

candidates were presented by the missionary in charge to receive the apostolic rite of laying on of hands.

CAMPBELLFORD.—The church is being improved by a new chancel and tower.

NIAGARA.

BURLINGTON.—Reopening of St. Luke's.—This church which has been closed for some time for repairs, was reopened last Sunday. The services were conducted by the Rev. Canon Curran, of Hamilton, who also preached. The church has been thoroughly cleaned, the walls tinted and the vestry papered and painted. A rich looking carpet has been put on the chancel floor. The congregation is to be congratulated upon the effort they have made to have their church look as neat and pretty as it now does.

St. CATHARINES.—St. Barnabas Church.—Among the latest donations made to this church is an exceedingly handsome altar cross of polished brass, the gift of Mrs. Marshall, (of Sudbury, England); also a set of four brass flower vases very chaste in design and workmanship, two of which are the gift of Mr. Nay, the organist. A set of coloured stoles was also lately presented to the incumbent by Mr. H. P. Marshall, of St. Catharines. This church seems to be singularly fortunate in the number of donations received during the last few years.

STONY CREEK.—The Bishop of Niagara has been pleased to appoint the Rev. F. E. Howitt to the charge of Stony Creek and Bartonville.

GRIMSBY.—Departed this life.—At the Rectory, Grimsby, on Saturday, 21st July, Henry Walter Read, youngest son of Rev. Canon Read, D.D., rector of Grimsby, aged twenty six years. This is the sixth death in the Rev. Canon Read's family in a little over two years. Again have beloved friends and parishioners united to testify a heartfelt sorrow in behalf of the bereaved parent. But greatest of all consolations is in the hope of those who die in the Lord, that they are in joy and felicity. A unanimous and substantial expression of parishioners has been made to Dr. and Mrs. Read, asking them to seek rest for a few weeks from family and parochial cares. Neighbouring clergy will render fraternal assistance meanwhile.

PROGRESS OF THE CHURCH IN THIS DIOCESE.—Since the organization of this Diocese, May 1st, 1875, no less than twenty seven churches have been built, and many of them costly stone buildings, and several of those churches (not amongst the most expensive of them) were consecrated on the day of opening. A great deal of indebtedness has also been paid off on churches. Owing to neglect of making returns of statistics from several important parishes we are unable to give correct figures of baptisms, &c. during the year ending 31st March. Fort Erie, Fergus, St. Thomas' Church, of St. Catharines; Waterdown and Aldershot are among the list of "No return." Still, the figures from the printed list indicate healthful progress.

WATERDOWN.—The death of Captain Fields, of advanced age is announced. It took place on Saturday, July 28. Captain Field was in the battles of New Orleans and Waterloo. He was selected by the late Lt. Col. Gourly to be captain in the First Incorporated Battalion, stationed at Hamilton, from 1837 until that regiment was disbanded in 1842. Capt. F. has since resided at Waterdown where he was greatly esteemed. He was fond of a retired and quiet life, where he received his friends with true gentlemanly pleasure. His mind was highly cultivated, so that his conversation was always edifying, but the study of the Holy Bible and pious meditations, with prayer from the familiar Book of Common Prayer were his chief and best employment. The Rev. J. Francis, on the Sunday following the funeral, referred in his sermon to the long and well-earned, and pious life of Capt. Fields, at Grace Church, Waterdown, where the burial had taken place.

BRITISH.

A MIDDLE CLASS SCHOOL MOVEMENT.—A company has been formed under the auspices of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops generally, and many leading representatives of the Universities, to promote a scheme for establishing Middle-class schools in accordance with the principles of the Church of England. The schools are intended to give a thoroughly efficient education to boys and girls of the middle class, combined with definite Church

teaching, and on a system which is to be entirely self-supporting. That this scheme is framed to meet a wide-spread demand cannot be denied, and we cordially wish it success.

MISSION TRIUMPHS.—Recent reports from the Niger Mission, West Africa, sent in by two African Archdeacons, Henry Johnson and Dandeson Crowther, are very remarkable. In the Delta, at Bonny and Brass, where ten years ago the most degraded heathenism and barbarism reigned almost undisturbed, there are now 4,000 souls under regular Christian instruction; and at some of the upper stations (the furthest of which is 320 miles up the river) there have been notable conversions in the past year. At Onitsha, forty-three adult converts were baptized in the year. The king, hitherto hostile, has commanded the observance of Sunday, and arranged for a public service at his own court; a chief has been buried without the offering of human sacrifices at his grave; and the new Christians of the place have spontaneously visited neighbouring towns to tell them of the Gospel.

PRESBYTERIANS ON A STATE CHURCH. At the last sitting of the Established Church Assembly, at Edinburgh, Dr. McLeod stated that the relations of Church and State had far wider meanings than the mere clasp of religious equality, for every blow struck at the recognition of God's authority in the nation, was a blow struck at the foundation of all authority. Principal Tulloch followed in the same strain, and described as mean and paltry any policy that would alienate the old Church property of Scotland from the higher spiritual education of the people for the relief of ratepayers. Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, urged that the duty of every Churchman was to prefer Church to Party.

The annual Conference of the lay preachers and readers of the diocese of Rochester was held at Selsdon Park, Croydon, on Saturday, when a numerous body of gentlemen working in the diocese assembled at the Bishop's invitation. Seated under the shade of one of the trees in the beautiful park several subjects were discussed, including "The Principles and Methods of Successful Lay Preaching," which was, at the Bishop's desire, introduced by Mr. Chas. Mackeson. After an interval for refreshment and conversation there was a short service, with a brief address by the Bishop in the chapel, and the pleasant and profitable meeting was then brought to a close.

The annual choral festival of the diocese of Ossory took place at St. Camille's, Kilkenny, on the 27th ult. Over 500 voices took part in the choral portion of the service, at which the Bishop, Dean, Precentor, and Chancellor were present, besides a large number of the diocesan clergy. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Maurice DeBurgh, Archdeacon of Kildare. Two days later the diocese of Cashel held its first choral festival in the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Cashel. The sermon was preached by the Ven. John Long, Archdeacon of Cashel.

The Bishop of Lincoln (Dr. Wordsworth) has addressed to the Archdeacons and Rural Deans of his diocese a letter announcing his impending resignation. Being far advanced in his seventy-sixth year, he is conscious of not possessing the physical strength needful for the due performance of the episcopal work of the diocese—the largest in extent among the dioceses in England. He says he would endeavour to continue for a time to perform the episcopal duties of the diocese if it were reduced to the county of Lincoln, in which case he would surrender £500 of annual income towards the endowment of the see of Southwell. But as about £19,000 has now to be raised for the endowment and erection of the see of Southwell, the prospect of the near accomplishment of that design hardly seems to be such as to justify him in the retention of an office the duties of which, as it is now constituted, he is not able adequately to discharge. The Church can ill spare this the ablest Bishop on the Bench.

The Rev. Joseph Baylee, D.D., a well-known clergyman of the older Evangelical school, well known as late Principal of St. Aidan's College, died on the 7th inst. at Sheepscombe Vicarage, Stroud.

Correspondence.

All letters will appear with the names of the writers in full and we do not hold ourselves responsible for their opinions.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Sir,—Will some of your able contributors kindly answer the following questions:—1st, Is it an innovation for the congregation to repeat the "General Thanksgiving" with the priest? 2nd, If so, who is

known to have imported the innovation, and when and from what source was it imported? 3rd, Can it possibly be argued, "it is just as rubrical to join in the "General Thanksgiving" as to join in that prayer in Baptismal Office, "Almighty and Everlasting God, Heavenly Father," &c. I have my own views and ideas about these things, but would like to hear some more able and mature priest's views on the same subject.

Faithfully yours,
R. S. RADCLIFFE.

Penetanguishene, July 28th, 1888.

RUPERTS LAND.

It may be interesting to notice in your valuable paper, that the first meeting in the Rural-deanery of Brandon was held in the vestry at St. Matthew's Church at Brandon, on Wednesday, July 11th. The following was the order of proceeding:—Evensong in St. Matthew's on Tuesday 10th, Psalms, chanted, sermon on Prayer, by the Rev. G. Parker, M.A.; Wednesday, Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m.

Interesting reports read by Rev. G. Parker, M.A., and Rev. T. Sargent on mission work. Reading of Greek Testament; 1 Tim. i. to v. 10. Venerable Archdeacon W. C. Pinkham conducted the discussion on mission work, particularly emphasizing the fact that practical unity in Church work is necessary for its successful progress.

JAMES BOYDELL,
Rector of St. Matthew's and R. D. district of Brandon.
July 25th, 1888.

MISSION BOARD AGENT.

Sir,—The sensible letter of Dr. Carry commends itself to the serious consideration of the clergy of the Diocese. I do not think that any amount of works, such as missionary sermons and speeches will increase the amount of contributions to missions. To increase the amount means doing, not saying. It would be quite useless for a missionary agent to go round preaching and holding missionary meetings to increase the amount of contributions, for this is already being done in every parish. There should be a direct personal application.

The Bishops and others who visit England find that in order to raise money, merely preaching about giving will not do, they have to make a personal application. The Bishop's scheme, as Dr. Carry says, has been a great success, and simply because it has not been merely talking, but doing. I am told the Bishop of Saskatchewan lays all under contribution to his diocese, and is most indefatigable in his personal applications.

A Scotch Presbyterian merchant said to me some time ago, "A great big Scotchman called on me for a contribution for a college in the North West. I, supposing him to be a Presbyterian minister, gave him twenty dollars."

A missionary agent could do nothing in getting money in this diocese without a personal application, and of course must be a man of tact, energy, and indomitable perseverance.

P. TOQUE.

UNFERMENTED WINE.

Sir,—In passing through France, Italy and Rales-tine the Rev. Dr. Duff remarks:—"What is the Providential design in rendering this soil—favoured by a genial atmosphere—so productive of the vine, if its fruit become solely either an article of luxury or an instrument of vice? The answer is that Providence had no such design. Look at the peasant at his meals in vine-bearing districts! Instead of milk he has before him a basin of the pure, unadulterated 'blood of the grape.' In this its native and original state, it is a plain, simple and wholesome liquid, which at every repast becomes to the husbandman what milk is to the shepherd—not a luxury, but a necessity: not an intoxicating but a nutritive beverage. Hence to the wine dressing peasant of Auxerre, for example, an abundant vintage, as connected with his own immediate sustenance, is as important as an overflowing dairy to the pastoral peasant of Ayrshire. And hence, by such a view of the subject, are the language and the sense of Scripture vindicated from the very appearance of favouring what is merely luxurious or positively noxious. Hence we cease to wonder how the Bible so often speaks of wine in conjunction with corn and other such staple supports of animal life."

The value of cheap and abundant wine has been often spoken of as a remedy for drunkenness, but that idea has long since been exploded. Why should a wine-drinking people be industrious and sober, while a beer-drinking people would be intemperate