

## DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

**MONTREAL.**—*St. Luke's.*—The Lord Bishop of the Diocese administered the Rite of Confirmation in St. Luke's Church on Sunday evening. The Church was filled to its utmost capacity. The candidates, twenty-eight in number, were presented by the Rev. Geo. Rogers to the Bishop, who addressed them in a very impressive manner. After Confirmation the Bishop preached from Luke xii., 32: "But I pray for thee that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted strengthen thy brethren." The Holy Communion was administered after service, and about one hundred members of the Church communed.

At the last meeting of the Ladies' Aid of St. Luke's Church, the officers were elected for the coming year:—President, Mrs. Lamb; Secretary, Mrs. Thompson; Treasurer, Mrs. James Snasdell.

## CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

The *Pacific Churchman* says:—The Church is finding out and acknowledging that some new methods and instrumentalities may be allowable and useful in meeting the new conditions of the hour. She is being aroused afresh to her primary Divine commission, to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, and is casting about for the means of doing this more effectively. Possibly some of the motives and methods of the past age, or century, need overhauling, or setting aside, or supplementing. Things are different now. The field is a different sort of field. Our dignified Church Services do not seem to meet the whole case. Our parish system does not cover the ground, even as it once did; nor do our missionary operations, conducted too much, as they are, on the "parish system" plan. It begins to be found that there must be more of a going out into the field where the work is to be done. There must be evangelization; the work to be done is the conversion of sinners and the careless and indifferent whom no "parish system" will include or reach. Our catechisms and confirmation classes and ordinary Church Services alone are not sufficient for covering the ground. While these are to be used more earnestly than ever, still other and different agencies must also be employed to reach where these fail to reach. Such are some of the convictions that are being formed and worked out in the Church to-day, and we believe, too, they are the sign of a new and grand apostolic revival.

The *Living Church* says:—Why is it that we in various ways attach so much importance to education, and yet make no provision whatever for the education or training of teachers? Is teaching in no sense an art; or is every son and daughter of Adam a teacher by instinct? Has philosophy no principles of use to the art; or have age and long practice no treasured experience apt to its use? Like ethic the department of dogmatics is as


good as totally neglected. Our young teachers either get no education in their art, or go to the secular schools of the State for it; or, as is more commonly the case, they go without. And so the blind lead the blind; the half-taught experiment on the ignorant; and often-times the professionally incapable undertake with the indocile and the mischievous.

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* expresses the opinion that we (the people of Ireland) are on the eve of a crisis which, unless the predictions of eminent statesmen of past days are contradicted by the result, is likely to shake the empire to its foundation, and to rouse the passions of the Irish people in a fashion which, even with all their troubles, has not been witnessed for many a long day.

A Correspondent of the *Church Bells* writes to that paper:—I have been a subscriber to *Church Bells* from its first number, and for many years have taken a deep interest in our Church and her services, believing that, where her doctrine and practice are fully preached, she does most clearly proclaim the mind of her Master, Christ, and I am convinced that if more attention was paid to little things (for these may be for our edification), they would often prove to be sermons in themselves, and inspire a deeper reverence than we see in many who attend her services. May I suggest with regard to the Canticles that the *Te Deum* is most suitable for festivals and the Trinity season—the *Benedicite* for Lent and Advent—the *Benedictus* for Lent, Advent, and the Trinity season—*Jubilate* for festivals; and with regard to the evening service—the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* for festivals and the Trinity seasons, using the alternate Canticles during Lent and Advent. One great mistake is made in altering the Canticles without any notice to the congregation, hence the value of some such method as I have ventured to suggest.

Bishop Whitaker is to be congratulated. Ex-Senator Sharon left him \$2,000 for his work, and recently two suits at law over legacies have been decided in his favor, each amounting to \$10,000.

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It is reported from Naples that a temple, houses, and vast necropolis, with many thousand articles of domestic use, amphora, bronzes, coins, and at least one important inscription in the dialect of the Samnites have been found near Avellino. The spot is the site of Cluvium, an ancient Samnite town near Meldo.

## BAPTISMS.

At Christ Church, Albion Mines, N.S., Jas. Gilbert McPherson.  
At Albion Mines, N.S., on March 12th, Joseph Smith, (private).  
At Westville, N.S., on March 18th, Henry Lewis Madden.  
At Christ Church, Albion Mines, N.S., on March 28th, Sophia Amelia Lewis.

## DIED.

On March 16th, in Christ Churchyard, Albion Mines, N.S., Joseph, infant son of John and Martha Smith.

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