

from the Archdeacon, the offerings of the people were presented, and the ceremony closed with the doxology and the benediction. While this was going on some zealous hands were busily employed in making preparations for a bountiful dinner on a table at the other end of the large shed, and here for a good time a very happy scene presented itself of clergy and people, young and old, enjoying themselves with pleasant intercourse and refreshment. A more genial and happy set of people than Mr. Cooke's parishioners could hardly be seen, and their hospitality will long be remembered by their visitors. At the first table we met a gentleman, who, though not a churchman, ought not to be admitted from our account of the proceedings. Councillor of the Township for seven years and Reeve for the ensuing twenty-one, Mr. Yeung Scott so earned the respect and esteem of all who knew him, that on his retirement from public life last February he was presented with a beautiful ebony cane with massive silver head, the inscription on which he permitted us to read. May he live long to know how the people of the Township look up to him. After dinner a musical treat was in store, Mr. Godden playing several good pieces, and Mr. and Mrs. Bates, and Messrs. Crawford and Beaven singing songs. Having enjoyed themselves for some time in this way, the company took their seats and listened to excellent speeches from Mr. Crawford, and the Rector, followed by "All people that on earth do dwell," and "God Save the Queen." Soon afterwards all dispersed to their homes, while a brilliant moonlight shed its hallowing beams on the close of a very happy day. E. W. B.

#### NIAGARA.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.]

It was the good fortune of your present correspondent to be allowed to participate on Wednesday, the 26th ult., in what was certainly the most interesting and delightful gathering of Sunday scholars and Sunday teachers which has ever taken place in this part of Canada. On the morning of that day the Church Sunday Schools of the various parishes situated on the line of the Welland Railway, proceeded by a special train of fifteen cars, all closely packed, to Port Colborne. On arriving there a procession of the schools, headed by the Port Robinson brass band, was formed in the following order:—Port Colborne, Marshville, Port Robinson, Thorold, Merriton, St. George's Church, St. Catharines, St. Barnabas Chapel, St. Catharines, Christ Church, and Christ Church mission school; St. Catharines, Port Dalhousie. The scholars of each were distinguished by badges of different colors, before agreed upon, and most of the schools carried numerous banners bearing appropriate devices, those of the Port Dalhousie, Thorold, and Port Colborne schools called forth especial admiration. The view of this procession of more than half a mile in length, passing along the road and winding among the trees of the beautiful grove which had been selected for the picnic, and again on the afternoon on its return fringing the edge of the lake was a sight to be remembered as long as one lives. Few of those who enjoyed it have ever before witnessed anything at the same time so beautiful and so impressive in its moral significance. The weather too was perfect, the sky clear and bright, the air fresh, the lake breeze cool and refreshing; and owing to the heavy rain of the day before there was no dust. For the picnic ground there had been selected one of the loveliest spots imaginable. It consists of an undulating tract of land extending back

from the lake bank, carpeted with a fine clean turf, which was shaded by a variety of beautiful forest trees of second growth. A comparatively small portion of this romantic stretch of wooded hill and dale afforded ample space to allow the various schools to occupy each the particular spot assigned to it for dining, and soon the tables which had been provided for the purpose, were groaning under the weight of the contents of the numerous well filled baskets which had been conveyed in waggons from the station. A grace, consisting of appropriate verses from the Psalms, with the Gloria Patri, set to a simple chant, was sung before and after dinner. The repast ended, the various schools were grouped around an eminence, on which a cabinet organ had been placed, and several appropriate hymns which had been selected and printed for the occasion, were sung with animation to well known and favorite tunes, by hundreds of happy voices, young and old; brief but very happy addresses being delivered by the clergy and superintendents present between the various pieces. The rest of the afternoon was occupied in amusements, a programme of games had been prepared, which was carried out under the direction of a committee of which a Reverend Canon of Christ Church Cathedral was a prominent and useful member, prizes being distributed at the close among the successful competitors. Meanwhile others wandered in twos and threes along the lake shore or through the beautiful glade, while the boys bathed and parties of ladies made excursions in tugs. Thus the hours of the afternoon passed only too quickly. At 5 p.m., the procession was reformed, and returned by the lake shore to the station. St. Catharines was safely reached at 8 p.m., and Port Dalhousie half an hour later, and thus without a single accident or mishap, the crowded train deposited its numerous passengers, all charmed with the enjoyment of a most happy day. Apart from the pleasure thus experienced, much benefit surely may be anticipated as the result of so large a gathering of the Sunday scholars and Sunday school teachers of different parishes. It not only enables many engaged in the same holy work, who before were strangers to one another, to become acquainted. It may also tend to promote a wholesome rivalry among the schools, and to incite to greater efforts to increase their numbers, and perfect their organization, and the further benefit may be expected of its leading the scholars to feel that they belong to a larger body than the school with which they are immediately connected, and thus inspiring them with a resolution to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of their profession as members of Christ's mystical body, the Holy Catholic Church. The sentiment, will it is hoped, be impressed on their minds, which was suggested by one of the speakers by the sight of the long procession before described, and which is embodied in the lines of a well known hymn.

Like a mighty army  
Moves the Church of God;  
Brothers we are treading  
Where the saints have trod  
We are not divided,  
All one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine,  
One in charity.

The Lord Bishop of Niagara, according to previous appointment, held Confirmation services on Sunday the 23rd ult., in St. Paul's Church, Caledonia, and St. John's, York. The whole number confirmed being twenty-two, viz: eight males and fourteen females. The address of the Bishop, at each of the three services, was of the

most serious and solemn nature; and in so far as words can be effective, in advising and persuading mankind, would leave nothing more to be desired. He dwelt most especially on the importance of observing the Moral Law, or Ten Commandments; shewing clearly, that in the very nature of things, these holy precepts would ever be a rule to govern and regulate our thoughts, words, and deeds. But that now, in the present lax and immoral state of Society, it was more than ever necessary.

He was very forcible in his illustrations, by calling attention to recent and well-known circumstances; where, by a transgression of one or more of these commandments, the penalty of death had been visited on the criminal.

The Bishop congratulated the members of the Church on the good feeling, and spirit of Unity that was at the present time manifest among them, and hoped they would try and preserve it.

And also of their financial prosperity—no debt—the Clergymen's stipend promptly paid. And further, was glad to hear that the young men were contributing liberally and willingly to the support of the Church.

He exhorted them especially to do work that would promote the cause of Christ's Church—each one of them according to the ability that God gave—by visiting the sick and poor, awakening the careless, teaching in the Sunday School, assisting in the choir, or any good work their hand would find to do.

The attendance at each service was remarkably good, that in the morning being larger than ever known here before; for the Church was not sufficiently large to hold all that came, even after utilizing every available space.

**PRESENTATION.**—On Monday evening, the 31st ult., a very pleasing occurrence took place at the residence of Thos. Watson, Esq., near Drayton, being the presentation of a very handsome and valuable album, accompanied by an address, to Miss Watson on the eve of her marriage and departure to her new home in Bingham, near Salt Lake City. The album was the gift of Christ Church congregation, Drayton, with which Miss Watson has been affiliated since its organization some fifteen months ago. A number of the congregation waited upon the young lady at her father's residence, when the Rev. W. Macaulay Tooke, Incumbent of Maryborough read the address which was as follows:—

**DEAR MISS WATSON,**—We the members of Christ Church, Drayton, desiring to testify to you on this the eve of your departure from amongst us, our sincere regret at your leaving us, beg your acceptance of this album as a small token of the esteem in which you are held by us, and as a mark of our appreciation and gratitude for the valuable services which you have so long and so unremittingly rendered to the church of which you are a member. Although we feel confident that the same amiable disposition, and the same Christian graces which have so endeared you to us all will quickly raise around you new friends in your far away home, yet we assure you that you will nowhere find those who have a warmer love and esteem for you, or a more earnest desire for your continued happiness and welfare, and though you are about to remove far from the friends and associations of your childhood, yet you will not be soon or easily forgotten by those who are grieved at your departure, and we pray God, whose praises you have so often led in his sanctuary, may cast your lines in pleasant places, and bless you with every best blessing, and bring you and all of us in His own good time to that