

and labors of these two saintly men, to see the appropriateness and importance of these two commemorations. Previous to the arrival of Columba at Iona, a lonely rock-bound island in the Scottish Hebrides, the greater part of both Scotland and England was sunk in the darkness of heathendom. True it is that the Gospel of Jesus Christ had been brought to Britain long before that time. British bishops took part in councils nearly three hundred years before, but when our Teutonic forefathers drove out the old inhabitants of the land, the Christian faith almost entirely disappeared, and the work had to be done over again. It was only after the Irish missionaries had established themselves at Iona that Christianity made any real progress. So assiduous was Columba in his labors, that during his own lifetime, Christian churches were planted all over Scotland, tended in the first instance by the men whom he had brought with him from his home in Ulster. The Celtic Saints, to whom many Scottish parishes are dedicated, were men from the little primitive Missionary College at Iona. Congan's name still lingers at Terriff, Drostan's at Deer, and others in many parts of the country. Aidan who crossed the Border and evangelized Northumbria, was a student of Iona, and there can be no doubt but that his settlement in the north of England was the first step in the national acceptance of the faith by Northumbria, and that Lindisfarne, and not Canterbury, is the chief cradle of northern English Christianity. It was the sense of the debt which Northumbria owed to Iona that led the late Bishop Lightfoot of Durham, the 84th prelate ruling in St. Aidan's chair, to make a point of joining when able in the consecration of a Scottish Bishop. Columba had all but ended a long life of self-denying and successful missionary labors, and his followers were scattered all over the country, before Augustine set foot in England. To commemorate St. Columba's work, the present Bishop of Argyll and the Isles has erected a house on the Island of Iona, and has handed it over, and the chapel attached to it, to the Missionary Society of St. John the Evangelist, for the purposes of religion. On June 9th, this house was solemnly dedicated to God in the presence of a large gathering of representative Churchmen, and of many others outside of the Episcopal Church of Scotland. The services were dignified and impressive, and we cannot doubt but that the doings of that week will result in much good to the Church at large.

At Canterbury a greater gathering took place a few days previously, when the Bishops of the Anglican Communion kept in memory the landing of St. Augustine and his 40 followers, which took place in A.D. 597. The story of their mission is too well known to need repetition here. It is sufficient to say that the Roman missionaries got a cordial welcome from King Ethelbert of Kent, whose Queen, Bertha, was already a Christian. They established themselves at Canterbury, and from it as a centre, made journeys into

various parts of England, preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ wherever they went. By their influence a great change came over the people of the country; heathenism was driven out, civilization made rapid strides, and England was gradually conquered for God. The little church dedicated to St. Martin at Canterbury, which was originally Queen Bertha's oratory, is still in existence, standing on its foundation of long, narrow Roman bricks.

To the pioneer work of St. Columba and his followers, working from Iona as their centre, and to that of St. Augustine and his followers, whose centre was Canterbury, the Anglo-Saxon race owes its thirteen centuries of Christianity. We cannot name these two saintly men without thanking God for them. May he help us to imitate them, in simplicity of life, in earnestness for Christ and in devotion to His Church.

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The Western Churchman is published on the first of every month. Communications for insertion and copy for advertisements should be in the office not later than the 24th of the month.

Correspondence is invited on subjects bearing on the interests of the Church of England in Manitoba and the West. Annual subscription \$1.50 (if paid in advance, \$1). Single copies 10c. each.

Matter for the Editorial Department should be addressed to Rev. R. C. Johnstone, Box 310, Winnipeg, Man.

All business communications should be sent, and money orders, cheques, etc., made payable to Wm. Kirkland, Business Manager, Box 310, Winnipeg.



### Diocese of Rupert's Land.

Bishop—Most Rev. R. Machray, D. D., D. C. L.  
Residence—Bishop's Court, Winnipeg.

### Annual Meeting of the W. A.

(Continued from last month.)

### THE REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY (MISS MILLEDGE.)

The correspondence of the Society is steadily increasing, notwithstanding the fact that representatives have been appointed who write to their own branches.