

thanksgiving were read by the rector and the Rev. H. A. Thomas, of Ailsa Craig. At the earlier service, a very able and suitable sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Richardson, M.A., of London, the text being:—"Neither say they in their heart, 'Let us now fear the Lord our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: He reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.'" The hymns and canticles at both services were heartily sung by the choir and congregation, all conspiring to "sing with the spirit and with the understanding also." At the later service, the rector, in an address of much power and practical direction, showed what a large provision was made in the Book of Common Prayer for praise and thanksgiving, and defended the book from the detractors of ignorant blasphemers. The incumbent of Ailsa Craig (who was preceded by a suitable hymn), gave a very interesting and forcible address upon the duty we owe to God, to consecrate our whole being to the blessed service of Him who had, not only provided bread to nourish our bodily life, but also had given Himself as the "true bread that cometh down from heaven" for the sustenance of the life of the soul.

BRANTFORD—St. Jude's Church.—The Harvest Thanksgiving service was this year held conjointly with the re-opening of this pretty little parish church, which has been re-decorated in good taste, the colouring of the walls and ceiling being harmonious, and warm in tone, contrasting favourably with their previous cold and bare appearance. Perhaps the greatest improvement is the alteration of the seats, formerly curiously adorned with high carved backs, and painted a most inappropriate grey colour, but now made lower and straight, painted and grained, and furnished with book racks, instead of the old-fashioned book-ledge. An opening, effected in the wall of the north transept, is another great improvement, for till it was made, it was impossible to do full justice to the very sweet-toned organ in the chancel. The Thanksgiving services were well attended and hearty, the decorations, composed principally of flowers, were simple, but all sufficing; on the super-altar were the emblems—wheat and grapes,—and a white floral cross. The font was wreathed with a long trail of senilak, put on the water,—for the sacrament of Holy Baptism was administered in the afternoon,—floated a cross of white flowers. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Innes, of London, in the morning, and by the Rev. W. T. Wade, of Woodstock, in the evening. The offertories were devoted to the Church-restaurant fund, in regard to which it may here be stated, that this fund has been raised entirely by voluntary subscription, no entertainments or money-raising devices of any kind having been resorted to—a fact which is a source of great satisfaction both to the rector and his people, and an earnest of a near future, when all those who truly love our mother-Church, shall give to God as God gives to them, lovingly and willingly.

An eight day's mission will shortly be held in St. Jude's Church, the Rev. J. C. Farthing, of Durham, will be the missionary.

Church Worker's Convention.—A new and commendable departure was suggested in the rural-decanal chapter of Brant at its last session, which was happily consummated in a very successful convention of church workers, held in the school room of Grace Church, Brantford, on Thursday last, Oct. 27th. The aim was to get the comparatively isolated workers representing every department of religious activity, come together from every parish in the deanery for mutual encouragement, that combined wisdom might suggest to each one the more excellent way. This was accomplished to all the extent we might reasonably expect from a new effort, only a few of the manifold activities of the Church could possibly be touched in a brief conference, but every worker was invited, and was intended to be made to feel that whether able to come or not, that he had co-workers sympathizers. The conference was preceded by a celebration of the Holy Communion in Grace Church at 11 a.m., at which a goodly number were present. The offertories at the Holy Communion and at the evening session more than covered the incidental expenses of the Convention. The business sessions were held in the school-room in the afternoon and evening, under the presidency of the Rural Dean, Rev. G. C. MacKenzie. The following papers were read in the order stated, viz.:—

1. How to extend the Church in the rural districts, by Rev. R. Ker, Mitchell.
2. Lay help. Principal Dymond, Brantford.
3. Church guilds, their organization and mission. Rev. A. Brown, Paris.
4. Giving and how to give. Rev. I. Ridley, Galt.
5. The Sunday School as the nursery of the Church. Mr. W. Plant, Paris.

A paper on Sunday School organization and management was promised from Mrs. Douglas, Brantford, but circumstances prevented its presentation.

All the papers were exceptionally good, and an animated and uniformly good-natured discussion followed each paper.

The key-note of the Convention:—The co-operation of the laity in the work of God, was given by the rural dean in an excellent opening address, and was emphasized throughout the Convention. As the papers were equally divided between the clergy and the laity, so a number of earnest laymen took a very helpful part in the discussions. Special mention is due to a lady-worker from St. James Church, Paris, who in response to a personal invitation from the chairman during the discussion following the paper on "Church guilds," modestly and very earnestly testified to the pleasure and personal profit in working for the Lord Jesus when constrained by a realization of His great love, and experience of His salvation. The impulse from her earnest words will not soon be forgotten by those who heard them. Lay co-operation is the want of the Church, and may God's blessing rest upon this and every effort to obtain a larger measure of it in our Church. We trust this Convention of church workers in the deanery of Brant will be the first of many here and elsewhere.

GALT.—The Rev. John Ridley, rector of this parish, has taken a most decided stand in the diocese upon the subject of 'Christian giving,' and in this respect is following the noble example of Bishop Baldwin. The rector strongly condemns many of the present methods, and while upholding social gatherings and reunions, is opposed to such for the purpose of raising money for the church. He refuses to receive money by means of grab-bags, election cakes, raffles, etc., and seeks to elevate 'giving' to its proper scriptural standard as an act of worship, by making the 'offertory' the proper channel through which all our offerings to God should come. He advocates that wherever there is 'Divine service' there can be an 'offertory,' and that the frequency of such services affords ample opportunities for all such gatherings—viz., 'the poor,' 'missions,' 'church debts,' 'Sunday School,' and for parochial and diocesan work in general. So far his efforts and teaching are meeting with encouraging success.

ALGOMA.

GORE BAY.—The Rev. Chas. A. Eaton, acknowledges with thanks, toward horse, &c., for his mission:—E. H., Parkdale, \$5; H., Niagara, a thanks offering, \$5; T. C. C. Bayfield, \$1 09.

FOREIGN.

Canon Wilberforce is going to Spain for the winter, for the benefit of his health.

The Chicago churches have received into membership during the last twelve months twenty-two Chinese converts.

A beautiful new church, built at Dundrum, County Down, has been consecrated by the Lord Bishop of the diocese. The church has been erected as a memorial to the late Marquis of Downshire.

The income for the past year of the Woman's Auxiliary for missions, in the Diocese of Minnesota, was \$3,600.

Christ church, Springfield, Mass., is erecting a parish house at an expense of \$14,000.

The rector of Llanellidan is taking active steps for the restoration of the parish church, which is very old, and almost the last of the unrestored churches in the Vale of Clwyd.

The most Rev. Robert Bent Knox, D.D., Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of the Church of Ireland, has just entered upon his eightieth year.

Lord Radnor has undertaken to complete the erection of Trinity Church, Folkestone, at a cost of about £5,000.

On Whitsun Day, at Onitsha on the Niger, Bishop Crowther ordained another native deacon in presence of a congregation of 436 persons, of whom 54 communicated. On Trinity Sunday Archdeacon Johnson, at the same place, baptized nine adults, and the bishop confirmed 20 candidates.

The late Mr. Richard Quain, F.R.S., who died last month, bequeathed almost the whole of his fortune, amounting to about \$375,000, to University College,

London, subject to certain annuities to family connections.

The Bishop of Ripon has re-opened, after enlargement at a cost of \$70,000, the ancient Gothic parish church at Dewsbury, which is said to stand on the spot where Paulinus, the first archbishop of York, preached the gospel to the heathen.

Mr. John Pearsons, of Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows, has left £4,000 towards the erection and endowment of a church at Lower Ince, being the balance, unpaid at the date of his will, of the sum promised for that purpose by him and his partner, the late Mr. Knowles, M.P.

The London Missionary Society has a fleet of five vessels plying between mission stations. Three are in Polynesia and two in Africa. The money for their support is raised by young people.

Ten missionaries, including four lady workers, one fully-qualified medical missionary, three ordained men, and two missionaries' wives, have recently departed to China and South Africa, in connection with the London Missionary Society.

Part of the Bishop of Chester's scheme for church extension in the Stockwell Rural Deanery included the erection of two or three mission churches in St. Thomas's parish, Stockport, which is by far the largest in the town. The foundation-stone of one of these churches has now been laid.

A church has just been erected in Cardiff for the Routh district, at a cost of £2,500, nearly the whole of which has been borne by two ladies residing in Routh, who do not desire their names to be known. There are now three stone churches, one of which seats 1,200 persons, and three iron churches in the parish of Routh.

By cable is announced the death of the Rt. Hon. Alexander J. Beresford Hope, Liberal Conservative member of Parliament for Cambridge University, and very highly distinguished as an energetic supporter of the Church. As president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, of the Ecclesiological Society and of the Architectural Museum he has done much to revive the taste for the Gothic in Art, which is so noticeable a feature in modern England. St. Augustine's college, at Canterbury, and the famous All Saints' church, in London, were built under his superintendence, and at the former he founded an institution for missionary clergy.

An Edinburgh gentleman, having addressed a letter to Canon Liddon on the subject of the reunion of the Churches of England and Scotland, has received the following reply:—"Anything that could lessen the existing divisions of Christendom must be welcome to a serious servant of our Lord. On this point Christians must be agreed. The difficulties begin when we approach the discussion of details. The principle which is embodied in the Episcopate is much more than, as the phrase goes, a question of Church government; and, on the other hand, Presbyterians have historical traditions of their own which they would not lightly abandon. I should be very glad to find that I am wrong in supposing this, but as at present informed, I see nothing to be done beyond an increase of mutual and earnest prayer to our Lord that he would teach us the secret of that blessing of unity which He has Himself taught us to think so precious."

The Church Missionary Society's baptized native Christians in Ceylon are 6,378 (2,861 Singhalese and 3,517 Tamils). The adult baptisms last year were 126 Singhalese and 81 Tamils; and there are 273 adult candidates for baptism, 142 Singhalese and 131 Tamils. There are six Singhalese and six Tamil native clergy; 156 Singhalese and 187 Tamil native lay teachers, and 9,785 scholars in the 192 schools, 5,841 being Singhalese and 3,942 Tamils. The Society's work among the Coolies from India and China employed on the sugar estates in Mauritius is carried on by four English and four Indian (Bengali and Tamil) clergymen. The Christian adherents exceed 2,000—viz., baptized 2,047; catechumens, 47. There were 88 adults last year, eight of them Chinese. The Rev. H. D. Boswell, Secretary of the mission, reports growth in all departments. In particular, he speaks thankfully of the volunteer evangelists—converts who give leisure hours to direct evangelistic work. One of these volunteer helpers specially won over and prepared for baptism sixteen native coolies. The Gleaners' Union, founded last year in connection with the O. M. Gleaner, has now enrolled 7,000 members. It has stirred up many to fresh prayer and effort in behalf of the society, and in several places local branches