

started into new life, under its present Pastor, the Rev Canon Bancroft, and is about to remove into St. Johns, just vacated by the Cathedral congregation, and which, previous to their occupation of it, had been a Congregational Church. St. Johns will be a much better locality than the old Trinity Church, which is also much dilapidated and a smaller building. Among services of any special interest recently held may be mentioned that of Sunday afternoon, Feb. 5, when all our Sunday School children in the city of Montreal, numbering upwards of 1000, assembled with their teachers in the Cathedral, uniting together in the services of this, as their mother Church; considerably more than 2000 persons must have been present on the occasion, as that large building was crowded in every part. And it may interest the Society to learn that on Sunday morning, 15th April, the Rev. James Reid, D. D., one of the Honorary Canons, preached in the Cathedral, being now in his 80th year, and having been for 45 years a missionary of your Society, and the successor of Bishop Stewart at St. Armands East in this Diocese, and I believe the oldest missionary of the Society and the oldest individual now officiating as a clergyman in British North America, with the exception of the Archdeacon of Kingston and the Bishop of Toronto. He still performs all the duty of his own Parish, where he has so long and so faithfully been doing the work of a Minister of Christ; and on the occasion mentioned, preached an excellent sermon on the text, "Occupy till I come," (Luke xix. 13,) and was well heard over the whole Cathedral.

Montreal, May, 4th 1860.

OTAKI, NEW ZEALAND.

In the "Mission Field," the monthly periodical of the Gospel-Propagation Society, and in the December Number, we find the account of a visit paid by the Bishop of Wellington to the Mission station at Otaki. We transcribe the substance of it into our pages concluding that we shall not, in doing so, be guilty of boasting of other men's labours, inasmuch as the Mission station of Otaki is one belonging to the Church Missionary Society, and the Missionary at the station Archdeacon Hadfield, one of that Society's Missionaries.

Let us retrace a little the past history of Otaki. It was in the year 1835 that the first faint gleam of Gospel light broke in upon the darkness of this part of the Island. A native lad, called Matahau, who during the war, had been carried away prisoner to the northern districts, where the Missionaries then resided, came back to his own people at Otaki. He had been employed in some of the Missionaries families, and had obtained some knowledge of Gospel truth. He began to tell his friends what was going on in the Bay of Islands. The chief's son and his cousin became very much interested with the book which Matahau had brought with him. It was part of St. Luke's Gospel.

They felt a strong desire to learn to read, that they might know what was in this book. They took Matahau with them to an island, where they remained six months. One of the young chiefs describes the process—"We learnt every day, every night. We did not lie down to sleep. We sat at night in the hut all round the fire in the middle. When he had part of the book, and I a part." At the end of six months they could read a little. But now they wanted something more. Matahau had taught them all he was able to teach. They were but crumbs,