

[Oct. 25, 1888.]

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DOMINION CHURCHMAN

679

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attended a conference of American Christians at Washington, where I had the advantage of listening to his fervid exposition of Christian unity and his able exposure of the sin and folly of our unhappy divisions. It produced a profound impression among our sectarian brethren, and when he passed the limits of time allotted to speakers and was warned by the bell, the whole house—fifteen hundred persons were present—rang with acclamations desiring him to continue. Frequently I have seen references to this speech in enlightened periodicals sustained by Presbyterians and Independents, commending alike its argument and its spirit of divine love to all Christians. The loss of such a man just at this time to the American Church and to the American people seems indeed deplorable. But the Head of the Church is wise in all His ways and holy in all His works."

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

QUEBEC.

DITCHFIELD.—It is in contemplation to build a small church at this place for members of the Church of England in the neighbourhood. The locality is a poor one and will require help from fellow-churchmen in other districts. Ven. Dr. Roe will be glad to receive subscriptions.

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—There was a good attendance at the monthly meeting of the Diocesan S. S. Association in the Synod Hall on Monday evening, 15th inst. when two papers were read:—The very Rev. the Dean's being,—"The Teacher's Home Study and Preparation" and a paper on "Progressive Teaching" by Mr. H. H. Curtis. Taking for granted the high spiritual aims of the teacher, the Dean began, by urging the need of personal Prayer for a blessing on the individual work of the teacher, and the importance of his realising the promises of the Bible in relation thereto. 1. The Dean advised a teacher to master one book of the Bible, as a whole, when a series of lessons occur therefrom, in the S. S. scheme: as an illustration, I Samuel was named. Let the teacher master it, in its general outlines and object, try to get a general knowledge of the whole: thus, follow the life and ministry of Samuel, and the rise of the kingdom of Israel. Trace out its geography. Know about the "nations round about." Also, learn the characters of the leading men such as David, Saul, &c. If you would do as much for Shakespeare, why do less for the Bible? 2. Study, with the object of teaching the lesson and nothing else; one or two good references recommended rather than many, to elucidate the lesson. 3. Never regard preparation as proper unless you can draw from the passages one or two practical lessons, which will do you good, and if so, others will most likely get good too. The latter portion of the Dean's remarks referred to the Catechism and the Collects. Suitable words of thanks to the Dean were offered by Canon Ellegood and Dr. Davidson. A valuable paper followed by Mr. Curtis, which was much appreciated. In conclusion, the Dean expressed his satisfaction, that a growing interest was being shown in the meeting, by an increasing attendance.

A frequent cause of dislike to the catechism, and of failure in teaching it, observed the Dean, arises from the teacher's failing to grasp the object and scope of the catechism. Get the object of it into your head: viz., to teach the child that he is God's child, that, as a Father, He loves him; as a Saviour, he dies for him; and as a Divine Comforter, the Holy Ghost lives to help him. The catechism contains the very essence of the Gospel! in teaching it, all the round of a Christian's duty is brought before the child, viz., prayer, Bible-reading, the commandments, and the use of the sacraments. Preparation for confirmation—as it was pointed out by one of the speakers—being the final aim of the Church, as the object of teaching the catechism. In connection with teaching the collects, the Dean referred to the blessed influence of the Christian year—filling up for us, as it does, from Christmas to Christmas again the whole life and doctrine of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence the collects are prayers suitable to our wants, setting forth, as they do, the complete and finished work of Christ: their use, consequently, gives a fundamental reason why God should hear them. In summing up the Dean admitted that it was no easy task in one hour to give each subject its due share, the tendency being to allow the Bible lesson to overlap the time of the others. To avoid which, teachers were advised to

prepare thoroughly and to condense the teaching, so that the collects and catechism might not be neglected.

ONTARIO.

OTTAWA.—The Rev. Mr. Pentreath, of Winnipeg, preaching in Christ Church, on Sunday evening, October 7th, referred to the large amounts annually expended in Missionary work of the sectarian denominations, and contrasted them with the paltry sums set aside for the same purpose by the Church of England. He hoped to see next year a change in the proportions.

Another strange contrast sadly reflecting on Ontario.—An Ottawa Methodist preacher just returned from a visit to Winnipeg, assured his hearers that they could always tell in Manitoba by there being coppers in the plates whether there were any Ontario people present! Quite likely Mr. Pentreath could corroborate this testimony.

BEAR BROOK.—Sunday, 2nd September, was truly a red letter day for this parish. At 10.30 a.m. was held in the parish church, beautifully decorated for the occasion, a Harvest Thanksgiving service. The little church was filled to the doors with worshippers, who listened with delight to an able sermon by the Revd. Mr. Greeson, of Metcalf. A large number remained to the Holy Communion, and a goodly offertory collection was taken up, and the hard working pastor's heart was cheered by the evident tokens of encouragement which his eyes beheld. At Canaan, an out station, in the afternoon at 8 o'clock, another Thanksgiving service was held, which in some respects was even more heart-cheering than that in the morning. The little church of St. Paul, but recently completed, presented an appearance that could not but startle any one familiar with Canaan and its residents in old times, and unaware of the changes which in a Church point of view have taken place. A finished and beautiful church prettily painted outside, and nicely stained and varnished within—furnished with almost everything required for the reverent celebration of Divine service,—Organ, Altar, Desk, Lectern,—all as neat and rich looking, even to the chancel carpet, as in most city churches, and the whole paid for, or nearly so. But the best has yet to be told. The edifice was thronged with worshippers, not less, it is thought, than 200 being inside, while half as many more unable to enter stood about the doors and windows and derived thus what benefit they could from the service going on within. The parish Priest, Rev. M. Taylor, was assisted in the service by the Revd. Messrs. Greeson, of Metcalf, Brown, of Navan, and Rural Dean Baker, Rector of Bath, the latter of whom being the preacher on the occasion, took the opportunity to express his amazement at the transformation that that portion of the parish of Bearbrook had undergone since his resignation, and to compliment both Priest and people thereupon. The offertory reached the sum of \$15, which itself speaks volumes for the good work going on.

TORONTO.

St. James'.—The regular weekly meeting of the St. James' Y. M. A. was held last week. A reading was given by S. White and a debate held, entitled, "That retaliation would be beneficial to Canada," the patron, Rev. Canon Dumoulin, in the chair. The debate was decided in favor of the affirmative. A pleasant evening was spent.

St. Anne.—The Army have been holding a ten days mission in the schoolhouse in connection with this church, presided over by Capt. Hoskins, of the Church Army. Valuable assistance has been rendered by the clergy and lay helpers of the church. Mrs. Hoskins conducted the meetings for women and they both have been wonderfully successful.

Grace Church.—The Harvest Home services which were commenced on Sunday morning were brought to a most successful termination Wednesday evening by a grand social and musical festival. The programme consisted of solos and choral selections by the Misses Thring and Tinning, Mrs. Carey and Messrs. Tims and Thring, assisted by the church choir. The singers were accompanied by the church organist and Claxton's Orchestra, which also played selections during the evening. The school-room was crowded to suffocation, and the festival was in every particular a most gratifying success.

St. Matthew's Church has a debt of \$1400. To defray this a bazaar was held in the school room last week. There were five stalls under the care of the ladies who provided the most tempting refreshments. The

building was crowded. At the concert in the evening an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered. Mr. Collins led the choir and Miss E. Russell presided at the piano.

St. Luke's.—A choral festival and dedication was held in this church last Wednesday evening. The music was led by combined choirs and was excellent. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. G. Moore, B.D., of the diocese of Niagara, from the text:—"In this place shall I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." The chancel of the church was nicely decorated with flowers.

Toronto Churches.—Sunday last, the 21st Oct., was devoted, in some of the churches in Toronto, to the Diocesan Sunday School Union. At Holy Trinity a children's harvest festival was held. The decorations of altar and chancel were exceedingly well arranged and appropriate. During morning service, as part of the offertory, a representative of each class in the Sunday School presented flowers, which were placed on the altar, and will be sent to the General Hospital. The services were largely attended, indeed this church is always crowded at the evening service. The Rev. Dr. Carry preaches at Holy Trinity to-morrow night, the 25th.

OSHAWA.—Mr. John Cowan, who has always shown himself a liberal friend of Trinity University, has made a donation of \$50 a year to the funds of St. Hilda's College.

PETERBORO'.—Much sympathy is felt for the rector, Rev. J. W. Beck, on account of his continued illness; his physician has advised him he will not be able to take his duties for six months. The churchwardens have conferred with Mr. Beck in reference to the appointment of a curate.

NIAGARA.

MOUNT FOREST AND NORTH ARTHUR.—The Revd. Reginald Radcliffe, Rector of St. Paul's, has just accepted a unanimous call to the Rectorship of All Saints church, East Saginaw, Michigan. All Saints church and congregation has only been formed for two years—the church holds 600, has a surplice choir of over 40 strong, and 8 Guilds in full working order. Upon Mr. Radcliffe's people at Mount Forest hearing of their Rector's intention to go away, the following resolution was unanimously carried by a standing vote at a recent vestry meeting. Moved by Mr. W. C. Perry, seconded by Mr. Thomas Wood, "That this meeting having received the resignation of our beloved pastor, the Rev. R. S. Radcliffe, desires to express their sorrow and regret that circumstances have arisen that he has deemed it in the interests to transfer his labors to another field, and we also desire to assure him of our entire confidence and deep appreciation of his untiring zeal and interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of this parish and community at large, and we earnestly pray that God will abundantly bless him personally and all his efforts for the welfare of souls committed to his charge in what ever part of the vineyard he may be called to labor.

CHIPPAWA.—The ninety-second meeting of the Ruri-decanal Chapter of Lincoln and Welland, was held in Trinity Parish, October 8th and 9th. At evensong on Monday, the Rev. Robert Cordner, of Port Colborne, was the preacher. On the following morning, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 8 o'clock. The morning session was spent in a very profitable study of St. John's Gospel, 19th chapter to 28th verse. The afternoon session was occupied in an animated discussion of the Lambeth Encyclical. The first resolution on the subject of Intemperance being specially considered and commented upon. There were present, Very Rev. Dean Geddes, Rural Dean Gribble, Canons Bull and Houston, Revs. Fessenden, Cordner, Motherwell, and Macnab, (secretary.)

COLBECK.—Sunday, October 7th, was a red letter day in the history of this backwoods Mission, when the church of St. Clement the martyr, was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of Niagara. At 10 a.m., the hour for the service to begin, the church was crowded to the doors. The incumbent, the Rev. P. T. Mignot and his two churchwardens, met the Bishop at the west door, when Mr. Jas. Tyner read the petition to his Lordship praying that the church be consecrated. After the Bishop had accepted it, the procession moved towards the Altar repeating the xxiv Psalm. After the prayer of dedication had been offered, intercessions for those who shall be baptized, confirmed, and married in the Church, for hearers, communicants, almsgivers, and all who worship, and the pronouncing of the benediction closed the first part of the service.