

News from the Home-Field.

Diocese of Quebec.

ARCHDIACONAL CONFERENCE.—A conference appointed by the Archdeacon of Quebec was held in Danville on the 15th of March ult.

All the clergy of the surrounding section (seven) were able to be present, except Mr. Scott of Drummondville, not yet sufficiently recovered from a very severe illness.

Owing to a very heavy storm that raged for several days previously, it was not to be expected that delegates from the parishes around would appear. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, of Windsor Mills, deserve great praise for attending. In the parish of Danville only the village of Danville was represented.

The small attendance was no matter of surprise, though deeply regretted by all present. Such gatherings as this are designed to do great good, by awakening and strengthening interest in the Church; and under the inspiring leadership of Archdeacon Roe much has been done.

Two papers were read at the morning session by the Revds. Hepburn and Blaylock, on the help derived by the ordinary Christian from the doctrine of the "Communion of Saints."

Then followed the first half of the Archdeacon's charge which dealt with the progress of Churchwork in the district of St. Francis during the past 50 years. The array of figures marshalled with a master's skill told a tale that surprised the clergy present as much as any.

By request this was delivered again in the afternoon to a fuller audience.

Two papers were prepared by well-known churchmen in the section: Dr. Hemming, of Drummondville, and Major Aylmer, of Richmond. The first was read by the Archdeacon, because the writer was not able to attend.

The papers were eminently useful upon a subject demanding careful thought "The practical hindrances to churchwork." Major Aylmer's paper will appear in print.

The Revds. Horner and Sykes followed with papers on "Pastoral visitation, and how the laity can help make it a reality," and "How to restore public worship to its true ideal." They were both good.

The Archdeacon now read the whole charge which was received with every mark of satisfaction.

The last half which treated "Public worship" was particularly fresh and vigorous; and one clergyman after another arose and expressed his gratitude for the help given in the charge.

Time forbade much discussion; but the Conference gladly gave ear to Canon Thornloe, whose presence was a great acquisition.

In the evening in spite of blocked roads and storm there was a capital audience for the missionary meeting. It was a bright meeting. There was no time wasted. The choir was full and the singing was general and hearty.

Ten minute speeches were made by the Archdeacon and the Revds. Hepburn and Wurtele, and then Canon Thornloe was called, and he held the audience in close attention and impressed them deeply while he traced the workings of leading principles of action through all the ages past and present.

Major Aylmer followed in a very happy and helpful address to the laity, suggesting some things they might do, and ought to do to strengthen the hands of the ministry.

The people showed their pleasure by giving a goodly offering for Foreign Missions.

The blessing closed a happy and profitable day, long to be remembered in Danville.

RICHMOND.

ST ANN'S CHURCH.—An interesting event occurred here last week in connection with a two day's visit from the Rev. A. J. Balfour, formerly rector of this parish, and now incumbent of St. Peter's, Quebec. By invitation of the Ladies' Guild of St. Ann's Church, and of the Women's Auxiliary, Mr. Balfour gave on Monday evening the 28th, a most instructive lecture on the early history of the Church in England. Photographs thrown on to a screen from a magic lantern, illustrated the principal details of the lecturer's subject. Among these views were the chapel of St. Bertha, the ruins of the monastery at Tona, the ruin of Glastonbury etc., which, taken in connection with extent documents and authentic tradition, convincingly prove that Christianity was introduced into and flourished in Britain, from almost apostolic times. A map of England divided into the Saxon Heptarchy was also shown on the screen, and was a great help in explaining how the ancient Britons with their religion were driven westward to give place to the new Saxon invaders, whose conversion to Christianity by St. Augustine has occasioned the mistaken view that the whole of England was converted by him.

Mr. Balfour on Tuesday evening the 29th assisted at a lenten service, and delivered in lieu of sermon an account of the Church of England mission in British Guiana in the diocese of the oldest bishop on the bench, Bishop Austin of Barbados.

On the first evening the proceeds of the lecture went to the fund of the Ladies' Guild and on Tuesday a collection was taken up for the Women's Auxiliary.

Mr. Balfour has many warm friends in his old parish, and the present occasion was one in which a welcome from old parishioners happily blended itself with the strengthening of the hands of his successor. For the interesting subjects on which he discoursed could not fail to awaken in churchmen a zeal for that faith which connects them with a long line of tried and noble witnesses in the mother country, and is yet bearing fruit in the self-denying labours of martyrs and missionaries in foreign lands.

Diocese of Montreal.

ST. STEPHENS.—St. Stephen's church was crowded on Sunday evening, 3rd April, when a confirmation took place. His Lordship Bishop of the diocese delivered an impressive address to the candidates, eighteen men and twenty-three women, presented by Ven. Archdeacon Evans. The last confirmation service took place about a year ago. The heartiness and appropriateness of the singing was noticeable, a pleasing feature of this part of the service being Torrington's "Abide With Me."

ST. GEORGES.—The Y. M. C. A. of this parish have issued a neat card of appointments for April, May and June. During the present month there are, April 7, essay "Help yourself," by Rev. J. Ker, B. D., Rector of Grace church, and Question Box; April 28, Lecture "Jamaica" illustrated by Adam Brown, Esq., of Hamilton, late Commissioner for Canada at the Jamaica Exhibition. The Parlour and Reading Rooms of the Association on Stanley Street are open every evening from 7.30 to 10, and all young men are cordially invited to make use of these beautiful rooms.

The Very Rev. the Dean of Montreal preached a striking and forcible sermon on Sunday even-

ing week from the parable of Dives and Lazarus coupled with the words as to Judas he went "to his own place," enforcing the truth of the life beyond the grave, in its two conscious states of happiness and misery, and the part taken by each individual in preparing in this life the place which is to be 'his own.' The attention of the large congregation was riveted by the earnest, practical and eloquent treatment of a difficult subject.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.—The Lord Bishop of the diocese held a confirmation at this church on Sunday afternoon, when a number of candidates were presented by the Rector for "The laying on of Hands."

Diocese of Toronto.

TORONTO.

ALL SAINTS.—The 6th annual meeting of All Saints Church Literary Society was held on the evening of the 7th inst. in the school room, the Rev. Arthur H. Baldwin, Hon. President in the chair. The secretary treasurer's report showed most encouraging progress. The membership had increased to 236; the receipts for the year had been \$285.57; and there was a balance in hand of \$102. Fourteen meetings had been held during the year, all of which were well attended and successful. The following are the officers for the present year: Rev. A. H. Baldwin, Hon. President; Mr. A. M. Watts, President; Miss Fullerton, 1st Vice-Pres.; Miss Robinson, 2nd Vice-Pres.; Mr. G. Shaw, Sec.-Treas.; Mr. M. Smith, Ass.-Sec.; Miss Robinson, organist.

Diocese of Niagara.

GUELPH.

THE Sunday School Lenten offerings are to be devoted this year as last to the education of an Indian boy at Emmanuel College, Saskatchewan.

Miss Constance Keating has very kindly presented the church, through the rector, with two beautifully wrought frontals for pulpit and reading desk, worked by herself.

S. S. LIBRARY.—Last year the children presented a library to Sunday School at Magnetawan, Algoma. After Easter they intend to make another offering of the same kind to a poor parish in that district.

The "Instruction in Sewing" class will continue its good work until the end of May. The attendance has varied from 40 to 64. A few more teachers are much required to fill vacancies caused by sickness and removal.

BIBLE ASSOCIATION.—With their accustomed zeal this association has fitted up new gas lights, much needed, in the vestibule of St. George's. They are also placing hymn boards of a neat device in church, so that all can see what hymns are to be sung. A concert is contemplated for 26th of a pleasing and attractive character.

IN MEMORIAM.

Another of the earliest members of St. George's Church, Mrs. Benjamin Thurtell, was taken to her rest on Sunday, 28th Feby. She was sister of the late Mr. J. Davey, and for many years they were constant in their attendance at St. George's Church. To the old settlers she was well and favorably known for her many Christian qualities. She leaves one son, Mr. George Thurtell, who resides in this city, and one daughter who lives in Collingwood.

THE LATE DR. KEATING.

During the past month we have also lost from among us, one endeared to the whole neighborhood by his kind thoughtfulness and loving