

music being used in their rendering. An advance in the right direction has at last been made by a Choral Litany on Sunday afternoons. Some alterations in the seating of the choir or in the arrangements of the seats under the tower are in contemplation. Messrs. Nelson and Ballard, architects, are now engaged on the drawings. The services at St. Mary's, Hochelaga, have improved somewhat. There is good singing, larger congregations and the largest Sunday-School the Church there has ever seen. A clerical association has been formed for the township of Bromé. Membership is, as a rule, to be confined to the clergy residing in the township. This rule is adopted simply for convenience. The clergy on the immediate borders of the township, if not members of a similar association in their own township will, of course, if they find it desirable and convenient, be gladly received as members. The first meeting took place on St. Andrew's Day in the Rectory, Knowlton; the Rev. Chas. Bancroft in the Chair, and the Rev. W. R. Brown, Secretary *pro tem*. The next meeting is to be held in the same place, on the 1st Tuesday in the New year. Its purpose is "mutual edification." The topic for discussion will be, "Our Sunday-School work."

PORTAGE-DU-FORT.—The purse was presented to Mrs. Motherwell, not Mr. as stated in our last issue.

ONTARIO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BURRIT'S RAPIDS.—Christ Church is to be re-opened on Christmas evening. Full account in our next.

KEMPTVILLE.—The new rector, Dr. Parnell, has succeeded in setting the people at work. On Friday and Saturday the Sunday School gave two most successful entertainments, the proceeds to go towards obtaining stained glass for the great west window.

OXFORD MILLS.—At the request of the incumbent the Rev. W. J. Muckleston conducted a mission in this parish, beginning on Wednesday, Dec. 8, and ending Thursday, Dec. 16. Diligent preparation had been made for his coming, while the object and aims of the Mission were explained both verbally and by leaflets. For several Sundays before the Mission short meetings were held, after evensong for prayer and consultation. The weather continued most propitious, the roads were good, and so the Church people turned out in full force. Other religious bodies showed their sympathy by attending in goodly numbers, and wishing the good work a hearty God speed. The Ven. Archdeacon Parnell was able to be present only once, but that once drew from him warm words of commendation. As a rule the instructions were given by the incumbent, save twice when the Rev. G. J. Love gave addresses on "Public Prayer" and "Revelation." It was the missionary, however, who gave life to the special services; in glowing, earnest, touching words he preached the truth; the people hung upon his words, every eye seemed invited upon him, as he unfolded the scheme of salvation, and pointed to Christ as the Saviour from sin. Throughout the eight days there were four services a day. Holy Communion each morning, two prayer meetings each afternoon, and the special service each evening. 260 receptions of the Blessed Sacrament took place, of whom 63 were at the Sunday celebration. On Friday after the Mission a thanksgiving celebration took place, when 58 received; with a population of 350, there is now a communicants' list of 113, with a probability of a still further increase. The missionary left behind him an impulse for good, which will now be forgotten, and took with him the thank and blessings of many who by his eloquence and devotion have been roused to true heartfelt religion.

NEW EDINBURGH, ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—A vestry meeting was held Dec. 8, at which a resolution was moved by Dr. W. R. Bell, seconded by Mr. J. P. Featherston, and passed. It expressed confidence in their Incumbent, the Rev. E. W. Hamington, that he has a sincere desire to do his work faithfully in his parish, and that his ministrations, and the manner in which he has discharged his pastoral duties in visiting the sick, in caring for the distressed, and in other Christian offices, are generally satisfactory. They, therefore, consider that his resignation or removal would be undesirable, as it would affect the parish injuriously; and they earnestly and affectionately request him to continue his office as Incumbent of the Parish. An address to the same effect, signed by thirty-two parishioners, was subsequently presented to Mr. Hamington, and the following petition, signed by all the male heads of families attending St. Mary's Chapel, Green Creek, which is part of the charge, has been presented to His Lordship the Bishop:

To the Right Rev. J. T. Lewis, Lord Bishop of Ontario.

The undersigned members of the congregation of St. Mary's Church, Gloucester, and of the church in

the environs thereof, respectfully pray your lordship to do your utmost to cause the Rev. E. W. Hamington, our beloved pastor, to remain among us. We know from the experience of the past that he has under Divine Providence been the means of raising us from darkness, and rescuing us from the power of evil. His removal from us at this juncture would, we are convinced, prove disastrous to our spiritual progress. If your lordship values the pride of our souls, you will not turn a deaf ear to our prayers, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c., &c.

TORONTO.

SYNOD OFFICE.—Collections, &c., received during the week ending Dec. 25, 1880.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.—October Collections—Collingwood, \$17.33; St. Mark's, East Oro, \$2.25; Kimmount, Galway, \$3; Fenelon Falls, \$3; Seymour and Percy, Christ Church, \$6; Percy, \$1; Trinity Church, Aurora, \$12.50; Oakridges, \$8.

For the Widow of a deceased Clergyman.—St. Stephen's, Toronto, \$6.86; Scarborough, Christ Church, \$1.89; St. Paul's, \$1.37; St. Jude's, 65c; St. Thomas, Allenwood, \$1; St. John's, Waverley, \$1.60; Newmarket, \$8.46.

MISSION FUND.—Thanksgiving Collection—Collingwood, \$23.

The Churches in the city were decorated to a considerable extent as usual in honor of the Christmas festival. It is, however, a significant fact that much less expense was incurred in some of them than usual, in the purchase of exotic flowers and plants. The cause of the smaller quantity of these than used to be so prominently marked on former occasions, can scarcely be in consequence of "hard times," because there must be a considerable number of owners of conservatories in the city and neighborhood who are staunch churchmen enough to place an abundance of these ornaments at the service of the churches that might require them. In some churches nothing in the way of extra ornamentation was visible but evergreens of fir or cedar; in others, the altars, pulpits, reading desks, lecterns, and fold stools were decked with white silk, and embroidered white frontals. With the exception of some want of variety, and some flowers that were to be seen in one or two fonts, where they were out of place, there was nothing to find fault with in the decorations. They were generally tasteful and effective.

The services generally were crowded for the festival. The music creditably rendered, and in some instances, if not in all, the "Christmas offering" for the Priest in charge was good.

THE CENTRAL PRISON.—Divine service was held in the chapel at 9 a.m., on Christmas Day, by Mr. Softley, the prison chaplain, who preached a very impressive sermon from part of the second lesson, taking for his subject "The Angels of Bethlehem." The choir sang the Christmas hymns, and also the canticles in very good style, Mr. Furnival presiding at the organ. The prisoners were very attentive during the service, and joined heartily in the responses. The chapel was very tastefully decorated with evergreens.

EAST YORK.—Rural Deanery.—Missionary meetings, Eastern Division. Deputation, Rural Dean Allen, M. A. Hours of Service, 7:30 p.m. Port Perry, Monday, January 10th; Brooklin, Tuesday, Jan. 11th; Columbus, Wednesday, Jan. 12th; Oshawa, Thursday, Jan. 13th; Whitby, Friday, Jan. 14th. Port Whitby, Monday, Jan. 17th; Duffin's Creek, Tuesday, Jan. 18th; Scarborough, Christ Church, Wednesday, Jan. 19th; St. Paul's, Thursday, Jan. 20th; St. Jude's, Friday, Jan. 21st.—Western Division. Deputation, The Hon. Vice Chancellor Blake and W. H. Howland, Esq. In this Division, other Church objects will be taken up in addition to the Missionary Meetings as follows:

Unionville, Monday, Jan. 10th, Missionary Meeting, 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday 11th, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Do. 11th, Temperance, 7:30 p.m.; Markham, Wednesday, 12th, Missionary Meeting, 7:30 p.m.; Thursday 13th, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Do. 13th Temperance, 7:30; Stouffville, Friday, 14th, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Missionary, 7:30; Uxbridge, Monday, Jan. 17th, Missionary Meeting, 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 18th, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Do. 18th, Temperance, 7:30; Sunderland, Wednesday, 19th, Bible Reading, 4 p.m.; Do. 19th, Missionary, 7:30; Thursday, 20th, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Do. 20th, Temperance, 7:30; Cannington, Friday, Jan. 21st, Sunday School, 4 p.m.; Do. 21st, Missionary, 7:30.

JOHN FLETCHER, Rural Dean.

PORT HOPE.—Trinity College School.—This institution was closed on the 23rd after a very satisfactory term, and the boys took their departure for the Christmas holidays. The number of pupils in attendance last term was 118, some coming from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to the East, and from as

far West as British Columbia. The school has been remarkably free from sickness of any kind during the last term; nothing, indeed, could be more satisfactory than the general health of the boys.

VICTORIA HARBOUR.—Our Christmas Tree Festival came off yesterday, and was a success; there was a very large attendance. Addresses were delivered by Rev. G. A. Anderson, Rev. Mr. Harris, Rev. W. H. French, and Mr. Harry French. There were Roman Catholics and others, not members of the Church, present. It appeared, to many who were there, very indiscreet on the part of the Speakers to indulge in violent declamation against those who do not belong to our Church—especially taking into consideration the fact that there are only about four Church families in the place.

NIAGARA.

WEST FLAMBORO.—A Society was formed here a few evenings ago under the name of the Society of the Holy Standard, in connection with Christ Church. The office bearers are Rev. J. Geoghegan, Rector, J. C. Munson, Warden, and Fred. C. Piper, Secretary.

The Rector opened the meeting with a brief but very able addresses, in which he fully explained the merits of the Society.

The warden then gave a lengthy discourse on The Mother of our Lord, which was very interesting, he stated that he would deliver a course of Lectures on the Life of our Lord, which will not fail to prove a great success.

After the short service which ensued, the hymn entitled "Faith of our Fathers," was sung. The benediction was pronounced, and the people numbering over forty expressed great satisfaction, and wished the Society every success.

HURON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

HAYESVILLE.—On Thursday, 16th inst., the Right Rev. Bishop Alford visited this mission for the purpose of administering this apostolic rite of Confirmation, and also to re-open St. James' Church, Wilnot, where the confirmation was held, and which has been undergoing a thorough restoration. At two o'clock the Church was crowded. After evening prayer and the sacrament of baptism had been administered to an adult, the incumbent, the Rev. F. Harding, presented a class of thirteen, six females and seven males, for the rite of laying-on of hands. The Bishop having forcibly addressed the candidates, and the Confirmation over, His Lordship proceeded to re-open the Church by reading the beautiful prayers for the occasion. The Church was built thirty-six years ago, of brick, with no pretensions to Church architecture, but now an open roof supersedes the old white-washed ceiling, a chancel 19-18 has been added, together with vestry and porch; also new prayer-desk and pulpit (of open work) and choir stalls, and last, but not least, a handsome stain glass East window, the generous gift of the Incumbent, whose example no doubt will make the sum of \$80, all the debt left easy to wipe out.

The parish, as well as hundreds of others, is deeply indebted to the S. P. G., so as thirty-eight years ago the first Church service was held by a missionary of that grand old society, who for a time served this and other plans entirely at their expense.

As they gradually withdrew their support, the church has been kept up ever since much new life has been inserted into it lately, so much so that New Hamburg, one of the stations, is trying with probability of good success to raise funds sufficient to support a clergyman of their own.

LONDON.—Christmas in the Forest City.—Our Churches bear all the insignia of a Merry Christmas. We have not the mistletoe and holly wherewith to wreath our sacred edifices, that make bright the old Churches of the mother land, but the native evergreens and berries of our forests never looked so well in their natural beauty as they do when entwined in wreaths and festoons around the gothic arches and windows, and the lecterns and pulpits, the fonts and altars, by the nimble, cunning fingers of the fair daughters of our Canadian Church.

St. Pauls.—Our old St. Pauls is beautiful. Standing in the centre aisle we look eastward to the chancel, we admit that nothing is wanted to make it what an English Parish Church should be at Christmas tide. The Chancel, though not concealed from our view, seems as if a veritable screen of evergreens had grown beneath the gothic arch. The font in front of the chancel, the reading desk, lectern, and pulpit, are wreathed with evergreens intertwined with everlasting flowers. Pillars of evergreens supporting an evergreen arch separate the chancel from the main body of the Church. Twining around the pillars that support the galleries, and around the windows are wreaths. Texts from Holy Writ appropriate to the