

of Church government which Jesus Christ intended that His Church should maintain. The speaker enumerated the principal functions of the office. But he said it was not of a bishop's ministerial powers that he wished to speak. A bishop was something more than the minister of confirmation or ordination. Those were important things, but if a bishop had no other duties than those of confirmation and ordination, the large and unwieldy dioceses at present existing would be sufficient. But a bishop was a chief pastor, and had spiritual oversight of all in his diocese, both clerical and lay. It was impossible to read the Acts of the Apostles or the Epistles of St. Paul without being convinced that the Apostles not only constantly visited the congregations in their charge, but were also in close personal touch with the individuals who composed them. And when the Church grew too large for this personal supervision by the Apostles, delegates were appointed to assist them in their episcopal duties, such as Timothy at Ephesus and Titus at Crete. And soon every town of importance had its bishop, with an ever-increasing group of surrounding congregations under his charge. The present system of overgrown dioceses was modern, and it was wrong. It placed Episcopacy in a false position and hampered its usefulness. So far as government and supervision were concerned, modern Episcopacy was largely a failure, and inferior in its working to the excellently organized systems of some other religious bodies. It was time for Churchmen to insist that the form of Church government in which they believed was really episcopal and not an apology for it. At present the size of the dioceses made effective episcopal supervision impossible, and to this was largely due the unsatisfactory condition of the Church of England in Canada to-day. The speaker pleaded for smaller dioceses, and gave several instances of the good effected when bishops had been able to devote more time to detail with persons in various parishes. At present, he said, this was not easy, because a bishop had so many other things to do. Continuing, the speaker condemned the present requirement of a large endowment as a necessary preliminary to the erection of a new diocese. Endowments were excellent things, but they were not necessary, and to postpone the founding of a diocese until the sum of forty thousand dollars had been raised for an endowment, seemed to him to be suicidal. They might learn many a lesson both in diocesan and parochial matters from the missionary enterprise of other Christian communities. The Church had been restrained by timidity and bad old traditions, while others had gone in and occupied the land. And while the Church now waited for great endowments, the work languished. Endowments might come afterwards. Meanwhile let bishops be content to depend on free-will offerings, just as other clergy did. He then spoke more particularly of the steps which had been taken to erect the counties of Ontario, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Durham and Victoria into a new diocese. A committee had been appointed at the 1896 meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto to consider and report on the matter. Meanwhile

the Archdeaconry of Peterborough, which comprised five of the six counties referred to, had petitioned for separation, and now the Synod Committee had brought in a favorable report, and the Synod had adopted that report. It only remained, therefore, to raise the necessary funds. That was of course, as always, the difficulty, but the speaker hoped that it might be overcome, and that a want of faith and an adherence to stereotyped methods might not be allowed to hinder the consummation of their desires. He was certain the proposed division, if effected, would, as in other places, mean a revival of Church life and activity, and he commended the subject very earnestly to their consideration and their prayers.

Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

MONTREAL.

WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

Glen Sutton.—Church of Good Shepherd, Glen Sutton.—On Whitsunday the Rev. J. H. Lackey, incumbent, baptized five adults and four children, having baptized four others in the parish during the past two weeks, making a total of 18 since January 1st. A number of others are being prepared for the same sacred rite. A very pretty wooden font, in bird's-eye maple, a gift of the incumbent, was used on Whitsunday for the first time.

OTTAWA.

CHARLES HAMILTON, D.D., BISHOP, OTTAWA.

Williamsburg.—The Lord Bishop of Ottawa held two confirmation services on the afternoon and evening of the 14th of June in Holy Trinity, the old parish church of Williamsburg, at which services 17 persons received the Holy and Apostolic rite of the laying on of hands. The candidates came from different parts of the parish. One man who has been infirm and afflicted for many years, to whom the night air was injurious, arrived on the scene in the afternoon and the Bishop confirmed him, together with his son, before the others, to enable them to return home before the night set in. The candidates were presented by the rector of the parish, the Rev. Montague G. Poole. The Rev. G. S. Anderson read the first lesson, and the Rev. S. Gower Poole, of Cornwall, read the prefaces and second lesson. The Bishop delivered several addresses in his earnest, instructive and forcible way, putting clearly before those present their duty to Christ and the Church. If all those who have the privilege of listening to the Bishop will act upon his instructions, parishes must flourish and the world become better. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, the altar being adorned with a floral cross and lilies of the valley. In this parish, which comprises Aultsville and Gallington, since Bishop Hamilton's appointment to Ottawa, he has confirmed 59 persons.

Ottawa.—The Synod of the Diocese opened with Divine service in Christ Church cathedral, Monday evening, 31st May. There was a good attendance. A procession of the clergy and others was held from the lower part of the church, up the main aisle to the sanctuary. It was headed by Chaplain Rev. S. Gower Poole, of Cornwall, and Rev. A. W. Mackay, acting chaplain, in the absence of Rev. W. J. Mucklestone, of Perth. Rev. Mr. Bogert conducted the service. Rev. Mr. Pollard read the first lesson, and Rev. Mr. Nesbitt the second lesson. Rev. A. Elliott, rector of Carleton Place, preached an excellent sermon to the clergy, on the life and teachings of Christ, and on the self-

sacrificing spirit of His disciples. The Bishop pronounced the benediction. During the service Rev. Mr. Loucks announced that the overdraft of \$1,000 of the Mission Board had been paid during the year. Adjourned meetings of the Executive, Mission Board and Widows' and Orphans' Fund were held after the service. The Bishop appointed Rev. Mr. Bogert to act as precentor and Rev. Messrs. W. J. Mucklestone, S. Gower Poole and A. W. Mackay to act as chaplains of the Synod.

Tuesday morning. In opening the Synod his Lordship the Bishop spoke at some length, giving a review of the work in the diocese during the year. The reports, he said, showed that 1,417 confirmations had been celebrated. As to day schools, he did not look for any rapid movement towards separate schools for each denomination, but was persuaded that there was no other way of securing religious teaching for the children of the Church. Continuing, his Lordship urged the clergy to interest the children in Sunday school work, to make their addresses as interesting as possible when on missionary deputations, and to keep minute statistics of the work accomplished in their respective parishes. Alluding to marriage, his Lordship said: "The clergy are most solemnly reminded that marriage can only be broken by death, and warned to enquire into all the circumstances of those who come to be married, as the license which the parties may bring from the State is no longer a safe defence for the clergy, seeing that the State allows marriages which the Church has never sanctioned. Marriages should not be celebrated in private houses, but always in the church. The contracting parties should be urged to have the bans pronounced in the church for three Sundays before the marriage, that all secrecy may be avoided. The thing above all others to be avoided in marriages is secrecy." His Lordship referred to the making of Christ church the cathedral of the diocese, and the appointment of the officers of the cathedral. The Synod decided to have his Lordship's address published in pamphlet form. The officers of the Synod were next reappointed and the Synod adjourned until the afternoon. The officers are: Secretary, Rev. E. A. W. Hanington; Lay Secretary, Mr. John Fosbery Orde; Treasurer, Mr. C. A. Elliott. Audit and Accounts Committee—Rev. Mr. Lowe, W. H. Berry and W. H. Marler. The afternoon session was devoted chiefly to the consideration of the reports of committees. Early in the session, on motion of Venerable Archdeacon Bogert, seconded by Rev. W. H. Scantlebury, an invitation was extended to Venerable Archdeacon Roe, of Quebec, to a seat on the platform. The Bishop addressed a few words of welcome to Archdeacon Roe as he accepted the seat. Chairman Phillips, of the Episcopal fund, reported that the capital belonging to this fund remained unchanged, \$45,500. It was invested in different ways. Rev. Mr. Pollard submitted the report of the Clergy Superannuation fund. The capital handed over to the diocese on the division of the funds was \$3,750; and the interest on principal was \$131. The collections were \$339 and annuitants on the fund during the year, Rev. J. E. Fraser, \$100; Rev. W. Fleming, \$200; Rev. W. Mercer, \$200; Rev. W. H. Smythe, \$100. For the current year the committee were obliged to reduce the grants to Rev. Mr. Fraser to \$75, to Rev. Mr. Fleming to \$100. They deeply regretted that they were compelled to reduce the grants made last year, but they had no power to pay any pensions out of the capital, which must be kept intact. It was with much concern that they were not able to comply with the request of Rev. J. M. Snowden, to be placed upon the fund, but they hoped his position would be favourably considered by the Mission fund. A very lengthy discussion was continued on Rev. Mr. Fleming's case, and the report was adopted. Consideration of the report of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund Committee took place at the opening of the evening session. The report was presented by Rev. A. W. Mackay, and showed a reduction in the capital of the fund by an overdraft. Ottawa's share of capital was \$12,575, overdraft \$655, leaving a balance of \$11,920; receipts during the year were \$1,149, and expenditure, \$1,527, leaving an overdraft of

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