

Secondly,—It is absolutely destructive of all self respect. Congregations are most anxious to have your services, and their anxiety generally maintains its force until Monday morning, when you are politely bowed out, as another competitor is to give an exhibition on the following Sunday. After which he, too, as a sort of extinct volcano, will go home a sadder, if not a wiser man. Self respect, dear friends, must be thrown to the winds, and my advice to you all is: Never consent to go. If, however, you will go, remember that while congregations are no doubt honest in wishing to hear you, and heartily desirous of showing you every courtesy; yet as you have gone to them for criticism, criticism you will most unsparingly receive. You will be treated like jaded horses in a Spanish arena, goaded and goaded, and then, when dead, thrown out beyond the barriers.

Thirdly,—It is, above all, degrading to the last degree to that Gospel you were sent to preach. Surely it cannot be right to invite people to hear a competition in preaching, as you would in music or athletics. The Gospel is the message delivered by God to us to be proclaimed in the ears of a dying world, and he is the best and truest man who most faithfully, most accurately delivers his message to all. But for the messenger himself to give a public rehearsal of his powers for the sake of obtaining a more influential position in the Church is to dishonor alike the God who sent him, and the message he was commissioned to proclaim. Far better remain a lifetime in the shadow of deep oblivion, than rush into sunlight, unbidden by the voice of God. In the former, you may lack, as some of our noblest missionaries lack, the music and cheer which numbers and sympathetic friends impart; but then, like them, you have the presence and sunlight of your Lord; while in the latter you may tread a palace of marble only to find sorrow, anxiety, and defeat.

Lastly,—It ignores the Headship of Christ. In this age of experience we do well to remember that it is only our Divine Master who can set before us as an open door which no man can shut. If we are His, let us believe that He will place us just where He wishes us to be, and if He wishes any of you to occupy high and commanding positions in the Church, be assured that all the congregations and influences of the world cannot keep you out of them. The door which He opens no man can shut.

In conclusion, let me say, I quite admit the desirability of congregations knowing something about the men who may be coming to them, but certainly, there are other ways beside trial sermons of finding out their merits or defects. A visit to a clergyman's own parish is at once a safer and more dignified course.

MITCHELL.—We clip the following paragraph from the "Mitchell Advertiser":—"At evening services, in Trinity Church, for some months past the Rev. W. J. Taylor, has been delivering a series of very instructive sermons on "The Lord's Prayer." The sermons throughout have been full of deep thought and sound teaching, and have been attentively listened to. After the sermon on Sunday evening last the choir sang "The Lord's Prayer," as an anthem, which was very appropriate and extremely well rendered. The choir, under the direction of Miss Nessie Howard, has, during the past two years, improved wonderfully.

The Rev. W. J. Taylor has received an invitation from St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and it is more than probable that he will accept it, and remove to that town. This one thing we say, Mitchell and Trinity Church will suffer a great loss in the removal of the Rev. Mr. Taylor, but our loss will be St. Mary's gain. It is a long time since Trinity Church has had such a popular, clever, and talented preacher as their present rector.

The Bishop of Huron has appointed the Rev.

Mr. Taylor to be rector of St. James Church, St. Mary's, and he has accepted,

DIOCESE OF ALGOMA.

PORT ARTHUR.—The Bishop of the Diocese held a Confirmation in St. John's Church on the morning of the second Sunday after Trinity, when ten candidates were presented, five of them being married persons. One had been brought up a Presbyterian, two Methodists, another among the Society of Friends. The last mentioned was baptized a year ago by the incumbent, and her three children have since received Holy Baptism. Two of them will be candidates for confirmation at the Bishop's next visit. All the persons confirmed were admitted to the Holy Communion. After visiting other parts of the district adjacent, the Bishop returned, and on Wednesday afternoon conferred with the churchwardens and sidesmen. In the evening, according to notice given on Sunday, he met the male parishioners for consultation respecting parochial affairs, and was gratified by seeing a larger attendance than ever before.

The schoolhouse, not completed, is the result of the faithful and patient labours of the Women's Sewing Society.

DIOCESE OF BRITISH HONDURAS.

BELIZE.—ST. MARY'S.

The Church Debt.—The offerings of the people were gratefully made on the 5th and 6th Sundays after Trinity towards liquidating the balance of \$350 on the building of the Church. More than the amount was offered; nearly every one sending in their mite towards this laudable object, whereby the Rector and Warden were enabled to claim the grant of £350 made by the S.P.C.K. This week the grant has been also received, so that the Parish of St. Mary's has refunded to the Corporate Body the whole of the amount loaned to the parish for the erection of the new Parish Church. *Laus Deo.*

To record their thankfulness, the congregation held Thanksgiving services all day last Sunday, and in the evening there was an immense congregation, when the Rector preached on the words: "In everything give thanks," and traced the history of the parish and congregation from the time when a few church people met in the lower room of a dwelling house in the parish, through the period when with a hearty will the old church of 1852 was erected and consecrated; on to the time of 1888, when steps were inaugurated to commence a larger and more magnificent building, so that when the present Rector came the walls of the nave were going up. Since that time, through the indomitable energy of one and all in the parish, and the kind assistance of friends in England, America, Canada and Jamaica, the building has not only been completed, consecrated and paid for, but has been in use since Easter 1889, and is now too small for the increasing congregation. The debt was paid off on July 4th, so that day became our parochial day of Independence, and on the following Sunday a new bell was rung out for the services, having been dedicated by the Rector at a special service held after Matins on the Saturday. This too has been paid for through the free will offerings of several members of the congregation, having cost \$80; again we can only say our halloo of deliverance and cry "*non nobis Deumine, non nobis, sed Nomini tuo da gloriam.*"

New Bells.—We have the promise of two or three bells by and bye from a well wisher. We hope soon to chronicle the dedication and hanging of these offerings, and the good people of St. Mary's will be called to their devotions and Eucharists by the sweet and melodious strains of a joyous peal.

New Lamps.—The Church has also been supplied with lamps of three hundred candle

power, and the old temporary lamp stands removed, which has greatly tended to the comfort of the worshippers, and made the church look larger, and its proportions are now better seen. All of these too by special offerings have been paid for.

The Rectory Debt.—There only remains this now to be wiped out, and then our whole parochial finances will be cleared from the incubus of debt. This too by God's help will soon be accomplished, for there is nothing that a united parish, a loving people, an earnest congregation cannot accomplish with the outside aid now and then of well wishers and friends. The offerings at our special Mission services on Thursday evenings will be devoted to this praiseworthy object. All offerings for this fund will be gratefully acknowledged in the *Church Guardian* next week.

Diocesan.—The Rev. F. R. Murray, as Bishop's Commissary, made a visitation to Corozal last week, to make final arrangements for the erection of a new Mission church there. He was accompanied by Mr. Arnold, one of our best church carpenters, who under the superintendence of Mr. Fairweather, the Diocesan architect, will carry out immediately the necessary work.

SEAM CTREE.—A piece of land has been secured in this most important district for a Mission church and station, which will be the centre of action for work in the Southern district. For the present Mr. Stephen Valpy will act as Church agent in that district.

MANITU.—Here twelve or thirteen families have been banded together under the superintendence of Mr. John Jenkins.

THE BISHOP'S APPOINTMENT.—The Commissary called together the members of the Synod and of the Standing Committee of the Diocese on Saturday, July 12th, to receive an official announcement from the acting Bishop the Lord Bishop of Jamaica, who, in the endeavor to carry out the wishes of the late Synod to secure a resident Bishop had written to suggest the name of the Ven. Archdeacon Holmes, of St. Kitts, W.I., who might also become Rector of St. John's, Belize, as that parish was still vacant. The following resolutions were carried, viz:—

1. That it is deemed inexpedient that the Bishop of this Diocese should be also Rector of any particular parish. Carried 9 to 2.

2. That the name of the Ven. Archdeacon Holme, of St. Kitts, W.I., be suggested as Bishop of this Diocese.

3 Amendment: That whereas the members of the Standing Committee and other members of the Synod of the Diocese present, have had read to them a letter from the acting Bishop of the Diocese on the appointment of a resident Bishop, together with a suggestion of the name of the Ven. Archdeacon Holme, M.A., of St. Kitts, W.I., as its first Bishop, and

Whereas this Diocese is deeply indebted to the acting Bishop for his care and regard for its wants and advancement yet they would venture to suggest that the appointment of our first resident Bishop ought to be given to one who has had, if possible, local experience, combined with knowledge gained in the administrative conduct of other Colonial Dioceses; and, holding these views, the members of the Standing Committee of the Diocese with the members of the Synod concurring, most respectfully request his Lordship to combine with his recommendation of the Ven. Archdeacon Holme, of St. Kitts, W.I., to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Most Reverend the Metropolitan of the West Indian Province, the name also of the Rev. Frederic B. Murray, Bishop's Commissary, and Rector of Rector of St. Mary's, Belize. Carried 8 to 2.

After the Benediction the meeting closed.