

## DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

**MONTREAL**—*St. Jude's Church Association*—At the annual meeting of the Association, the Treasurer reported the receipts during the year to have been \$463.86, and expenditure \$429.69. After a musical programme had been rendered, the Chairman, Rev. J. H. Dixon, introduced Mr. J. S. Hall, jr., M. P. P., who, in the course of an interesting address, congratulated the Society on its success.

**APPOINTMENTS** of the Lord Bishop of Montreal for May:

- May 5th: Sunday, St. Johns, Rev. Rural Dean Renaud.  
 " 5th: Sunday, Iberville, Rev. B. P. Lewis.  
 " 6th: Monday, Granby and Milton, Rev. Rural Dean Longhurst.  
 " 7th: Tuesday, Roxton and North Shefford, Rev. W. N. Duthie.  
 " 8th: Wednesday, Waterloo, Ven. Archdeacon Lindsay.  
 " 9th: Thursday, Knowlton, churchwardens.  
 " 10th: Friday, Brome, Rev. R. L. Macfarlane.  
 " 12th: Sunday, Iron Hill and West Brome, Rev. F. Charters.  
 " 15th: Wednesday, North Ely, Rev. C. P. Abbott.  
 " 16th: Thursday, Boscobel and Warden, Rev. C. P. Abbott.  
 " 17th: Friday, West Shefford and Falford, Rev. W. Robinson.  
 " 19th: Sunday, South Stukely, Rev. J. W. Garland.  
 " 20th: Monday, Bolton, churchwardens.  
 " 21st: Tuesday, Mansonville, Rev. W. Ross Brown.  
 " 22nd: Wednesday, Glen Sutton, Rev. H. A. Meek.  
 " 23rd: Thursday, Abercorn and Sutton, Rev. C. Bancroft.  
 " 24th: Friday, Sweetsburg and Cowansville, Rev. G. Forsey.  
 " 26th: Sunday, Farnham, Rev. Canon Musson.  
 " 27th: Monday, Adamsville and East Farnham.  
 " 28th: Tuesday, Dunham, churchwardens.  
 " 29th: Wednesday, Stanbridge, Rev. I. Constantine.  
 " 30th: Thursday, Bedford, Rev. Rural Dean Nye.  
 " 31st: Friday, Frelighsburg, Rev. Canon Davidson.

Letters may be sent to meet the Bishop, to 8th May, Waterloo; 13th Montreal; 17th, to South Stukely; 24th, Sweetsburg; 31st, Frelighsburg; afterwards, Montreal.

## DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

**KINGSTON**.—The Lord Bishop of Niagara has been holding confirmations here in three of our churches. In the newly restored Church of St. James forty four candidates, of whom 15 were men and boys, received the Apostolic rite.

His Lordship gave two excellent addresses; in the first of them he reminded the candidates that confirmation was not the beginning of their religious life, but the strengthening and establishment of that life which was begun in baptism. He also gave a helpful explanation of the relation of a Christian to Christ and His Church, using the Master's own simile of a vine and branches.

A few moments of silent prayer were followed by the hymn, "My God accept my heart this day," and then the candidates were confirmed.

In the second address, which was more of the so called practical kind (though indeed both were highly practical in reality) the Bishop gave the newly confirmed six rules for their guidance. As usual in this Diocese the sacrifice of thanksgiving was offered and partaken of by the candidates.

The services at St. John's, Portsmouth, and St. Paul's, Queen street, were of a similar character, and the buildings were crowded to overflowing. In the former church nine girls and women and one male; and in the latter twenty females and six males were confirmed. The Rev. A. Spencer was Bishop's chaplain throughout the day, (Sunday, April 7th), which did not see the good work ended till 9 p. m.

**OXFORD MILLS**.—It is sometime since our columns contained anything from this parish, but the recent visit of the Bishop of Niagara calls for a note or so. We are glad to know that the parish is in a prosperous condition, the only changes being those social ones which happen from time to time in every community. Two of the Churches have lost their organists, by marriage. In both cases the congregations shewed their appreciation of past services in a tangible manner; St. Anne's presenting Mrs. Garrett with a piece of plate; St. Augustine's giving Mrs. Percival a magnificent Bible. St. Anne's has also been enriched by a beautiful set of altar ornaments, consisting of a brass altar cross, jewelled and enamelled, with candlesticks to match.

Wednesday, April 10th, will long be remembered by the people as a red letter day, when they had the honor as well as pleasure of welcoming His Lordship the Bishop of Niagara, who had been met at the station by the Rev. C. P. Emery, Rector of Kemptville. The morning proved propitious, and in spite of bad roads, St. John's Church was filled to overflowing by a reverent congregation, with the candidates, 16 males and 20 females; the clergy and the Bishop entered, singing "Onward Christian Soldiers." The celebration was chorally rendered, and the Bishop's addresses will be long remembered, being marked, as always, by definite Church teaching, delivered with great earnestness. During the service the Bishop was assisted by the Rev. R. L. M. Houston, of Merrickville, as Epistoler, and the Rev. C. P. Emery, as Gospeller, while the vicar acted as server. The choir, augmented by kind friends, rendered their parts most correctly and sweetly, while the building presented a beautiful appearance, being decorated by Mrs. Gilmour. About 100 received the Blessed Sacrament.

## CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

*The North East*, of Portland, Maine, says:—"Church people sometimes seem to forget that the assertion of distinct Church principles is the surest means of extending the influence and power of the Church. No one should be content till he is doing his utmost to strengthen and assist the spiritual growth of the parish to which he belongs. As his own soul is nourished, so must it be with others; that nourishment is ministered to him sacramentally, and must be given to others in the same manner. For a communicant to slight the Holy Communion, even if otherwise careful of fulfilling religious obligations, injures not only his own spiritual progress, but lowers the Holy Sacrament in the eyes of others. If the Church has any higher place of Christian duty than others, it is because she calls men to receive from her Lord through her the means by which they can surely attain to a higher spiritual life. Churchmen should constantly and loyally show their colors, and not haul them down so frequently as they do out of a false sense of compliment to other Christians who may approach them. The Church would have her children gentle and courteous, but she expects them always to be true and loyal and brave and firm in the maintenance of her principles.

*The American Church Sunday-School Magazine* says:—

A NEW SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION has been formed in the Diocese of Minnesota. As

a very large proportion of the Dioceses in our country have not yet taken action in this matter, it is an interesting and useful topic for consideration. The Diocese in which Sunday-school Associations exist have found them so useful that they are asking, with some earnestness, why is there not a Sunday-school Association in every Diocese where there are Sunday-schools? It seems to us that, as the rector of a parish is responsible for the instruction of the young in his cure, so the Bishop of every Diocese is responsible for the organization and regulation of associated efforts among the schools. All local parochial work is lifted to a higher plane of intelligence by conferences between the clergy and teachers. How is a Bishop to know the wants of his Diocese in matters of education unless he gets his workers together and listens to them?

*The North East* says of Friday as a day of Religious Obligation:

Eighteen hundred years ago Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died upon the cross for the redemption of mankind. The world's history knows no event so stupendous as this; and from that time to the present, the Church has persistently called upon her children to observe the day of Christ's crucifixion, Friday, as one of sacred obligation by fasting and prayer. Public services, in grateful acknowledgment of the mercy bestowed on that day, are duly appointed by the faithful priests of the Church, but alas! how few they are who answer the call.

Friday is not, in this age, a legal holiday. Business men and business women must go to their daily toil, children must go to school, and housekeepers plead household duties. If it were any other day than Friday it might be possible for the latter to attend the morning service in commemoration of an event of so vital interest to themselves, but as it is, how can they accomplish it? It has been suggested that they should petition the legislature to change "sweeping-day" to Thursday, but this meets with no favor, for deep in the woman's breast apparently lies a moral obligation to do her sweeping on Friday, and no consideration is of sufficient weight to overcome this responsibility. To meet this difficulty services are sometimes appointed for Friday evening; still few attend them. This is not because almost the entire congregation cannot go out in the evening; their presence at places of amusement proves this conclusively. Why is it then? Is it not because the majority of Church people do not care? They care neither for the Lord who suffered for them, nor for the Church which calls them to "come and worship." They think it is enough to go to church on Sunday, in the morning; enough to give two hours in the week to the public acknowledgment of their God, and devote the rest to the acquirement of temporal gain, or in ease and pleasure! No wonder that the time is long for the fulfilment of the Christian's prayer, "Thy kingdom come."

## TO THE CLERGY.

We would be pleased to have short notices of the Easter services from as many parishes as possible, and would be much obliged if the Clergy would send same in to us as early as practicable.

**NOTE THIS**.—We will send the CHURCH GUARDIAN free for one year to any Clergyman who sends us Three Dollars with the names of three parishioners as new subscribers.

A correspondent writes, remitting subscriptions, and the names of two new subscribers: "It is my intention to advise all my friends to become subscribers, for their own benefit, to a publication which will be an advantage to them."