

THE RELATIONS OF ANGELS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

This really belongs to the foundation class of doctrines. In all the twelve years of our conferences here I do not remember that any talks have been given on angels, and an old Church goer told me the other day that he had not heard one in fifty years. The Bible is full of the visits of angels. We are the heirs of salvation, a great reality. Angels are ministers to the heirs of salvation. Angels are introduced in Hebrews, that Christ might be seen superior to angels. The subject is neither speculative nor sentimental. It is generally neglected because the professing Church to-day has not the same reliance on angels' ministry that it once had. Our science and philosophy account for all spiritual phenomena on natural principles, and the subject has lost interest. We are protected by three ministries—the personality of the Holy Spirit, the ministry of his servants in the Church and the ministry of angels. A special providence is simply the interposition of angels. Angels are mentioned in the Old Testament 107 times, and in the New Testament 175. They are a company of spiritual beings; they are not a race like the human race, but are personal, intelligent agents. They have power. Their knowledge is limited. For instance, they do not know when the Lord is coming, but they are superior to men in their nature.

There are many ranks of angels. Some are cherubim, some seraphim, though these two classes are thought by some to be identical. Some have names, like Michael, Gabriel. I have come to this conclusion, that Gabriel had a special mission in connection with Christ's incarnation. He brought a message to Daniel, and came to Zacharias and the Virgin. We read of angels and the archangel, and where Michael is introduced, it is always in connection with the bodies of God's people. Who can count the angels? We read in the Psalms and Daniel of thousands and tens of thousands, and in Hebrews of innumerable angels.

As to their manifold ministry, they are our defenders. I have believed that angels were for Old Testament people, not for us, but I think I am gaining sense and see that a poor, helpless worm of the dust needs now heavenly protection as much as ever. They are for guidance. It was an angel that guided Philip in the desert. They are given to us for deliverance, as they delivered Peter. They are given for comfort, as Paul found on the sea. There were closely connected with Jesus all through, from his birth to his resurrection. The Holy Spirit deals specially with spiritual things, while the angels deal with the material. When Jesus needed to be materially strengthened for the cross, he was helped by an angel, and when he wanted to perform miracles, the Spirit of God descended upon him.

What interest have the angels in human redemption? Since Jesus has gone away, they remain here to serve his Church. Angels are learning from the Church the manifold wisdom of God; they rejoice when sinners are converted, as the Bible shows. We may meet them by-and-by in our glorified bodies. They are always present in the assemblies of God's people, as demons, indeed, are also. The angels know something of our sufferings, and sympathize with us. I believe that they fly around every railway train, and come ahead of every ship where God's people are.

This should affect us with profound gratitude—the thought that God has not only redeemed us by the blood of his Son, but that he has surrounded us by an angelic body guard. It ought also to make life very serious, and certainly it ought to be an incentive to us to give the best of our lives to God.—*From a Lecture by George C. Needham, the Evangelist, delivered at North-field.*

News from the Home-Field.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

NEW LONDON, P.E.I.

This parish was recently visited by the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia for the purpose of administering the Sacred Rite of Confirmation. The Incumbent, the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, presented a class of 68 candidates—from Kensington 18, and Irishtown 50, some of whom had been members of other denominations. Services were held in St. Mark's, Kensington, on Friday evening, and in St. Stephen's, Irishtown, on Saturday morning. Both churches were thronged to witness the Apostolic Rite and to hear the addresses of the chief pastor which were marked by all the eloquence and sincerity which characterise Dr. Courtney's preachings. The churches were fittingly decorated and the singing hearty and inspiring.

The Bishop was the guest of the Incumbent of the parish and Mrs. Lloyd during his visit, which will long be remembered. His Lordship always brings happiness and sunlight to the homes of his clergy and their parishes, nor does he ever leave behind him aught but kindest feelings and a desire to "rise to better things," and future visits are eagerly looked forward to.

GEORGETOWN, P. E. I.

The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia visited the parish of Holy Trinity, Georgetown on the 20th Oct., and held a Confirmation at 7 p.m. The night was dark and the weather disagreeable; but the congregation was very good. The candidates, who were all neatly attired, were presented to the Bishop by the Rector, the Rev. Frederic E. J. Lloyd. His Lordship's address to the candidates was both helpful and eloquent, the subject being the "Blessing and the Gift of Confirmation." Among the candidates was an adult Presbyterian who had been baptised by the Rector in the afternoon previous to the Confirmation. The sanctuary of the pretty Church was beautifully illuminated and the service was most impressive. The singing was good and Miss Easten, daughter of Mr. James Easten, lay reader of the parish, presided at the organ.

Diocese of Fredericton.

The new Law School in connection with King's College, Windsor, was inaugurated by a public meeting held on Saturday evening October the 8th, in the Equity Court room here, presided over by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of N. B., Sir J. C. Allen. The Dean of the new school, Mr. A. O. Earle, was also present and a large attendance of judges, lawyers and citizens. After a short address by the Chief Justice, introducing Mr. Earle, the latter explained the aims and objects of the school, following which addresses expressing satisfaction that the school had been opened, were given by Justices Palmer, Hanington King, Tuck and Skinner and by Messrs. I. Allen Jack, Robertson, Campbell and others. Votes of thanks were given to the Chief Justice and other Judges for their attendance and interest in the school. On Monday morning the 10th of October the lectures were formally commenced by Dr. A. A. Stockton, who lectured upon "Constitutional Law," and in the afternoon a second lecture was delivered by Mr. Earle. The attendance of students was highly satisfactory.

ST. JOHN.

At Trinity Church, on Sunday morning, 19th after Trinity, the Lord Bishop of the diocese ordained to the diaconate. Messrs. Carl S. Smith, and T. Beverley Smith, graduates of Wycliffe College, Toronto. Both these gentlemen are connected with the Rothesay Collegiate school, and the pupils of the institution, about forty in number, were present at the service in a body, with the principal, Rev. G. E. Lloyd, and Rev. Mr. Howard, one of the masters. Rev. Carl S. Smith will assist in Church and parochial work in St. Mark's parish and Rev. T. B. Smith at Rothesay.

The anniversary services of The Church of England Institute, consisting of an administration of the Holy Communion at 9 a.m. and a full evening service at 8 o'clock, were held at Trinity Church on Friday, 28th October, the preacher at the evening service being the Rev. Pelham Williams, D.D. The offertories at both services were on behalf of the Institute.

ST. JOHN'S.—At a special meeting of the Young Men's Association of St. John's Church held lately, the Rector, Rev. J. De Soyres, was elected president for the ensuing year; Dr. Wetmore, vice-president, and Mr. A. E. Raymond, secretary. Messrs. H. C. Tilley, A. O. Skinner, B. Fairweather and F. Beverly were appointed the managing committee. It was decided to discontinue the public debating society and to return to the old system of occasional public debates or a "Mock Parliament." A lecture course was arranged for the ensuing season, the Rector having consented to deliver a lecture upon Tennyson on the 27th of October. It was decided to invite the members of the Y. M. A. of Trinity Church to participate in all debates.

ARMSTRONG'S CORNER.

The Church people of Petersville, Queen's Co., at a picnic held here on September the 14th, cleared \$220.00 which goes towards repairing and painting the rectory and improving the interior of the Church at Coote Hill.

A Harvest Thanksgiving service was held on October the 2nd when the Church was beautifully decorated and the rector, the Rev. W. B. Armstrong, delivered an appropriate sermon.

SUSSEX.

The Harvest Thanksgiving services for this parish were held on Sunday the 9th October in the Churches of Holy Trinity and the Ascension, both of which had been beautifully decorated by the ladies of Sussex and Studholm with choice plants, flowers and fruits. The rector preached at Studholm at 3 p.m. and at Holy Trinity at 7 p.m. The attendance at both services was good and the offerings liberal.

DEANERY OF WOODSTOCK.

A meeting of the Ruri Decanal Chapter, took place at Temperance Vale on Wednesday October 12th. On the preceding evening a very hearty and successful thanksgiving service was held in St. John the Baptist Church, which had been appropriately decorated. The Rev. S. Neales delivered an excellent sermon from the words "The Harvest is the end of the world."

At the meeting of the clergy the parables in St. Luke, 15th Chapter were read in Greek and a discussion thereon followed. Mr. Neales read a very interesting paper on St. Paul's words "We have an Altar," and received the thanks of the meeting therefor. A resolution of sympathy and condolence on the death of the Bishop was