

tears gathering in his eyes, as he said "*I believe.*" Oh, the joy of that moment! You can imagine how hearty was my prayer of thanks. I pray that God may soon lead him also to ask for baptism. This young man is my best Japanese friend and I believe he is thoroughly in earnest.

As I am anxious to post this by the mail that goes out to-night, I must close. Will you kindly convey our heartfelt thanks to our good friends who are bestowing such a boon upon us and the native Christians here.

I am ready to build just as soon as our co-workers give the word. With kindest regards, believe me,

Yours most faithfully,  
FRANK KENNEDY.

## Book Reviews.

THE BATTLE OF THE STRONG; by Gilbert Parker, Toronto: Copp Clark Co.

Gilbert Parker is peculiarly happy in the choice of his titles. Several occur to the mind. The Trail of the Sword, The Seats of the Mighty, the Translation of a Savage, Pierre and his People. How attractive and how suggestive they are; and how indicative of the leading idea in each case! We do not need to be told they are chosen with care.

In some ways his last story wins the hearts of his readers more than anything he has yet written. It gets nearer to the hearts of his characters. Guida Landresse de Laundresse is irresistible, and Philip—poor Philip!—we pity, almost more than we despise. Truly it is a battling of strong spirits that is here described. The long patient hoping against hope of Ranulph, the pluck of Carterette, the splendid recovery of Detricand, the duel and death of Philip, the hour of trial for Guida—in every case the leading characters battle with themselves and with fate and only one succumbs, and he not altogether. There is the same keen moral insight into the workings of the human heart here as was shown by Mr. Parker in his study of "Mrs. Falchion." The story is terribly sad, except at the close. If pity and terror have power to withhold men from that, which when seen in another inspires these feelings, then this is one of those tragic histories which works for good.

The scene of the story is laid in Jersey, during the days of the French Revolution. Mr. Parker is careful to relate that it is not a historical novel, though he draws upon the history of the Admiral Prince Philip d'Auvergne. In construction this story surpasses anything that Mr. Parker has yet done, with the possible exception of Valmond. In this respect there is a great advance upon the "Seats of the Mighty." At first the story moves slowly. Interest centres in the character studies. But towards the close the action quickens and the book ends successfully from every point of view. We cannot refrain from admiration at the skill with which Mr. Parker uses his 'fool,' the half crazed but shrewd Dormy Jamais. This skill is rare. But here, as in Valmond, it is used with fine effect. The tremendous success of this book is well deserved. Our congratulations to the Author, if somewhat tardy, are as hearty as any.

## Theological and Missionary.

Now that the Divinity year is over, the most of our men are taking duty in different parts of the province—Mr. McCausland is at the Humber; Mr. Walker at Millbrook, assisting Rev. Rural Dean Allan; Mr. Richards at Killaloe, Diocese of Ottawa; Mr. McDonald at Clairville; Mr. Musson at Swansea, and Mr. Spencer is at work

in the Diocese of Algoma under the direction of the Ven. Archdeacon Lewyd. Messrs. Madill, Steacy, McCausland, Johnston, Ryerson and Broughall are preparing for the Trinity ordination.

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The college was visited a short time ago by one of the members of our Society, Mr. H. J. Johnson, B.A., who has had charge of the mission of Killaloe, Diocese of Ottawa, since last September. This mission was opened up by the Rev. G. A. Field, '97, some three summers ago. Its area is fourteen hundred square miles. In it there are no churches, but services must be held in schools and private houses.

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The Rev. J. E. Fenning is about to take charge of the mission of Minden. After the June ordination he is to be assisted by Messrs. Broughall and Ryerson. The Humber mission, which has been built up through Mr. Fenning's faithful and persevering work, will now be under Mr. McCausland's charge.

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The Diocese of Algoma has suffered a severe loss in the death of the Rev. Rural Dean Chowne, of Elmsdale. Mr. Chowne has been a long and faithful worker in this missionary diocese.

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The Bishop of Algoma is endeavouring to raise a sustentation fund as a memorial to the late Bishop Sullivan. The amount he asks for is fifty thousand dollars, the interest of which is to supply the want soon to be caused by the withdrawal of the S. P. G. grants. Unless this sum is raised, several missions will have to be closed so soon as the S. P. G. authorities carry out their purpose. May the day be far distant when it will be found necessary to close any of the Algoma missions for lack of means. The Bishop, while in Toronto attending the W. A. meetings, spoke in St. Mark's church, Parkdale, on April 25th, very forcibly of the needs of his diocese.

## Athletics.

So far 7 matches have been arranged for the present cricket season, viz, as follows:—

April 29th, vs. U. C. C. ....	Played at Trinity.
May 6th, vs. St. Albans C. C. ....	" "
May 13th, vs. Parkdale C. C. ....	" "
May 17th, vs. U. C. C. ....	" U. C. C.
May 20th, vs. R. M. C. ....	" Kingston.
May 24th, vs. Toronto-Rosedale C. C. ....	" Trinity.
May 29th, vs. Hamilton C. C. ....	" Hamilton.
June 3rd, vs. University of Toronto. ....	" Trinity.

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Baseball was largely patronized every afternoon at the beginning of term till cricket practice commenced at the nets.

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Thorne, of the St. Albans C. C., has been hired as ground-man till Leigh comes at the beginning of May. He is doing some levelling and sodding on the crease and the tennis courts.

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A new water-roller has been ordered in place of the much delapidated old one we now have; it is expected to be here in about a fortnight or three weeks, and will be of great assistance in keeping the crease in good order. As it is a little rain seems to be all that is needed for us to have some splendid wickets this year.

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A. L. B. Lucas '00 has been appointed captain of the second crease and is busy arranging matches.