

EPISCOPAL ACTS.—Under this head the Bishop reports:—

CONFIRMATION.

1888—467, males, 766 females; total, 1,233.
1889—814, " 1,007 " " 1,820

Churches consecrated, 20; enlarged and reopened, 1; 2 Chancels; 1 Font; 12 Churchyards and 1 Cemetery lot consecrated. Corner stones of 3 new Churches laid. His Lordship had visited every parish and mission in the diocese with the exception of two, and some of them twice during the period referred to.

Our Bishop was outspoken on the question of *Brotherhoods*. After pointing out the fact that some parishes which sorely needed divisions, and that missions should be formed in various places, he added, I hope that the desire which I have from time to time expressed, that we might see our way to the creation of a Missionary Brotherhood, may be a seed which is lying dormant in many souls, and that by-and-by it may germinate and spring up and grow. My idea is that the members of the brotherhood would be clergy-bound for a period of three or five years in vows of obedience and celibacy, and, so far as salary is concerned, poverty. They would be at my disposal, going where I sent them, and doing whatever work was assigned them by me. They would have their personal expenses paid, i. e., clothing, travelling, board, and lodging; beyond that they would have nothing. Their vows would be renewable, on expiration of time, at their own discretion. Had I a fund out of which such could be supported, with, possibly, a house of rest for them, where they could refresh themselves for a month or two once a year, I think, perhaps, I might find one two with whom to make a beginning.

TIDNISH.—When we last reported ourselves we showed that the people of Tidnish, in order to get themselves a church, were prepared to subscribe \$245. They did not, however, rest here. On the 22nd of this month they had a Festival of good things on one of the grandest spots for a picnic in the Dominion, overlooking the new Marine Railway Dock and the Baie de Verte, within the grounds of Mr. Robert Baxter; they erected old time booths, they had the Sackville Brass Band and a "Merry go-round" for the young folks with a sumptuous set of tables, so we had a joyous day of it. Besides some hundreds of people from Tidnish, Baie Verte, and Port Elgin, among the number our good friend Rev. V. E. Harris, visitors from the Marine Railway, &c. Over \$200 we are informed were made on this occasion so that when the expenses are paid off there will be something like \$150 or more for church work. Well done Tidnish. You all deserve a church and you shall have it in God's good time. We wanted encouragement and now here it is. What we need now is a hearty appreciation of the services from Sunday to Sunday.

SYNOD MEETING.

The Bishop of Kentucky (the Right Rev. Dr. Dudley) preached the sermon at the opening of the Synod, and there were also present during its Session the Bishops of Iowa and North Dakota.

The Bishop of the diocese in his address to the Synod thus spoke of the needs of the Church; and his words have wider application than to his own diocese:—"This brings me to the crying need for men and means. For both we have, ever since the creation of the See, been depending to a greater or less extent upon the Mother Country, and this dependence has been most generously responded to. But we must learn to depend upon ourselves. Our sons must be given to the sacred ministry of Christ's Church; our money must be cast into God's treasury—both with no niggard hand. Our sons, the godliest of them, the young men of

deep and fervent piety, of sound learning, of active brains; men who would have made first-rate lawyers, or doctors, or business men, or financiers, or politicians, but who have been taught by their parents to dedicate their talents to the services of God in the sacred ministry of His Church; who have been taught that the highest honour they can gain is to be "put in trust with the Gospel," that the noblest life is that of a minister of Jesus Christ. Parents should get into the habit of looking over the reports of their boys at school to see which was the brightest and the best, that they might thus "present him to the Lord." The most promising of the pupils in our public schools ought to be watched over with a loving interest by our Church people, and encouraged to go into college with the hope of one day being permitted to enter into Holy Orders. And our money—not that over which our fingers chance to close when the hands find its way into the pocket on our being solicited for the support of the clergymen, or for some Church purpose, but the regular, systematic apportionment from the gross amount of our income; and this supplemented by the offering, beyond and above that apportionment, which real self-denial in luxuries, or even in necessities, has made possible. Is it credible that we have been so long cared for by the S.P.G. and the C. and C.S., that there is the possibility of the existence among us of the pauper spirit, that mean quality of soul is content to have everything done for it, having lost even the desire to make an exertion to do anything for itself? If so, we are on the eve of a loud call to awake and bestir ourselves. The grants of the S.P.G. are now only given to individuals, and as these die, are wholly withdrawn, so that the parish in which any of these individuals has ministered is thrown, on his death, upon its own resources, or upon the Church people of this diocese; while the C. and C.S. are reducing their annual amount, having taken off \$750 last year, and \$250 more this year. It is necessary, it is imperative, for us to face the fact, that we must all prepare to supply these diminishing means, or several parishes will have to be given up for lack of support for a clergyman. In view of this state of things I cry aloud to all to come forward at once, and especially do I ask for two things—first, that donations and subscriptions to Church work and extension shall not be conventional, but honest according to the giver's ability; and second, that bequests shall be left by will for Church objects. It is a public scandal when the contents of wills of Churchmen are published in the press, to find thousand of dollars left for various purposes, and not one single cent to the Church; while the wills of Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and others, present a wondrous contrast by the generosity with which they show their willingness to promote the prosperity of the religious community of which they were members, even after they have passed away from earth."

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

PORT ELGIN.—On Friday the 18th inst., the ladies of this congregation, assisted by the gentlemen of the choir, held a very pleasant Strawberry Festival by which they realized sixty dollars for Church purposes. Seeing that this is a new Mission only opened a few months ago by the Rev. C. A. French this result shows that what the Church really wants is to make herself known in order to produce enthusiasm. We must say the ladies of Port Elgin have done well and we only hope they will go on as they have begun. Of course the church cannot but go forward here as elsewhere.

ST JOHN.—The regular monthly meeting of the St. John Clerical Association was held in St. Luke's Church on July 29th. An interesting and suggestive paper was read by the Rev. O. Raymond on the subject, "Lay Help with

Reference to Parochial Organization." The next meeting of the association is to be held in the school room of the Mission Church, Paradise row.

That there is considerable interest taken in the question now before the Church—that of the Consolidation or Unification of the Church of England in Canada—is evidenced by the fact that the *Globe* of this city print in full in its issue of 30th ult. the letter of the Rev. Dr. Partridge which appeared in the *GUARDIAN* of 23rd July.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

BISHOP'S APPOINTMENTS.—The following are the Episcopal appointments during the months of August and September:

August 10th, Sunday, Hull.
August 10th, Sunday, Aylmer.
August 11th, Monday, Aylmer.
August 12th, Tuesday, Eardley.
August 13th, Wednesday, Quio.
August 14th, Thursday, Shawville.
August 14th, Thursday, Clarke's.
August 15th, Friday, Fort Coulogne.
August 17th, Sunday, Portage du Fort.
August 17th, Sunday, Bryson.
August 19th, Tuesday, North Clarendon.
August 20th, Wednesday, St. Stephen's Thorne.
August 21st, Thursday, St. James', Leslie.
August 22nd, Friday, Thorne Centre.
August 23rd, Saturday, North Onslow.
August 24th, Sunday, Bristol.
August 26th, Tuesday, St. Luke's, Eardley.
August 28th, Thursday, Trinity, N. Wakefield.
August 29th, Friday, St. Peter's, Cawood.
August 31st, Sunday, Holy Trinity, Alleyne.
August 31st, Sunday, Aylwin.
September 2nd, Tuesday, Northfield.
September 3rd, Wednesday, River Desert.
September 5th, Friday, Wright.
September 7th, Sunday, Perche.
September 7th, Sunday, Chelsea.

Letters needing immediate attention may be addressed to Shawville, Que., care of Rev. W. H. Naylor, until August 23rd, and to North Wakefield, Que., care of Rev. C. Boyd, until September 6th.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

TRIAL SERMONS.—In his Annual address recently delivered to the Synod of his Diocese the Bishop of Huron (the Right Rev. M. S. Baldwin, D.D.) uttered the following timely and wholesome counsel with regard to the preaching of trial sermons:

And now, passing on to the others matters, permit me to mention some subjects of the gravest interest to all. And first, I shall draw your attention to the great necessity that exists both on the part of the Clergy and Laity for higher views concerning the sacredness and position of the Christian Ministry. I refer to the degrading practice, now so often met with, of clergymen going to vacant parishes to preach trial sermons. In the first place, *such a practice utterly does away with that most comforting and blessed thought that God's sure hand alone is guiding us.* If any of you have done all in your power to obtain some coveted parish; if you have bent every energy and strained every nerve, seen every leading churchman in the place, and promised all the impossibilities that the varying minds of an influential congregation may require; then, when all is gained, victory secured, and all competitors outstripped, will the greatest of all difficulties present itself, namely—the difficulty of seeing the good hand of God, and of believing that you have been absolutely passive in the matter of your own advancement. So far from this being the case, you have done all in your power to secure the public vote in your favor, and if the future turn out to be a rather rude awakening, surely your discernment must lead you to see at whose door alone must the blame be laid.