

presented at the service. Thirty-two of the thirty-three confirmed came forward, and with them fifty other persons, making in all eighty-two communicants, and that in a church with seating capacity for not more, properly speaking, than ninety people. The Rector, writing to a friend about the occasion, says, "The sight of so many young Christian recruits deeply moved me, particularly when I remembered I was so soon about to leave them. I do not know where, in the diocese in a country part, there is another congregation like this. I can depend upon an attendance of 80 at evening prayer, every Wednesday, and last night had 90. I intended this summer, had I remained, to enlarge the church, add a chancel, and effect sundry other improvements, but all work has now to wait until the appointment of my successor, or as the parish is to be divided, of my successors."

BARRIFIELD.—The Anglican Choral Union gave a successful entertainment at Barrifield. Mr. Norman Moor acted as conductor of the concert, and admirably filled his position. At the conclusion of the programme he gave a patriotic speech, in which he alluded to the Queen's jubilee year, and then called on all present to join him in singing "God save the Queen." After the concert Mr. Medley regaled the members of the union at his residence with an excellent repast.

GANANOQUE.—Many will regret to hear of the sudden death of Mr. D. Ford Jones, who had not been well for years past. Deceased, who was well-known in this vicinity, was warden of Leeds and Grenville, served during the rebellion of 1837 as ensign in the Queen's rangers, and in 1862, during the Trent difficulty. He organized the Gananoque field battery, which he commanded for several years, serving during the fenian raid and retiring in 1869 a major. He set for south Leeds in the Canadian assembly from 1864 till the union, and was returned to the commons in 1874 and 1878, but owing to ill health he did not offer himself as a candidate again. He was a staunch conservative, an active member of the church, and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him.

WOLF ISLAND.—A number of the members of Trinity church, Wolf Island, met in the rectory on Wednesday evening, the 16th ult., to read an address and present a purse to Mrs. Christie, for the purchase of a gold watch and chain as a mark of their appreciation of her kindness in acting as organist. The address was read by Mr. G. Wills. Mrs. Christie replied, thanking Mr. Kitts and Mr. Friend and all the subscribers for their kind present, not only on account of its value but also for such an expression of their good will. The company separated after spending an hour or two in social intercourse and enjoyment, and singing the national anthem.

KEMPTVILLE.—The St. James, Sunday School has made considerable improvement of late as the report of the superintendent will show. Two chief causes for the improvement may be inferred from the report, Mr. Emery, having about twelve months ago introduced the Bishop Doane's admirable "Manuals of Christian Doctrine," and also formulated a code of rules to direct the officers and children in their Sunday School duties. Among other rules, the teachers are required to give a half yearly report of their several classes to the superintendent, who, in turn, forms his report from them for the rector. The following is the first report of the superintendent, Mr. Leslie:

To the Rector, the Rev. O. P. Emery:

"In presenting a brief report of St. James' Church Sunday School for the past half year, permit me to say that during that period I visited and examined the teaching and government of the several classes, and feel pleased that, in the main, the teachers' reports correspond with the estimate which I had formed of the present position of the school. The names of some 140 scholars are at present recorded on the school register. These scholars are formed into 18 classes, each presided over by a competent teacher. From the reports presented by the several teachers, the school is in a prosperous condition. A fair average attendance, an increased interest in the duties of the school as evinced in the better preparation of their lessons, in their greater diligence, in their more orderly and respectful manner, in their manifest zeal for the reputation of their school, as well as in their marked improvement in obedience, order and general good conduct presenting altogether and showing a most gratifying view of our school.

The senior classes seem to have made the most evident improvement, though the junior classes, under the circumstances, have done well. It is pleasing to read of the attachment and love expressed by the teachers in their reports, for the members of their several classes, and speaks well for the good which they will eventually effect in the minds of the children. Such is the kindly feeling and lively attachment to the school that two young ladies, severally in their reports, express in glowing terms that they

have the *best class* in the school, and from my knowledge of the classes I must say that they are *both* good, and may, for aught we know, have among their number a future Wellington, or a Nelson; a Miss Nightingale or a Victoria.

Whilst rejoicing, in common with every lover of our church and school, at the gratifying position occupied by our school, I would earnestly urge upon every one the necessity of taking a firm stand, to encourage and increase our school, and thereby to some extent strengthen and extend the work of our beloved Zion, the church.

Whilst gratefully acknowledging the kind assistance of the officers and teachers, as superintendent of the school, I have, in a more feeling manner, to state that to the ceaseless care, energy, zeal and well directed efforts of our esteemed Rector, the present prosperity of our school is due. And if we, as loyal Christians, will only second his efforts for the benefit of our children, our school will not only occupy its present proud position, but will, as I stated last Sunday, become the banner school of the diocese of Ontario.

The missionary meeting held in St. James' this year was most successful, in point of numbers and financial returns. The beautiful memorial church was crowded. The deputations, consisting of the Rev. E. H. M. Baker and R. N. Jones, were highly delighted and spoke in most eulogistic terms concerning the work in the parish. The addresses were highly appreciated, especially that of Mr. Baker, which was full of fervent zeal for the cause; and were it the custom to encore addresses, he would no doubt have had to appear again and give another speech.

OTTAWA.—In Christ Church last week Bishop Hamilton, of Niagara, acting for the Bishop of Ontario, administered the rite of confirmation to 21 candidates, principally young people. He was assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Lauder and Rev. Mr. Muckleston, curate. After the ceremony was over, the bishop then addressed those who had just renewed their baptismal vows.

ST. GEORGES.—The confirmation service was held at three o'clock in the afternoon. Shortly before that hour the 31 candidates, 19 ladies, and 12 gentlemen, proceeded from the basement, and passing through the church occupied the first three seats in the centre of the nave. Shortly afterwards his Lordship, the Bishop of Niagara, bearing his episcopal staff, and preceded by the rector, the Rev. P. Owen Jones, M. D., entered the church. The service opened with the hymn "The Church is one foundation," after which Dr. Jones read the order for "evening prayer." The rector presented the candidates to the bishop, and at the latter's request read the preface to the confirmation. His Lordship then gave an earnest and instructive address to the candidates, who came forward one by one and received the imposition of hands.

This pretty church of St. Alban's was densely crowded long before the hour of evening service. The altar was prettily decorated with flowers. The choristers' procession was followed by that of the clergy, consisting of the Rev. J. J. Bogert, the Ven. Archdeacon Lauder, the Rev. E. W. Hannington, as bishop's chaplain carrying the crozier, and the Bishop. Evening service was then intoned, the canticles taken from Garret in F, the Archdeacon read the first lesson, the second being taken by the Rev. A. E. W. Hannington. The evening prayer being over, the Vicar presented the candidates, Archdeacon Lauder reading the preface. His Lordship then gave an address full of instruction to the candidates. The hymn "Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire," having been sung kneeling, the imposition of hands was laid on 11 candidates, including one from New Edinburgh.

The regular yearly confirmations in this city will be held in June next.

Lady Macdonald was amongst the congregation at St. Alban's church.

TORONTO.

TORONTO CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—I do not know whether many of you are acquainted with the teachers in our Toronto Public Schools, but considering the similarity of the objects in which both you and they are engaged, and the efficiency, the special attainments, and the character they possess, it would be a great advantage, and might materially advance the interests of your own schools and of the Church, if you knew more of them. Undoubtedly much may be learned from them, and it is admitted that where a professional teacher can be secured as a Sunday School Teacher there will generally be a well governed and well instructed class. In their sphere they are constantly meeting with difficulties and problems to be solved, not unlike those that you find in your own work, and should there not be some sympathy between them and yourselves? I may perhaps be allowed incidentally to advise that in

many of your parochial entertainments, and especially those of the Sunday School, the teachers of the Public School in the parish or neighborhood might very well receive a cordial invitation. In England we find that wherever it has not been found practicable to keep up a church school there has been a strenuous effort to see that the Church is duly represented on the School Board, and that religious teaching to the extent allowed by the regulations is secured, they do not refuse to do anything because not allowed to do everything.

One great means of securing religious knowledge in the Public Schools would be the offering of prizes by such a body as this or by the Board, for proficiency, to be tested by periodical examinations, for which arrangement could well be made by permission of the Trustees. There is an interesting example of this to be found in what has been accomplished in the City of London, England. Mr. Francis Peck and the Religious Tract Society began the good work by offering some thousands of Bibles and Testaments as prizes for Scripture knowledge, to be tested by examination in the Board Schools. In the City of London besides the Church and denominational schools, there are some 1,034 schools under the School Board for London, with some 250,000 pupils. All the children are eligible for this competition, but the attendance is voluntary, and it is encouraging to find that while there is no obligation to attend this examination, the proportion attending is so large, as practically to amount to the whole number at school. In 1884 out of 237,876 children at school, 192,149 came up for examination, the difference being almost entirely accounted for by the number in Infant Classes, not eligible for such a test. The Public School course there is in six standards, corresponding in some degree to classes. In 1884, I find that in the lowest standard there was prescribed for the examination 17 verses from Exodus and 17 verses from St. Matthew, to be in substance committed to memory, and for study there was prescribed the early lives of Samuel and David, with outlines of the life of Christ. For the second standard they had for memory the same with 2 Psalms added; and for study the life of Abraham. For the third standard, there was added to the foregoing, 17 verses of St. John to be learned, and for study the lives of Jacob and Joseph. For the fourth standard, there was added for study the life of Moses, the fuller life of Christ with the parables and discourses, and 8 chapters of the Acts. For the fifth standard, there was added for repetition the 15th of St. John, and for study the lives of Samuel and David, the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke, and the first 24 chapters of the Acts. For the sixth or highest standard there was added for study the lives of Elijah and Daniel, and further knowledge of the Gospels and the Acts, especially as to St. Paul.

I am not aware of anything of the kind being attempted here, but why not? It may be objected that all this is very much outside the line of work of a Sunday School Teacher's Association; but if the Sunday Schools are to supply what is lacking of religious teaching and influence in the Public Schools, we should know just what can be had there and what remains for us to do. I hope it is possible to secure such aid in the day schools in accomplishing our great object, that the Sunday Schools will also be able to procure far better results. Christianity is part of the law of the land. We have not so much to assert our rights as to avail ourselves of them. It is the apathy of the Christian people of this generation which will be alone responsible for the consequences should the coming race be more agnostic or anti-Christian. I believe our effort would be in accordance with the wishes of the community at large, and of the teaching staff of the schools, a most important advantage.

The system of Roman Catholic Separate Schools, whether desirable or not on general grounds, at all events removes the difficulty we might otherwise find in dealing with the children of the public schools—a difficulty that had been felt to be insuperable in other countries where such a provision is not in operation.

I have not, so far, touched upon the degree of co-operation, which could be had from other Christian bodies. I suggest that we should first take the matter up, and deliberate upon it among ourselves, and we might then, I think, be led to ascertain how much, (and there is very much), of common ground upon which we could agree with representatives of other communions. In all probability the application to the School Board might be a joint one. However that may be, there seems no reason why a movement should not be begun by us, and that we at least should not discharge our duty, if we find on examination what that duty is.

May I without presumption say in conclusion that there should go along with any such movement a determination to secure the utmost possible efficiency in the Sunday schools themselves. Our parishes are now pretty generally furnished with good school buildings, and I think there has been also a very widely spread improvement in the teaching and superintendence