the series is finished the other maps and plans will be forwarded to the library. This is the more praiseworthy since Mr. Macdonald is a member of the Methodist denomination.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—We are pleased to be able to state that following closely on the editorials in the CHURCH GUARDIAN an interest has been stirred up in the Queen City on the importance of the work undertaken in behalf of our young women by the G. F. S. A meeting was held recently under the presidency of the Bishop, and a provisional society was formed for Toronto. The following are the officers: President, Mrs. C. W. E. Body; Vice-President, Mrs. Bronghall; Secretary, Miss Cox; Treasurer, Mrs. C. Robinson. Already branch societies have been instituted in All Saints' and St. Matthias'. The latter has a membership of over forty. The three principal rules of the Society as suggested by the English Central Council were adopted, and the Bishop stated that the Society had his cordial approval and would have his warmest support. A reference will be made to the G. F. S. in the Bishop's address to Synod next June, and provision will be made, if possible, to extend its usefulness to every parish in the Diocese. Copies of particulars regarding the formation of G. F. Societies in parishes may be had on sending a stamped envelope to Rev. W. C. Bradshaw, Peterboro'