

April 15th, 1895. The incumbent presided. The minutes of the last vestry were read and approved. Mr. John Malkin was appointed clergyman's warden and Mr. C. Smith re-elected people's warden. Mrs. C. Crump was appointed organist. During the past year a bell tower has been erected at a cost of \$50, a stable for the clergyman's horse built, and other improvements made. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. R. S. Mann, of Aurora, through whose efforts a carpet for the chancel was obtained; to Mrs. S. Malkin, for kneeler for communion rail, and to Mrs. H. T. Watkins for a donation of \$5 towards kneeler for the body of the church, and \$3 towards cost of deed for burial ground; also to Mrs. J. Malkin for a bowl for use at baptisms, as there is no font at this church, and a donation of \$3 towards communion linen, and to Mrs. Greville Harston, Toronto, for a large copy of hymns, A. and M., for use at the organ. It is hoped that during the summer the burial ground, which has just been deeded to the Bishop, will be cleared and fenced ready for consecration.

NOVAR.—The Easter vestry was held at St. Mary's Church, Novar, on April 16th, 1895. The incumbent occupied the chair. The minutes of the last vestry were read and approved. During the past year a new east window has been placed in the church, two large "Millar" lamps have been purchased, a driving shed, including wood-shed, and private box-stall erected, the vestry lined inside, and a library cupboard and other conveniences have been provided. The church, Sunday-school, and Women's Church Aid Society's funds all show balance in hand. Attention was called to the fact that the church needs siding up and the lot fencing. This work, it is hoped, will be undertaken by members of the congregation at an early date. The incumbent, for himself and on behalf of the members, tendered appreciative thanks to the wardens, lay reader, members of the choir, and especially to the Women's Church Aid Society, through whose efforts much more has been accomplished than would otherwise have been possible, and to all who have helped to forward the work of the church. Mr. H. Paget was appointed clergyman's warden, and Mr. G. Harris re-elected people's warden. Mr. W. Paget and Mr. Henry Large were appointed sidesmen, and Miss Pardoe, organist, for the ensuing year.

RAVENSLIFFE.—The annual vestry was held at St. John the Baptist's Church, Ravenscliffe, on April 17th, 1895. There was a good representative attendance, and the incumbent occupied the chair. The minutes of the last vestry were read and adopted. Thanks were tendered to the wardens, choir, organists, vestry clerk, superintendent and teachers of the Sunday-school, and to all who had helped in the work of the church during the past year. Mr. I. Hopkins was re-elected warden, and Mr. G. W. Martin and Mr. W. Hopkins were appointed sidesmen. Mr. W. Martin and Mr. W. Armishaw were elected auditors for the ensuing year. The incumbent appointed Mr. Brook organist, and Mrs. G. W. Tipper assistant organist. Mr. W. Clark was re-elected vestry clerk. Three delegates were selected for ballot for Provincial Synod which meets next September. The funds of the church are in a fairly prosperous condition. The Sunday-school is doing well and shows a balance in hand.

THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

(From our own special correspondent.)

The publishers of the New York Churchman undoubtedly produced the best Easter number among the Churchlies this year.

Another Wisconsin Bishop has taken to wearing a mitre, in the person of Dr. Nicholson, Bishop of Milwaukee. We hope the wearing of this "insignia" completes everything which is necessary even for a Bishop out in Wisconsin. Mitres may be all very well, but really good people are often lost to the Church by their introduction.

The number of confirmees from 1874 to 1892 was 563,975.

At a recent confirmation in St. Peter's, Brooklyn, 18 Methodists, 2 Presbyterians, 4 Dutch Reformed, 2 Lutherans, 4 Congregationalists and 1 Baptist were confirmed, which goes to show that Anglo-Catholicism can suit most people.

The Rev. A. W. Macnab, rector of St. Matthias, Omaha, Neb., has been appointed a Canon of Toronto by Bishop Sweatman. The new Canon did a splendid work here. Canonries seem hereditary in the Macnab family, as his father was also a Canon of Toronto.

The Rev. Canon Pentreath, of Winnipeg, who—we believe—was offered the Archdeaconry of Qu'Appelle together with the rectorship of St. Paul's, Regina, N.W.T., has accepted a rectorship in Minnesota. The rev. Canon's name has frequently been mentioned in connection with vacant bishoprics in Canada, so it is expected that he will be quite an acquisition to Minnesota.

The Right Rev. Dr. Talbot, Bishop of Wyoming, conducted the three hours service at St. James', Philadelphia, on Good Friday.

Two of our Episcopal clergy of Boston (Drs. Donald and Perks) attended a service in the new Old South, on Good Friday, with denominational ministers.

The Rev. Beverley E. Warner, D.D., rector of Trinity Church, New Orleans, will preach the sermon before the Clerical Council of Louisiana this year.

If his parochial duties will allow of it, the Rev. Herbert E. Bowers, the eloquent rector of St. Paul's, Vancouver, B.C., will conduct three or four parochial missions in this country during the coming summer. His many friends will be pleased to hear him again.

The Rev. Herbert Morrison Clarke, one of Bishop Huntington's clergy, suggests that our American priests should give funeral and wedding fees to general mission work.

Were it possible for Bishop Coxe and Professor Shields to arrange the matter between them, it would not take long to bring about a union between the Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches.

The Bishop of New Jersey is to again take up his visitations, having regained his health and strength.

The Right Rev. the presiding Bishop (Dr. Williams) has laid the corner-stone of the new Church of St. John, New Haven, Conn.

The subscriptions to "The Church House of the Diocese of Pennsylvania" now amount to somewhere in the neighbourhood of ninety thousand dollars!!!

The Rev. Father Huntington, the self-sacrificing son of the Bishop of Central New York, took "The Three Hours" on Good Friday, at St. Clement's, Philadelphia.

If the will of the late Mr. Eversfield Fraser Keel is upheld by the Courts, the Diocese of Maryland will be the richer by some two hundred thousand dollars.

The Rev. H. F. Fuller, rector of Trinity Church, Southwark, Philadelphia, has declined the rectorship of Alleghany City, Pa.

The Bishop of Southern Virginia (Dr. Randolph) will preach the sermon at the forthcoming 100th Council of the Diocese of Virginia.

The Right Rev. Dr. Berker, Missionary Bishop of Olympia, has been taking some confirmations for the Bishop of Chicago.

The Bishop of Chicago (Dr. McLaren) has consented to deliver the sermon at the consecration of the Rev. J. H. White as Bishop of Indiana.

Dr. Davies, Bishop of Michigan, has returned to his See-city after an absence of nine months, and was warmly welcomed.

Throughout the Diocese of Iowa there is an unusual development of interest shown in the increase of candidates for Holy Orders, and in new missions and churches.

On April 28th, the Rev. Charles E. W. Body, D.D., D.C.L., Professor of Interpretation at the General Theological Seminary, New York City, delivered the second of the Church Club Lectures. The Right Rev. F. Gailor, D.D., Co-Adjutor Bishop of Tennessee, delivered the first one.

The new warden of the Faribault Divinity College is not yet appointed, as Dr. White, the old warden, is not yet consecrated Bishop of Indiana.

It is more than probable that this Church will consecrate another Bishop for the Empire of Japan as soon as practicable.

Bishop Schereschewsky will undoubtedly get the five thousand dollars which he needs to bring out his Wenli (Chinese) Bible. The right rev. prelate is one of the grandest missionaries this Church ever had. Few men could do what he has done.

British and Foreign.

The Three Hours' service was held for the first time in Newcastle Cathedral on Good Friday.

The Bishop of Beverley opened at Rufforth, near York, a new church which has been erected at the sole cost of Miss Middlewood, of Rufforth Hall.

The Rev. E. A. Hammick, late Archdeacon of Zululand, has undertaken the charge of the European work at Bulawayo, in the Diocese of Mashonaland.

The Royal Maundy was duly distributed at Westminster Abbey recently. Shortly before one o'clock the hundred and fifty aged men and women selected to receive the royal bounty took their seats near the lantern end of the choir in two long rows, and, as the hour struck, the Bishop of Ely, the Queen's Almoner, commenced the bestowal of the royal alms.

In the course of an apology for inability to attend a meeting at Cromford to protest against the Welsh Disestablishment Bill, the Rev. F. R. Bellamy, Con

gregationalist minister of Matlock Bath, wrote: "I beg to express my sincere sympathy with the object of the meeting. I believe the disendowment of the Church in Wales would be a grievous hindrance to Christian work, and also an act of robbery."

The Bishop of Winchester, writing of his recent visit to Jersey, says that one feature in the churches gave him a painful interest. "An indefatigable advocate of the principle of free and open churches, who lives in the North of England, would be made very ill, honest man that he is, could he see how the pews in these churches are bought and sold, like matters of ordinary traffic, and how the purchasers, who are not at all aware that they have bought them for the use of other people, do not always come, and then the pews are empty. Our domestic friend the dog does not confine the exhibition of the unlovable features of his nature to the manger, but occasionally finds his way into the church. A pew was pointed out to me which only a few weeks ago was sold for £32. I advert to this because anyone can see how such a method of disposing of accommodation in the House of God to those who can buy it, tends to shut out those who cannot buy it; and if the Apostle James could visit the island some fine Sunday and give Jersey folk a bit of his mind about it, I think they would have a waking up."

Bishop Westcott proceeds to urge the following important considerations: "It is not enough for us to display the greatness of our inheritance and to prove the validity of our title to all that our fathers have left us. We must be seen to use, under new conditions, what we have received in the spirit of the noblest of our benefactors. More, as I hold, is at stake even in the fulfilment of the least duties of our corporate life, than we commonly suppose. Service, freely offered, in the affairs of our Church, and wisely accepted, without self-will or self-assertion; work done soberly and considerably; power used tenderly and firmly; the relation of authority and obedience expressed in many forms of love and reverence—these will give reality to the truth of Christian brotherhood, will leave society till 'love of the brethren' finds its consummation in 'love.'"

The Bishop of Norwich also has been laying emphasis on the importance of lay help. Speaking at Clapton the other day on the work of laymen in the Church, he said that laymen—believing, faithful, Christian men—were bound by their duty to God, just as much as the clergy, to do whatever they could to promote the moral and spiritual well-being of God's people. It might be asked, what was lawful for laymen to do in spiritual matters? The special work of the clergy was to conduct Divine worship in the House of God, and to administer the Sacraments of the Gospel. That was sufficiently comprehensive, and short of that there appeared to be nothing but what a layman might do, and had a precedent for doing. We learned from the Word of God that laymen preached. Apollos, for example, was a crucial instance of that; though, for the sake of order, laymen should act under the direction and with the advice of the ecclesiastical authorities—the Bishops.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

Canadian Church Union.

SIR,—It may not be amiss to call the attention of those who feel with "A Catholic Layman" and other correspondents, to the Canadian Church Union, of which full particulars may be obtained from the president, Mr. Kirwan Martin, Hamilton, Ont. It is founded on Catholic lines, and intended to check the designs of Wycliffe as much as possible. M. C. C. U.

Church Services at Eight.

SIR,—With your permission, I should like to ask you and your readers if there is any reason or law against Church services commencing at 8 p.m. on Sundays. There is generally such a rush in most families to get to evening service. Mothers would find it much easier to leave home after getting the little ones in bed. Servants who have to clear away the evening meal find it impossible to get to church in time, and so stay away. Many of these girls have not to be in until 10 p.m., and on coming out of