

Gamble, N. Wallace, W. Cook, Capt. A. J. L. Peebles, Paul Shepherd, Chas. Jones, Capt. Stupart, James Armstrong, F. J. Joseph, George E. Jones, S. Phillips, W. Watson, Capt. S. Tyrwhitt, J. F. Davis, S. B. Fairbanks, Col. E. G. O'Brien, A. Gaviller, R. L. Denison, Capt. Morrison, and Joseph S. Wilson.

His Lordship the Bishop delivered his address.

ADDRESS.

MY DEAR BRETHREN,—The discontinuance of the *Ecclesiastical Gazette* in December, 1862, was found in many respects a great inconvenience to the clergy and members of the Church throughout the Diocese, and more particularly to myself. It was therefore with much satisfaction that I saw the *Gazette* resuscitated, as it were, with a new title, *The Church Chronicle*, and placed under discreet and competent management. It has now been in existence something more than one year, and in my judgment it has been conducted with great moderation, and offers the promise of becoming of much benefit to the Church by presenting at all times a correct report of her proceedings.

For the greater convenience of regulating my confirmations it has been my practice, since the Dioceses of Huron and Ontario were established, to divide the Diocese of Toronto into three parts, and to visit each in rotation once in every three years. According to this arrangement the district of Niagara was last summer the field of my duties. I commenced at Hamilton on Sunday, the 12th of July, 1863, and finished on Monday the 26th. Thirty-one stations were visited, and the number confirmed was 744. The season of confirmation is replete with blessings to the Church; none affords greater opportunities of usefulness or yields a richer return to our labours, and to none of its duties does the zealous Pastor revert with greater thankfulness. It is the seed time of an harvest which is continually springing up to cheer him on his onward course. His own experience confirms the wisdom of its appointment; the arguments grounded on its occasional abuse only quicken his diligence in improving what he has found to be of inestimable value.

Like every other means of grace, it is at times neglected, and even sometimes profaned. But apart from its claim to respect and veneration as of Apostolic Institution, and of primitive usage, the rite itself is so attractive and beautiful that, where regularly administered, it is gradually removing all prejudice and daily advancing in favor and estimation.

Viewed as a solemn call to reflection, as an appeal addressed to the conscience and the heart of the young, as a means of promoting close and affectionate relations between them and their Pastor, at a most important period of life, it is of the greatest value. Moreover, it becomes also an occasion of securing to them the prayers of the Church, the invocation of the Holy Spirit, and the hopes of heaven.

When to all this we add the pure and lasting impressions to which it so frequently gives birth, and to which so many can appeal in after times, it is not only the season of great and eventful improvement and the dawning of new hopes and firmer resolutions, but also, the commencement of a deepened spirituality and a closer walk with God; hence it cannot fail to secure the sympathy and approval of every well regulated and serious mind.

Permit me here to record for your grateful remembrance that the late Rev. William Leeming, during forty three-years the Rev. Rector of Chippawa, having constantly and generously supported the Church Society, since its organization in 1842, did not forget it in his last will, but left the liberal legacy of one thousand pounds currency towards its future support.

Before receiving this liberal legacy from the executors of the Rev. Mr. Leeming's will, the Church Society passed a resolution by an unanimous vote, to devote it to the formation of a fund to be called, 'The Leeming Mission Fund for the aid of Missions in the new settlements of this Diocese.' It is to be hoped that other persons of means, animated by the noble object to which this legacy is devoted, will follow Mr. Leeming's disinterested example, and that thus from time to time legacies may be left to the Church Society.

Mr. Leeming's bright example I am happy to state has already borne fruit, for Thos. C. Street, Esq., one of his parishioners, feeling the necessity for a division of