

candidates were confirmed by request in other churches, making in all 88 candidates confirmed by the Bishop for this parish. All these candidates declared that, like the Macedonian spoken of by St. Paul in the 8th of 2nd Corinthians, "they first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Immense assemblies gathered to hear the earnest instruction by our beloved Bishop.

WINDSOR.—All Saint's Church Sunday School building was opened on the evening of February 18th, with an entertainment for the 200 children belonging to the school. The building, designed by the Rector, will seat 300 persons. The material is brick, with stone facings, and the structure in every way accords with the church, with which it is connected by double doors in the south transept. The work was carried out by Messrs. Wright & Ledgwick, builders, to the complete satisfaction of the Building Committee. The heating by hot air from one of Gurney's patent furnaces, is most effective. On the north wall, at the back of the platform, hangs a handsome clock, presented by Messrs. Lorne & Co., of Windsor. After regaling themselves with cake and coffee, oranges and candies, the attention of the little ones was held for an hour with music, singing and recitations. The whole undertaking has proved a decided success.

ADELAIDE.—Bishop Baldwin visited this parish and the neighbouring Church of Wisbeach on the 22nd of February, (1st Sunday in Lent), and confirmed forty-eight candidates, 26 in Adelaide and 22 in Wisbeach. There were, of course, large congregations in both places. The people were anxious to see a Bishop and also a confirmation, as neither have been seen here for eight years. The Bishop's discourses were deservedly admired by all who heard them.

SARNIA RESERVE.—The right Rev. Maurice S. Baldwin, D. D., made his first episcopal visitation to that mission on Monday, March 2nd. Service began at 11 a.m. St. Peter's church was well filled by a purely native congregation, about one hundred and twenty-five people being present. Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of Moore, and the Rev. T. R. Davis, M. A., conducted the morning service. The choir of St. Peter's, composed of native singers, and a native lady organist rendered the musical portion of the service in a very hearty and praiseworthy manner. Bishop Baldwin then ascended the pulpit and delivered a most appropriate, forcible and affectionate address, full of gospel truth and vivid illustrations, which, we trust, sank deeply into every heart. There was a visible manifestation throughout the large congregation present that the good bishop's words were attended with the Spirit and with power; the native pastor in charge, Rev. J. Jacobs, interpreted the address. The confirmation hymn, "Witness ye men and angels now" was then heartily sung.

The candidates for confirmation then presented themselves before the bishop solemnly and devoutly kneeling; and were confirmed by His Lordship, who laid his hands upon each one, and offered a beautiful and earnest prayer in behalf of each candidate.

Certificates of confirmation were presented to each candidate by the Bishop, with an appropriate passage of scripture. The service throughout was beautiful, hearty and deeply impressive. Souls were cheered and refreshed, and all could well exclaim, "It was good for us to be there." The service concluded by singing that grand old hymn, "Soldiers of Christ arise and put your armour on."

At 4 p.m. luncheon and reception took place in the school house. An address of welcome was then presented to the Bishop by the leading members of the congregation.

A suitable and affectionate reply was tendered by His Lordship to his Indian flock, in which he expressed his intense pleasure at meeting with them all for the first time; and as God blessed the Israelites of old with many temporal and spiritual mercies, he prayed that God would bless them likewise. He was pleased to see such a nice church in their midst, where they could worship God at all times. He congratulated them upon having a good, faithful and devoted pastor, in the person of the Rev. J. Jacobs, whom he greatly esteemed. The Bishop assured his Indian people that he would always see that they were well supplied with the ministrations of the church, and after thanking them for their kind address of welcome, and commending them all to the care and blessing of God, he shook hands most affectionately with the representatives and with the whole assemblage. The Bishop, clergy and people sat down to a sumptuous luncheon prepared by the kind friends of St. Peter's church. The Bishop's visit has done a great deal of good, and all were much pleased with his affectionate and friendly bearing. He had a kind word for every one. The only regret was that his visit was so short, but he promised to come again and make his visit longer.

PARKHILL.—The indefatigable and heavenly minded Bishop preached here on Wednesday evening, the 25th. The large congregation was partly composed of Presbyterians, whose liberal and highly respected minister, Rev. J. S. Lochead, M.A., changed the time appointed in order that he and his pupils might hear the Bishop. The subject of his sermon was the silence of God in the time of Noah and on other occasions, and the second coming of Christ. It was a forcible, earnest, and impressive discourse, showing that the preacher was determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. The Rev. J. H. Fairlie, Incumbent, who entertained his Lordship, drove him next day to Thedford, eleven miles, where he confirmed a number of adults, and thence continued his visitation tour. This parish, under the ministration of Rev. J. H. Fairlie, is steadily improving. It comprises three congregations, one of which, Grace Church, McGillivray, recently presented their beloved pastor with several joints of meat, a quantity of potatoes, and eighty bushels of oats, which shows that the donors duly appreciate his services.

ALGOMA.

ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND.—The Rev. H. Beer desires gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of a cheque for ten dollars, from St. George's Parochial Missionary Society, Toronto.

BURK'S FALLS.—On the afternoon of the 24th, the vestry clerk of All Saints' Church, on behalf of the congregation, presented the incumbent, the Rev. W. B. Magnan, with a handsome eight day clock, as a "slight token of their appreciation of his services amongst them."

UFFINGTON.—The Lord Bishop completed his visit through this mission on the 26th ult. On the 25th he arrived at Barkway from Bracebridge, where service was held in the evening. The Rev. John Greeson took the service while the Bishop read the lesson and preached. The people here as in other parts of Muskoka, are poor, but mainly through the exertions of Mr. Irving and Mr. Rackstraw, the church here has been finished and made fit for service. The Bishop remained over-night at the house of Mr. John Irving, and on the morning having to travel through a rough country, we had to obtain the loan of Mr. Irving's bob-sleigh, and team of horses. The road to travel was through the thick bush, only a track being made for the ingress and egress of the minister. The road was no ordinary one, the indulgences of the track adding greatly to its difficulty, whilst the proximity of trees and stumps of trees, and not a very wide track, gave the whole journey an air of romance. We arrived at the house of Mr. A. Annis, where the service was to be held. The settlers turned out in fairly good numbers and, the words of the Bishop on the subject of the Church of England were listened to with eagerness. But these living souls in the forest had no church, and how could they get one? They were willing to do all in their power, but money is almost unknown to them, they trade and barter among themselves, they can draw logs and lumber and assist in the erection of the building, but money for such a purpose was scarce. However, on the Bishop promising a little assistance, they decided to commence the building, trusting to God's guidance for the rest. The Bishop was pleased with his visit and returned the same day to the house of Mr. Irving. He saw at once this was in reality a poor mission and one worthy of assistance. On the following day, the Bishop continued his journey northward through Bracebridge.

Notes on the Bible Lessons

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4th Sunday in Lent. No. 16

BIBLE LESSON.

"The Bow of Promise,"—Genesis viii. 13, 22.

Having seen in the previous chapter how by means of water "God of His great mercy saved Noah and his family in the Ark from perishing;" that this water is a "figure" of Baptism and the ark a type (a) of

Christ, (b) of His Church, and that in Christ alone and His Church there is safety; we pass on to-day to study Noah's actions after leaving the ark, and God's faithfulness and compassion.

As Noah entered the ark by God's command (ch. vii. 1.) So he must wait his time ere he attempts to leave it (ch. viii. 15, 16). He had been just one year and ten days shut up in the ark, and we can easily imagine with what glad and grateful steps Noah went forth. To God alone, to His revelations, His mercy, His providence was seen the safety of himself, his family, and all the living things which went forth from the ark.

(1) *The Sacrifice.* We find that Noah immediately builds an altar, (verse 20), and "offered burnt offerings on the altar." We have seen in lesson number Ten how widespread the idea of sacrifice has been among mankind. Noah, therefore, his heart filled with love and gratitude and holy fear, in lowly faith brings of his best, feeling that he owes an acknowledgment of God's mercies, and worshipped the Lord. Did God accept the sacrifice? (see verses 21, 22.)

"The Lord smelled a sweet savour," that is He favourably accepted his offering; He was pleased with Noah's faith. His pity and compassion failed not. He promises that, even though man should continue to sin, He will not again send a deluge to destroy man; for sin is both *guilt* and *disease*. It merits wrath, and yet claims compassion. Here God's aspect of long-suffering mercy is seen. Compare Exodus xxxiv. 6; Num. xiv. 18; Psalms lxxvi. 15. And so it is with us now, though we are so sinful and weak, and go astray from God. Yet He has pity on us, and is always doing us good, (Pa. ciii. 13, 14). Do we ever remember to thank Him? How can we show our gratitude? (Rom. xii. 1.) An offering of a sweet savour, as a testimony of our love and gratitude, always remembering that apart from Christ and His finished sacrifice, we cannot acceptably approach God. St. Paul tells us in Ephes. v. 2, that Christ "has given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."

(2) *The Covenant.* We have seen in a former lesson what a *covenant* means—an agreement between two or more people when each side promises something. Here, God having blessed Noah and his family *establishes a covenant* with them, (ch. 9.) This He had promised to do (ch. vi. 18.) What were Noah and his sons to do? Obey certain commands, (ch. ix. 4, 5, 6.) Animal food is now permitted to be used, with a certain restriction. A strict law is given against murder. Man being created in the "image of God," it is the greatest crime to take his life by violence; but man himself is authorized to punish the murderer. Here we have the first institution of magistracy. What was God's part of the covenant? (verses 11, 15), thus Noah was assured of safety from temporal ruin. Noah's covenant is a type of the baptismal covenant. Compare 1 Peter iii. 20, 21.

(3) *The Token of the Covenant.* (Ch. ix. 12, 17.) God wishes to assure men of His pity and love, and to remind them of His promise, so He appoints the rainbow to be a "sign." The words "set my bow" do not mean that the rainbow was only then for the first time seen, but that it was at that time appointed by God to be a "seal," so to speak, of the covenant made. He promises to look upon it, and to remember His covenant. He tells us when we look at it, to remember His love. When do we see the rainbow? Is it not immediately after a storm? So is it in times of sorrow and trouble. God gives us comfort in the light of His promises. "I," says God, "will remember," (2 Cor. i. 20; 1 Thes. v. 24; Isaiah liv. 9, 10; Mal. iii. 6; 1 John 1, 9.) It is the belief of this which gives peace to the troubled heart:

Changeless, the way of peace.
Changeless, Emmanuel's name;
Changeless, the covenant of grace;
Eternally the same.

We see then how faithful God is. He does not forsake any who trust in Him. Let us learn from the sacrifice, self consecration to God our Saviour; from the Covenant, obedience to God and love to our fellowmen; from the "Bow of promise" with its many colored radiant light, the beautiful token of God's faithfulness, an undying hope in His mercy which endureth for ever.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

GIVE US HELP.

SIR.—I hope you will not refuse to publish this letter in your valuable paper. I am so anxious about the future of the Church in this place, that I have decided to appeal to outsiders to help us, the hall in