

RURAL DEANERY OF BEDFORD.—The report received from the various parishes at the last Ruri-Decanal meeting shows —That of all the parishes in the Deanery there is only ONE which receives aid from the Mission Fund, and the Deanery as a whole, by free-will offerings from the various parishes, contributes a larger sum to the Mission Fund than it receives from it. This is not a matter to boast of, but it is one that may be mentioned with thankfulness.

Canon Mussen made a thoughtful speech in which he pointed out certain of the difficulties and weakness of the proposed "Quebec plan"; lack of time, however, prevented a full consideration of this important question, or a decision therein. A very profitable discussion took place upon the subject of Womans' work in the Church; appreciative remarks were made by Archdeacon Lindsay, Rev. G. Forsey, Canon Davidson, Rev. Mr. Allan, Mr. H. D. Moore, Dr. Gibson and others.

Mr. Forsey reported an increase of \$1,000 to the Endowment of Trinity Church, Cowansville, and Mr. Constantine an increase of \$100 to the Endowment Fund of St. James' Church, Stanbridge East—this is the bequest referred to in our last.

Rev. Mr. Forsey proposed, and Canon Robinson seconded a vote of thanks to the Rector and Ladies of the parish of Dunham for their "considerate efforts to promote the comfort of the Clergy and Laity attending the meeting, and for the bountiful repast served at the close of the morning session." This concluded the business, and the Benediction was pronounced.

DIocese OF ONTARIO.

BAY OF QUINTE.—The last meeting of the Bay of Quinte Clerical Association, which took place in Napanee, was in all respects highly successful. There was an unusually large attendance of the members from the district, which extends from Kingston to Trenton, the chief interest on this occasion arising from the presence of the Provost of Trinity College, on the invitation of the Archdeacon. The Union met in the school-room of St. Mary Magdalene's Church on Tuesday, and that day was devoted chiefly to a discussion of the prospects and development of the University, of which the Provost is the Principal. It is well known that since the arrival of so distinguished a scholar and divine as Dr. Body, one of the most eminent of young Cambridge Fellows, there has been new life and vigor infused into Trinity College, and both students and funds have steadily increased. He is evidently one of those men who can inspire enthusiasm into the minds of others, and this country is fortunate in having the benefit of his leadership in the important matter of higher education.

On Tuesday evening, the 7th inst., there was full choral service in the Church, and those who were absent missed a spiritual and intellectual treat in the two addresses delivered by the Provost and by the Rev. J. W. Burke, Rector of Belleville. It would be difficult to exaggerate the interest elicited by the Speakers in the topics selected, both being handled by master minds with rare power and eloquence. The Provost's subject was "The Devotional character of the Church's Matins and Evensong," and the spiritual connection of one part with another, and his words and thoughts were as well adapted for the clergy as the laity present. They seemed to throw fresh and beautiful light on the familiar forms of devotion, which too often are forms and nothing else. Mr. Burke with native eloquence enforced the importance of the use of the Prayer Book in public offices, and the benefit of becoming better acquainted with its contents. Now and then his humor provoked a smile, as when he said "Don't be afraid of a ghost hiding in any dark corner of the Prayer Book," referring to the visitation of the sick, and the absolution pronounced. He showed how in all her services the Church in-

tended publicity—a common joining of as many of her children as possible in every rite, whether Baptism, or Churching of Women, the Visitation of the Sick, or the Burial of the Dead. All that was uttered by both speakers met, we need scarcely say, with the warm commendation of the large body of the Clergy present, who regretted that more of their lay friends were not in Church to be similarly edified.

On Wednesday morning there was an early celebration of the Holy Communion, the Archdeacon and the Provost officiating. At 10 a.m., the Litany was sung by the Rev. W. Roberts, Mus. B., the Archdeacon presiding at the organ. The latter, we may state, sang the service effectively on both evenings in Church. On Wednesday evening, with no organ accompaniment whatever, the congregation heartily sang Canticles and hymns with great success, supported by his reverend brethren and a few choir members. On this evening, Dr. Body was the only speaker, continuing his subject, and enforcing the duty of making worship rest on and start from Christ and not from Self. He showed the evils of the latter, and how all gifts, and devotions and efforts for God would be hallowed and ennobled by the motive of offering them from the single desire to promote the Glory of God. At the conclusion of the service, the Archdeacon expressed his gratification at the pleasant and profitable meeting of the Union in Napanee, and thanked cordially the friends who so kindly extended their hospitality to the visiting clergy. We omitted to state that the afternoon was devoted to the discussion, opened by the Archdeacon, on Hebrew viii., 1-6, in which all members of the Union took a part, and which was continued to 6 p.m. A very cordial vote of thanks was unanimously given to the Provost for his attendance and all his valuable addresses.

The next meeting of the Union has been fixed to take place at Picton, in the month of September, on invitation of the Rector, Rev. E. Loucks.

The Clergy present at this meeting were the Archdeacon of Kingston, the Provost of Trinity College, Rev. Messrs. Burke, Loucks, Baker, Stanton, Forneri, Serson, Elliott, Prime, Cooke, D. F. Bogort, Roberts, Harris, Bennett, Smythe, Armstrong, Scantlebury, Anderson, Forster, Atkinson.

KINGSTON.—The Annual Meeting of the Women's Auxilliary to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, closed on the 9th inst.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Mrs. Tilton, Ottawa; 1st. Vice President, Mrs. Grant Powell, Ottawa; 2nd. Vice President, Mrs. Buxton Smith, Kingston; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Yeilding Ottawa; Recording, Sec. Mrs. McLeod Moore, Prescott; Treasurer, Mrs. R. V. Rogers, Kingston;

Mrs. Lewin, of Prescott, read the report of the resolution committee. It expressed gratitude to God for the great success of the society; thanks to the retiring officers for their untiring zeal and devotion; to the ladies of Kingston for their kind hospitality; to the rector of St. George's cathedral for his able sermon, preached to the delegates; to the Synod for the use of the meeting room; to Mesdames Moore and Rothwell for their excellent papers; and to the railway authorities for the cheap fares which they had granted to the ladies.

Addresses on mission work were made by Messrs. Carey, McMorine and Jones, and the conference was closed.

The next meeting will be held in Prescott, in June, 1888.

The Lord Bishop of Niagara, held confirmation here on the 10th inst. In the afternoon at St. Marks, Barriefield, where there were 22 candidates, and in the evening at St. James' with 33 candidates. The attending clergy were Revs. Messrs. Carey, Cartwright, Jones, Smith, Cooke, McMorine, Spencer, Prime and Burnes.

On the evening of the 9th inst., the Rev. I. Gough Brick, of Arthabaska, N. W. T., addressed a large meeting in the Synod Hall, he gave an excellent account of his work among the Indians. He also preached on the 12th inst., in St. James Church in the morning, and in St. George's Cathedral in the evening.

On the 14th, St. James branch of the Church of England Temperance Society held their closing meeting for the summer, there was a good attendance, songs, readings and recitations, were given besides addresses by Revs. A. W. Cooke and I. G. Brick. This branch has been particularly successful in their work.

The Rev. B. B. Smith, of St. Georges Cathedral has gone to England on a three months' vacation.

DIocese OF TORONTO.

THE SYNOD.—The annual meeting of the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto began with service at the Cathedral and administration of Holy Communion at 10 o'clock, on 14th June.

The business Session commenced at 11.30, when after the opening prayer and the usual routine work regarding delegates' certificates, the Bishop delivered his annual address. He referred to the deaths of the Rev. Canon Morgan, of Barrie, and Rev. John McGreary, Hastings. During the year there had been 9 removals and 8 additions in the clergy of the diocese. There were now 143 clergymen—115 engaged in parochial work, 14 in tuition, etc., and 14 retired. There had been 17 ordinations and 256 confirmations. There had been admitted 1,234 candidates to full communion, of whom 454 are males and 750 fem. Three Churches have been consecrated, St. George's, Menomenee; St. Luke's, Creemore, and St. Barnabas, Toronto. He had preached 116 sermons, administered Holy Communion 31 times and baptised 8 infants.

The average attendance at morning, afternoon and evening services—was 16,539 5,019 and 16,478 respectively. The average attendance in the city churches was 8,400 in the morning, 8,600 in the evening, against 7,300 and 7,600 respectively in 1885. (Applause.) In the country the average attendance has been 9,281 in the morning and 9,239 in the evening. There had been held altogether 19,830 services on Sundays and 6,288 on week days. There had been 11,739 communicants, in Toronto there being 4,869 against 4,591 at the last return. This was not including reports from St. James' cathedral and St. Thomas' church, which had not been sent in. There had been a decline in the number of baptisms, the total number being 2,901, against 3,129. He admonished the clergy that they should see to it that this important sacrament was not neglected. There was a decline in the number of marriages from 787 to 765, and an increase of deaths by 1, there being 700 this year, against 699. The Sunday school statistics made a very satisfactory showing. There were 160 schools, against 149 of the previous return; 1,630 teachers, against 1,464, and 17,231 scholars, against 15,204. There were 109 libraries containing 24,277 volumes, and the returns from 98 schools showed voluntary contributions to the extent of \$7,298, which had been principally devoted to foreign missions.

The Clerical Stipend Fund amounted to \$60,924, against \$59,952 of the previous return; parochial objects, \$91,621 against \$83,622—(applause)—and extra parochial objects \$28,826, against \$23,780, or a sum total of voluntary contributions amounting to \$181,771,15 being \$10,580 more than 1885 and \$25,657 more than the previous year. There have been six new Churches built and two others were in course of erection. These had a total cost of \$20,000 and would seat 2,000 persons. Some nine or ten missions were being established in the outskirts of Toronto, and they were buying up lands for sites. There was some talk of