

bought with the offerings at the Thanksgiving services, held on Sunday, September 30th.

PAISLEY.—The house of Thomas B. Moore, Paisley, Church of England missionary, was visited by about fifty members of the Churches of Paisley, and Pinkerton, as a surprise party, who presented the following address.

To Mr. T. B. Moore,

We call upon you this night, representing the congregation of St. Paul's church, Pinkerton, and Ascension church, Paisley, and take very great pleasure in presenting to you a cutter and robes, with horse, harness, bells and whip. Trusting you may live long to labour among us. We also take this opportunity in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to you, for your past work among us. We cannot avoid observing the large increase in our separate Churches, and we pray and trust that God may give you health and strength to further add to our long felt need. We also in presenting you this, wish you a Joyous and Prosperous New Year, both spiritually and financially. Signed on behalf, Jas. Davie, Samuel Garland, Churchwardens. Pinkerton, J. M. Hargraves, Charles Briggs, Churchwardens, Paisley. Mr. Moore, after thanking the members of his mission in few but appropriate words, welcomed his visitors, who were heavily laden with well stored baskets. After partaking supper, the evening was spent profitably and pleasantly by the party in social converse. After which the surprise party dispersed, all rejoiced in the time honored Motto:—It is more blessed to give than to receive.

HURON.

Christmas Services, considering the very unfavorable state of weather, and almost impassable condition of roads, were very well attended at the churches of St. John, Jireh, and St. William's; and the several congregations emphasised their appreciation of the Gospel by liberal offertories to the Incumbent, the Rev. Wm. Stout. Jireh church was decorated, and with most exquisite taste.

STRATFORD.—The shortness of the time intervening between the Sunday services and Christmas day, prevented the customary elaboration in the decorative arrangements of St. James' church. The ladies had, however, made manifest their skill and labour on the chancel, pulpit and fonts, and through the prevailing gloom of the weather the evergreens presented a cheery appearance. The services too were very bright and attractive. The choir was strengthened by voices from other churches in the city, and Mr. Young led with skill and care to details. Mr. R. Smith's performances at the organ were much appreciated. The officiating clergymen were the rector, Rev. Canon Patterson, M.A., and the assistant rector, Rev. Robert Ker, the latter preaching extemporaneously one of the finest sermons we have ever had the privilege of hearing, replete with scholarship, eloquence and pathos, which touched all hearts and breathing throughout a broad and earnest Christmas spirit. There was an aggressiveness in the tone which reminded one of the zeal attributed to the ancient Crusaders. He took for his text the 2nd chapter, 10 verse:—"And the angel said unto them fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

The Christmas services in London were well attended. The Christmas offertory in St. George's church, Sarnia, was about eighty-six dollars. A great many clerical changes are in contemplation. One of the members of Trinity Church, Mooretown, put twenty-five dollars on the offertory plate as a Christmas present to the Rev. Dr. Armstrong, the rector. The Rev. J. T. Wright, now curate to the Ven. Archdeacon Marsh, is stirring up the people of St. John's, London township and already there is a general shaking amongst the dry bones. The memorial church, Stratford, is making rapid strides of late, and with the large increase in the population of the district it is thought an enlargement of the building will soon take place. The Ruri-decanal Chapter of Lambton is called to meet on the 8th inst. Midnight services were held in a great many of the churches of the Diocese, on New Year's eve. The Rev. W. T. Hill, lately appointed to the church of St. John the Evangelist, in London, is a decided success. The congregation is already very large, and good Church work is being done.

HYDE PARK.—Hosanna Church was opened for Divine service Sunday morning. The services were conducted in the morning by His Lordship the Bishop of Huron, assisted by the Rev. E. N. English, Principal of Hellmuth Ladies' College, and the pastor. Bishop Baldwin took for his text II. Timothy, Chap. 2, v. 19:—"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure,

having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His, and let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." His Lordship made this the basis of one of the most eloquent sermons the writer ever had the pleasure of listening to. The audience was spell-bound, and the earnest, impressive manner in which it was delivered must have carried conviction to the hearts of many present. At the conclusion of His Lordship's address he expressed himself as much gratified with the progress made, and wished to congratulate all on the beautiful edifice erected. He knew it had called forth self-sacrifice labor on their parts, and if any debt remained on the Church trusted it would be speedily wiped out, and hoped their pastor would be supported in every good word and work. The edifice was filled, some present being compelled to stand. The afternoon service at three o'clock was conducted by the Rev. Evans Davis, and in the evening by the Rev. J. T. Wright.

The edifice is built of white brick, with red brick facings, and is a very neat and handsome structure. It cost about \$2,000, and nearly all of this amount has been subscribed for. The pastor, Rev. A. B. Sage; churchwardens, Thomas Routledge and David Cummings, and the congregation, are to be congratulated in their work, which certainly reflects credit on their efforts.

ALGOMA.

PARRY SOUND.—The Rev. P. Mosley acknowledges, with sincere thanks, to the C.W.M.A. Society—a box of clothing, also a sorted collection of Pictorial Magazines, and a number of Christmas presents for children, the distribution of which has gladdened the hearts of a number of families at this Christmastide.

ATHABASCA.

ST. MACLEOD.—Acknowledgement.—The Rev. H. T. Browne, Missionary to the Piegan Indians, begs to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of four bales of valuable clothing and presents, for the Piegan Mission, from the All Saints' Ladies Auxiliary, Toronto, also one bale of clothing from the St. James' Ladies Auxiliary, Kingston, valued at \$62, with many Christmas presents for the School children, from the Children's Guild. H. T. Browne, Missionary.

FOREIGN.

The Bishop of London has dedicated a fine new sea-going steamboat for the use of the Thames Church Mission. The boat is steel built, and will ply between London and Gravesend.

Mr. J. J. Astor has given \$150,000 for the erection of a new building for the Cancer Hospital in New York, which makes \$300,000 in all which he has contributed. The new building will be devoted to male sufferers from the dread disease. The late Mrs. Gen. Cullum left by her will \$50,000 for the erection of a chapel for the hospital.

The Bishop of Lincoln has issued a letter addressed to the clergy and laity of his diocese on the subject of his prosecution for ritualistic practices. He maintains that the ornaments rubric is the law of the Church, and that the contents of the ornaments rubric quite sufficiently cover the principle of ritual for which they contended. With respect to breaking the law, the rubrics were broken every week in numberless churches by all kinds of clergymen, and they were not prosecuted as lawbreakers.

A Clifton lady has erected, in one of the poorest parishes in Bristol, a mortuary chamber, in which the very poor, many of whom occupy one room, may place their dead relatives until the hour of interment. On the walls, on scrolls, are painted the words, "So He giveth His beloved sleep," and "They rest from their labors."

The Sees of Oxford and Chester did not become technically vacant till December 12. The consecration of Dr. Stubbs, Bishop-designate, and the consecration of Canon Jayne, vicar of Leeds, as Bishop of Chester, will consequently have to be postponed till about the middle of January. The ceremony in the latter case will be performed at York Minster, by the archbishop of the northern province.

On St. Andrew's Day two bishops were consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was assisted by many bishops, in Westminster Abbey, in the presence of a large congregation. The bishops designate were Archdeacon Sumner, Prolocutor of the Lower

House of Canterbury Convocation, who was to be consecrated Bishop suffragan of Guildford, and Ven. Charles Frederick Douet, Archdeacon of Surrey, Jamaica, who was to be consecrated Assistant-bishop of Jamaica.

The Bishop of Wakefield, speaking at Halifax, at a meeting promoted by the Church of England Working Men's Society, condemned the principle of seeking to make the Church of England a political party. He was informed that there were parishes where every Churchman was a Conservative and every Dissenter a Liberal. That line of demarcation he wished to obliterate. The Church must be set above party, whether of politics or ecclesiastical differences.

The Marquis of Lorne presided recently at a public meeting held in Holborn town hall, for promoting the erection of four technical institutions in North London to provide for the boroughs of Hackney, Islington, and Finsbury, which contain a population of about a million. The sum required is £400,000, and of this the Charity Commissioners have promised to provide £200,000, provided a similar amount is raised locally. A resolution approving of the project was carried unanimously.

Canon Edgar Jacob is rebuilding Portsea parish church on a scale of magnificence it would be difficult to surpass. It is to cost £42,000, and when completed will seat 2,000 persons in the nave and aisles. On the south a memorial chapel to Archdeacon Jacob will form a prominent and useful addition to the cathedral like building, and in this chapel Matins and Evensong will be said. The church, to which an anonymous donor contributed £22,000, will be consecrated about Michaelmas next.

BORNEO.—The acceptance of British protection by the Sultan of Brunei brings up the area over which British authority now extends in the island of Borneo to an equality with that of British East Africa—70,000 square miles. In the part of this territory administered by the white Rajah of Sarawak, the S.P.G. has been carrying on prosperous work ever since the time of Sir James Brooke, the English pioneer. Within the Sultanate of Brunei no Christian effort has yet been made. But a missionary from the S.P.G. has just entered the territory of the British North Borneo Company and settled at Sandakan. A site has been secured for church, school, and parsonage, and building on it has at once begun. The population of this company's territory is estimated at 200,000, consisting chiefly of Dyaks, but with Malay, and also Chinese settlements on the coasts. Hitherto only a few English have found their way hither, but the riches of the land are now attracting planters and miners.

A special interest was imparted to the re-opening on Saturday of Old St. Pancras church after restoration, by the antiquity and historical associations of the fabric and site. This church is supposed to have been built about 1350, but it occupies the site of an older structure, which was said to have been the successor of one erected in early Saxon times. Tradition also says that Old St. Pancras is the last church in England in which the Latin Mass was said. The old altar-stone marked with five crosses, found in 1848, when some alterations were carried out, and afterwards embedded in tiles underneath the altar, is now inserted in the middle of the new altar slab; and a noteworthy feature in connection with its present restoration in its highest sense is the fact that at the early celebration on Saturday morning the elements were again consecrated on this stone for the first time probably for 300 years. The work of restoration has been admirably carried out under the direction of Mr. A. W. Bloomfield.

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.

CHRISTMAS AND MARTYRDOM.

SIR,—The noble army of martyrs is a clause of the Te Deum that thrills many a heart oft as it is repeated, and though it is not the exact equivalent of "Candidatus Exercitus" no one could wish to see it altered, as it is stately, rhythmical, and sufficiently expresses the idea of the original. "Candidatus" sets before us the "white array" of the celestial worshippers, whether angels or those redeemed from