

too many are making Christmas Day a "holiday" more than a "holy" day. The offertories were good. At Actonville on Christmas Eve the people of that village and vicinity presented the Rev. C. A. French with the sum of \$14.50 as a slight token of esteem. Mr. French was completely taken by surprise and feels very grateful for their kindness. St. James' Church, was prettily decorated for the festive season. Mrs. Robert Elliott presided at the organ. On the evening of the 27th, in the Town Hall, Tweed, a most successful entertainment was given under the auspices of the Sunday School; there were action songs, solos, and dialogues, etc. The proceeds will amount to about \$27. The Sunday School presented Mrs. French with a handsome silver-mounted manicure set.

OTTAWA.

Charles Hamilton, D.D., Bishop, Ottawa

Ottawa.—St. John's.—The church property on Sussex Street and MacKenzie Avenue, including the church, parish hall and rectory, will this week pass into the hands of the Dominion Government, though the congregation will retain possession until their new parish home is ready for them. St. John's Church is one of the landmarks of the Capital, the quaint little grey stone edifice being in the centre of the city a few yards back from the historic Rideau Canal to which the old village of Bytown owed its origin, and at the point where the old Lower Town and newer Upper Town came together. It was first erected as a chapel of ease to Christ Church, now the Cathedral, and has long been the centre of much earnest Church work, and the Church home of many of Ottawa's oldest families. But it occupies a portion of the block which the Government has selected as the site of new departmental buildings, and has therefore to give way to the demands of the rapid development of the service. The sale has been under discussion for some time, there being considerable difference in the price asked and offered, but an agreement was reached last week and the historic property changes hands for a consideration of \$80,000. Already the church authorities are looking for a new site, but particulars would not be of any interest until a decision has been reached.

Crysler.—St. John's.—The church sheds have been reshingled and repaired within the last few months, which have greatly improved the appearance of the property. On December 12th the ladies of this parish held a most successful bazaar, and sale of fancy articles in the Orange Hall, the proceeds amounting to over \$73. On December 16th prizes were awarded by the clergyman in books to the pupils of the Sunday School, who had been most diligent and regular in the discharge of their duties during the last six months. On Xmas Day the church was prettily decorated with holly and evergreens. An appropriate sermon was preached. The weather was cold and blustering outside, but the service was bright and inspiring, and there was a fair attendance of communicants, though a few of the older ones were missing, who had been called to better regions since last Xmas. Some beautiful brass plates presented by the ladies of the congregation were thankfully received and devoted for the first time to the use and beauty of God's worship.

Stafford.—St. Stephen's.—This church was opened and dedicated to the service of God by the Lord Bishop of the diocese on Tuesday morning, December 18th. The rector, the Rev. Robert Orr, read the Prayers and the Lessons, and the Bishop preached from Genesis 28:17, and celebrated. In the evening the rector preached from St. Luke 11:1. There were large congregations at both of the services. The music and singing were furnished by the choir of Holy Trinity Church, Pembroke, under the leadership of Mr. H. Neapole, with Mrs. Arthur Wilesworth as organist, and was greatly appreciated. The congregation is to be heartily congratulated on having one of the most attractive and up-to-date churches in the Ottawa Valley. The foundation is built of well-selected stone, the walls are constructed of cement blocks, being the first church in the Diocese of Ottawa to be built of that material. The inside is finished with plaster, showing the roof timber. The nave is furnished with seats of pine oiled and varnished, while the chancel and sanctuary are furnished with polished oak. The total cost of the building is \$6,000.

Eganville.—St. John's.—A very pleasant evening was spent by a large number of the parishioners recently in witnessing the performance of

the cantata, "Cinderella and Flower Land," which performance took place in St. George's Hall. During the afternoon the children held a sale of fancy articles, the proceeds of which amounted to \$80. On the morning of Christmas Day a deputation of the young ladies of the parish waited upon Mrs. Green, the wife of the rector, at the rectory and presented her with the following address, accompanied by a well-filled purse: "Dear Mrs. Green.—The congregation of St. John's Church desire in this season of gifts to convey to you some tangible expression of their admiration for your zeal in all branches of church work and of their esteem for you personally. The success of all our church work and entertainments has been largely the result of your careful training and of your kindly consideration for the enjoyment of others. The young ladies of the congregation prove their love for the rector's wife, while the congregation as individuals, having received nothing but kindness at your hands, thoroughly appreciate that kindness as evidenced by hearty expressions of good will from one to all. So that the idea of this presentation, beginning with the young ladies, who consider themselves your principal debtor, was not allowed to remain confined to them only, but was seized upon by the whole congregation, who were desirous of adding their commendation. Having thus endeavoured to show you the high esteem in which you are held, we beg you to accept this gift as supplementing our verbal expression of appreciation and know you will accept it in the spirit in which it is tendered. Signed on behalf of the congregation.—Mary A. Childerhose, Lola M. Gilpin."

North Gower.—St. John's.—During Christmas-tide the members of the Ladies' Aid Society of this church presented Miss Mary Robinson with a handsome gold locket and chain in appreciation of the services which she had given as organist of the church throughout the past year.

TORONTO.

Arthur Sweatman, D.D., Bishop, Toronto.

Toronto.—Church of The Messiah.—The rector, the Rev. R. A. Sims, preached in this church on Sunday morning last, and the Rev. Dyson Hague, rector of the Cronyn Memorial Church, London, in the evening.

St. Mary Magdalene.—The preachers in this church last Sunday were the Revs. Professor Jenks, of Trinity College, in the morning, and the Rev. Canon Scott, rector of St. Matthew's, Quebec, in the evening.

St. Luke's.—The Ven. Archdeacon Fortin, D.D., rector of Holy Trinity, Winnipeg, preached in this church last Sunday morning and the Very Rev., the Dean of Nova Scotia, Dr. Crawford, in the evening.

The prospects of the Funds for Missionary purposes in both the Diocese of Toronto and Huron are bright for this year. Each of these dioceses will contribute about \$2,000 more to the General Mission Fund than they did last year.

St. Stephen's.—The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Broughall left Toronto on Thursday last, the 31st inst., for New York, en route for the Mediterranean Sea. They sailed from that port direct from Alexandria on Saturday last on the "Cedric" of the White Star line. They will be away in all for about three months.

Batteau and Duntroon Mission.—The incumbent of this Mission started a branch of the A. Y. P. A. in connection with Christ's Church, Batteau. At the last meeting, which was held at the residence of Captain Wm. Playter, over fifty were present, and thirty-eight subscribed to the rules, and were initiated as members of the Association. The A. Y. P. A. is just what the young people want here. All are so enthusiastic, and take such a keen interest in whatever Church work is assigned to them that it is most gratifying to the pastor to know that he has such a strong army to help him carry on the Church's work. After completing an excellent programme the young ladies served tea, coffee, and cake, and everyone went home delighted. The officers are: The Rev. A. M. I. Durnford, Patron (ex-officio); Captain W. Playter, President; Miss Annie Rentner, Vice-President; J. R. Playter, Secretary; Miss Kate Spearing, Treasurer; Edward Purnell, C. E. Vance, Miss Fannie Moles, Executive Committee; Miss L. Smith, A. Neil, F. Vance, Programme Committee; W. Mitchell, Miss L. Purnell, Wm. Mathers, Visiting Committee. The parishioners throughout this Mission presented the incumbent, the Rev. A. M. I. Durnford, with about one hundred bushels of oats at Christmas, more are to follow shortly to make up

a sufficient quantity to feed his horse for one year.

Port Credit.—Christmas Day was a very happy one in this parish. Over 80 people, at the hearty services in the tastefully decorated churches, received the Holy Communion. Besides numerous gifts in kind to stock the rectory larder the Christmas offering to the Rev. H. V. Thompson was \$60. Since coming here in September last the new rector has seen \$300 raised and paid for necessary improvements to the rectory. A regular Sunday service has been for the first time commenced at Lorne Park. Two regular week-night services are held respectively at St. Peter's, Erindale, and Trinity, Port Credit. During Advent Mr. Thompson conducted a week's Mission at St. John's, Dixie. A splendid interest marked the whole week at Dixie. There are now three flourishing Sunday Schools in the parish and in turn Erindale, Dixie and Port Credit have held very successful Sunday School entertainments.

Whitby.—All Saints'.—On Sunday, December 30th, the Ven. Archdeacon Warren was the preacher at both services. His sermons were most eloquent and instructive, full of Gospel truths and practical lessons, which all present could not help but profit by. The rector, the Rev. A. H. Wright, was also assisted by the Rev. De Foe Wagner, of the Diocese of Ontario, at the morning service.

A Christmas tree was given for the Sunday School scholars on the eve of December 27th, which was a pleasing event.

The Watch Night Service held on the eve of the New Year was very impressive. At this as well as at the other services for this festive season the attendance and number of communicants was larger than for some years past.

Georgina.—St. George's.—As is the custom the Christmas service was held in this church. The rector, the Rev. J. McKee McLennan, was assisted by the Rev. G. J. Everest. The service was bright and beautiful and was heartily entered into by all present. The offertory was the largest the rector has ever received from his parishioners. The furnishings of this church, already costly and beautiful, are greatly enhanced by two gifts—a set of Communion linen by Miss Strathy, of Toronto, and a hand-carved altar of red oak. The latter, the gift of two members of the congregation. It was dedicated on Christmas morning. The following is a description of it: The altar is made of red oak, hand-carved and is 5 feet 8 inches in length, the depth 2 feet 6 inches, and the height 3 feet 3 inches. The front consists of three panels. The central panel 22 inches by 22 inches is a Greek cross with fluted ends, the arms fluted, and with a central raised ornament. On the left hand panel is carved a conventional standard vine in the style of about 15th century. On the right hand panel, a bunch of wheat confined near the bottom by a cord. The two side panels are 22 inches by 12 inches. Along the front and both ends runs a rich moulding 4 inches in width, representing a running vine, in style similar to the vine on the left hand panel. The carving on the panels is grounded to the depth of one inch, the effect of the depth being further enhanced by the application to the front of each panel of a supplementary panel 7/8 of an inch in thickness, cut to the shape of the underlying panel and thus giving a total depth of close upon two inches.

HURON.

David Williams, D.D., Bishop, London.

London.—St. Matthew's.—The Bishop of Huron administered the Rite of Confirmation in this church on Sunday morning, December 30th, when the rector presented a class of eighteen, the majority being married, including four who had been Methodists and one a Presbyterian. This is the second class which the Rev. Mr. Lowe has presented since becoming rector of the parish; nineteen last July, and eighteen on this last occasion, making a total of thirty-seven. The Bishop preached a powerful and practical sermon from Rev. 21:7: "He that overcometh shall inherit all things," the sermon was listened to with rapt attention by all, and no doubt will make a lasting impression upon the candidates. Many Methodists who were present, spoke in the highest terms of the Bishop's sermon, notwithstanding that he made this statement, "The only Scriptural way of admission into the Church is by baptism and Confirmation." The choir, under the leadership of Miss Jessie Bremner, rendered excellent music, the Psalms were chanted, and Miss Sharman sang a solo during the offertory.

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The progress of the Loggers on the Columbia appears to have fallen up. The superintendent afterwards of Hutton, chief of strength to firstfruits of the having to be was a heart-b new engine w the continent by the way. cooling ardou failure and b required a ste up under the clouds have a

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