

cient way in which he had presided over the deliberations of the conference, were both unanimously passed. The conference then adjourned by singing the Doxology, the Chairman giving the benediction.

NOVA SCOTIA.

WINDSOR.—The annual closing of the educational institutions of this town is looked forward to with no little interest by the inhabitants. When the weather is fine they are certain to have an enjoyable time. Fortunately this year nothing better could be desired in this respect. On Tuesday the flourishing Church School for girls held their closing exercises. The large dining hall was packed with visitors from various parts of the two Provinces. In the morning a very interesting programme was creditably rendered by the young ladies. Recitations, instrumental and vocal solos, duets and quartettes, and choruses happily filled in the time till noon, when Bishop Courtney, accompanied by Miss Machin, the lady principal, advanced to the platform and distributed the gold medals, silver stars and book and money prizes awarded to the successful scholars. The creditable way in which the school is managed could not have been better manifested than by the fact of so many girls being called forward to receive the neatly prepared testimonials of merit given on this occasion. These are awarded to those who have attained a certain percentage of marks in all their subjects. In the first class 90 per cent. or over must be obtained for this. Four girls achieved this percentage. In the second class the standard is 85 per cent. and three girls of its number were successful. In the other classes 75 per cent. is the minimum, five of the third class, five of the fourth class and one in the fifth class were awarded this merit. Besides these school prizes the following donated prizes for various subjects:—The Bishop of Nova Scotia, Mrs. Courtney, Archdeacon Weston-Jones, Canon Brock, Miss Lillie Machin, Miss Machin, and the Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton. These were captured by girls from east of the four provinces of N.S., N.B., Que., and P.E.I. In the afternoon the calisthenics class, consisting of 67 girls, gave a most interesting exhibit of their very accurate drill, upon their beautiful lawn. Dressed in their new costumes of white and red, they presented a pleasing and graceful picture, as they marched about in their varying evolutions in perfect time, and with an accuracy hardly to be beaten by well drilled soldiers. The fencing, dumb-bell, and bar-bell exercises enlisted frequent and hearty applause from the delighted spectators. An adjournment was then made to the art gallery, where a most creditable display was presented of the girls' drawings and paintings. Not the least attractive were two tables loaded with exquisitely painted china, which would have graced our best show rooms in Toronto or Montreal. Amongst the visitors who expressed their delight in language which must have gratified all those who are responsible for the school, was the Hon. Mr. Justice Hannington of N.B. We counted some 22 clergymen besides the Bishop.

On Wednesday a very important meeting of the Alumni of King's College was held in the Convocation Hall. A gratifying report of progress was read. Large sums have been spent during the year upon improvements to the College buildings, making them now for comfort and utility second to none in the Dominion. It was also reported that the committee appointed for the purpose a year ago had been more than successful in raising the \$1,000 required for the retention of a professorial chair then declared to be in danger of relinquishment. A further resolution was carried pledging the Alumni to raise besides this required sum a similar amount for further much needed assistance to the staff. It is proposed to raise this amount in sums not larger than one dollar, with a view of interesting as many as possible of the rank and file of Church people in their Diocesan University. Altogether the prospects of the College never seemed more hopeful than now. Many were the expressions of earnest wishes and prayers that God would shower down upon this old established institution, so nobly efficient in the past, His abundant blessings, in order that she may continue this good work in the future. The evening was devoted to the annual conversazione.

Thursday, Encenia day, opened bright and fine. Proceedings were begun by a celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m., in the College Chapel, the Bishop of Nova Scotia being celebrant, and Professor Vroom and Archdeacon Kaulback gospeler and epistoler. President Willets assisted in the administration. The Encenia sermon was preached in the lovely parish church after matins. An academic procession was formed at the College at 10 o'clock, when the Collegiate school boys, the undergraduates and graduates of the College, followed by the Bishop, preceded by his chaplain carrying his staff, marched to the church. It was an imposing sight to witness this long line of boys and men dressed in somber black relieved by the brilliant gowns and hoods of the Masters and Doctors of the University, and the

Bishop's purple cassock and episcopal robes, winding their way along the delightfully shaded streets of this picturesque town. Windsor is famed for its huge elms and its green fields, and a prettier scene could hardly be conceived on a bright sunny day. The service was well rendered and hearty. A thoughtful and earnest sermon from the text, "I am the light of the world," was preached by the Rev. V. E. Harris, Rector of Amherst. Two o'clock, the hour fixed for the Encenia, found the Convocation Hall again filled, when the usual proceedings of speeches and conferring of degrees occupied the afternoon. Amongst those who received the well merited favor of the University was the Hon. Senator Almon of Halifax, who was made a D.C.L. It is significant that the Senator's grandfather was elected to the same degree 83 years ago. May the family long flourish in the Province to grace and be graced by their beloved Alma Mater. The Rev. Canon Partridge pronounced the Alumni Oration and won for himself prolonged applause. Earnest and useful speeches were also delivered by the President, the Rev. R. Campbell of Dorchester, Judge Palmer of St. John, N.B., the Provincial Inspector of Schools and the Bishop of the Diocese. During the afternoon numerous prizes were given to the successful scholars of the boys' school by Dr. Trenaman, President of the Alumni Association of Kings, and by Bishop Courtney.

WOLFVILLE.—The Rev. H. de Blois has declined the rectorship of this parish, to which he was recently unanimously elected.

FALMOUTH.—W. S. Howcroft, recently ordained to the diaconate, has been appointed to the charge of this parish by the Bishop.

Mr. Jacob Khadder, the Arab student from Jerusalem at Kings' College, has arranged to tour the provinces during the long vacation, exhibiting his large, costly and instructive collection of curios from the Holy Land, Egypt and Mount Athos, and lecturing on them. Those who have seen them declare them to be a museum in themselves. Mr. Khadder is pursuing his preparation for the sacred ministry largely at the cost of Kings' College Missionary Society. When ready for orders he will return to Jerusalem, there to be ordained by Bishop Blyth.

ONTARIO.

KINGSTON.—The Synod is over, and proved to be a somewhat stormy one. It was opened on Monday, 19th inst., with choral evensong and sermon in the Cathedral and Church of St. George. One or two incidents marred the propriety of the service. In the first place there were far too many of the clergy absent from the procession, one of the Archdeacons among them, yet they were present and sitting in the nave as though only worshippers and not members of the Diocesan body.

By a peculiar piece of ritual, the other Archdeacon took the place of honor in the rear of the procession and behind the Bishop.

The service was very brightly and heartily sung, the Psalms to Gregorian tones, but, unhappily, Anglican pointing; the canticles to Wesley's beautiful setting, and all through there was a complete and most laudable absence of the fussy movements which so often detract from the solemnity of such services. The choir was supplemented by a choir of some very strong, rich voices, but voices whose lack of practice in the music sung was here and there painfully apparent. Another year probably arrangements will be made for at least one full rehearsal. With these small exceptions the service was a great success and showed a marvellous advance over anything of the kind for years past. The only other matter of regret was the very imperfect delivery of the sermon, which, excellent in every other way, was thus rendered scarcely intelligible to many present. I am told, however, that the acoustics of the building are very trying, and this no doubt accounts for much of the difficulty of hearing. On Tuesday morning Holy Communion was celebrated at 7.30 a.m. and at 11 a.m. The latter service was chorally rendered by a choir of clerics, and considering the lack of practice, with astonishing precision and accuracy. The music chosen was Maebcke, with the American chant for the Gloria in Excelsis. The disproportion between the communicants at the two services was very marked. Less than a dozen were present at the earlier hour, while about 80 received later, among them, with curious inconsistency, several who delight to call themselves Catholic, and exhort to early and fasting communion.

On this day there were no celebrations in the other city churches, to allow of every member of the Synod communicating at the same altar; but on Wednesday and Thursday celebrations took place at 7 or 7.30 a.m. The attendants were, in the two churches I visited, lamentably few, and we may perhaps see in this fact one reason of the asperities of the debate on the Mission Board report.

His Lordship the Bishop reported his official acts during the year. He gave a list of places at which confirmations were made. The total number of candidates confirmed, 1,379; males, 553; females, 826; 1,290 received the first communion. The following churches were consecrated: St. Mark's, Deseronto; All Saints', Oupah; St. Matthew's, Winchester; St. Mark's, Avonmore; Trinity Church, Lombardy; St. James' Church, Carp. The burial ground at Lombardy was also consecrated. The receipts of the mission fund of the Diocese exceeded that of any previous year by the sum of \$1,500. They must bear in mind there is a debt of \$4,000. He had pleasure in reporting that he had been enabled to transmit to the Bishop of Newfoundland \$16.72 to relieve the sufferers by fire at St. John.

The clerical secretary, R. V. Rogers, Treasurer E. J. B. Pense, and the Audit Committee, composed of Rev. Messrs. Wright, Tighe and Dr. Smythe, were re-elected.

A very encouraging feature of this Synod was the increased attention to business, nearly all the clergy and a good proportion of laity proving superior even to the temptation of the Decoration day proceedings on Wednesday afternoon. All the first day's business was despatched, too, with great unanimity, and although the frequent questions and occasional debates proved the interest taken, the work of the various committees who reported was evidently satisfactory to the Synod. The question of the General Synod was also considered carefully, and though but little time was given to it, the instructions given to the delegates pointed out one or two weak spots. One of these may be worth touching on here. The Provincial Synod had provided that all acts and canons of Provincial or Diocesan Synods should be subject to the revision and disallowance of the Supreme Court of Appeal, but had excepted any of their own canons in force at the present time. The acts and canons of the Dioceses were, however, not included in this saving clause, and any or all of them would, if the Provincial recommendations carried, be subject to revision and perhaps disallowance. This is especially the case with the canon on discipline. The Ontario Synod therefore inserted a clause saving their own canons at present in force from interference.

The following members were appointed on the Mission Board and delegates to the Provincial Synod:—

Mission Board—Rural Dean Grout, Rural Dean Bliss, Rural Dean Bogert, Rev. W. Wright, Rev. R. L. M. Houston, Rev. W. W. Burton, Rev. Canon Burke, Rev. Rural Dean Nesbitt, while the laity are ex-officio members, chancellor, treasurer, lay secretary, Judge MacDonald, Dr. Smythe, Judge Wilkinson, Judge Senkler, Col. Matheson, James Shannon, A. Code, S. R. Gorman. Provincial Synod—Archdeacon Lauder, Prof. Worrell, Canon Spencer, Rural Dean Bogert, Canon Burke, Archdeacon B. Jones, Dean Smith, Rural Dean Grout, Rural Dean Baker, Rev. W. J. Muckleston, Rural Dean Nesbitt, Rural Dean Carey. Substitutes—Revs. G. S. Low, W. Lewin, Rural Dean Pollard, Rev. H. Houston, Rural Dean Loucks; Rev. J. K. McMorine and Rev. E. A. W. Hannington equal.

Lay delegates to Provincial Synod—Judge MacDonald, E. H. Smith, Col. Matheson, Judge Wilkinson, R. V. Rogers, Judge Senkler, Dr. Preston, Col. Sumner, E. J. B. Pense, James Shannon, R. T. Walkem, A. Code. Substitutes—R. S. Gorman, C. McNab, T. C. Wilson, C. F. Smith, Dr. Garrett, Dr. Rutan.

The great fight took place on the Mission Board report. At last year's session the Synod had ordered a complete reversal of the old policy of the Board, which was, briefly, to make grants to each mission according to its ability to contribute, without any consideration of the missionary's position. It was ordered in 1892 that every mission be visited by the Rural Dean of the district and carefully canvassed for the stipend, and when the total amount able to be raised in this manner was reported to the Board, that grants should be made to bring the stipend to \$800 for every priest and \$600 for deacons. If the amount available was not sufficient for this a pro rata deduction was to be made all round. The report of the Mission Board showed no token that any alteration had been made in their old policy, and although some of the members said that the resolutions had been considered, none could claim that they had been acted upon. Some plain talking ensued, and the Rural Deans who had not canvassed were roundly rated. Finally the Bishop expressed his willingness to allow the Rural Deans to be elected for a term of years by their respective deaneries (the right of appointment and veto remaining in his hands, however), and one of the Rural Deans having been dropped from the Board and replaced by a missionary, the storm calmed down and the resolution calling for information was withdrawn on the ground of insufficient time to deal with it.

The characteristics of the Synod were the number of younger men who took active part; and, in spite