

their attempt has so far been a failure. They prevailed on the school trustees to place the school house at their disposal. After due announcement their meetings were duly commenced, but the people—convinced that liberalism was, in this instance, going rather too far—arose as one man and demanded the trustees to stop the meetings. The Mormons and trustees resisted for a time, but finding that the people were determined not to tolerate the existence of so great an evil in their midst they were forced to cease the attempt.

HARRIETSVILLE.—The heavy incubus of debt pressing on almost every Church in the Diocese, puts the zeal of our members to trial, but they will, I have no doubt, be found equal to the emergencies. Festivals, excursions, tableaux, in aid of Church funds are of every day occurrence. They are, it seems, the necessary accompaniments of voluntarism, and no little credit is due those who, yielding to circumstances in which the Church is placed, devote time and means to promote her well-doing. On Wednesday evening the 23rd inst., a garden party in aid of the building fund of St. John's Church, Harrietsville, was held on the grounds of Mr. James Jackson. Over four hundred people were present, and they enjoyed the pleasures of the evening very much. There was music by the Dorchester brass band; there were also recitations, songs and quartettes by Misses Jackson, Niles, Rowse, Johnson and others. The Church of St. John's is said to be one of the most handsome ecclesiastical edifices in the rural parts of the diocese. The net proceeds of the festival, \$334, will be applied to pay off the debt on the Church.

GODERICH.—The good Church people of St. George's, Goderich, by the waters of the great lake, are about having their most earnest wish gratified. After long time spent in preparation the foundation stone of their new Church, St. George's, has been laid. On Thursday afternoon, June 24, this ceremony was performed. The stone was laid with Masonic rites by Mr. J. A. Kerr, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The Grand Lodge preceded by a fine band marched in due array to the site of the new building. The ceremonies then commenced by a musical service. This was followed by prayer by Rev. E. Hicks. The Ven. Archdeacon Elwood, Rector of St. George's, then addressed the meeting, giving a brief and very interesting history of the parish of which he had been Rector for over thirty-five years. Mr. Kerr was then introduced by the Archdeacon, and delivered an interesting address occupying more than an hour. The meeting was also addressed by Rev. Mr. Ure, Presbyterian minister. After the stone had been laid the large number of people assembled united in singing the doxology, and the Ven. Archdeacon pronounced the benediction.

Among those present were also Revs. R. Hicks, R. C. Matthews, A. E. Miller, Jeffrey Hill, R. McCosh, and W. Henderson.

Correspondence.

All Letters will appear with the names of the writers in full

WHAT NEXT?

DEAR SIR:—Referring to the published reports of the doings of our Synod in this city, Rev. Mr. Allan is reported to have said:—"That he would take money from the devil himself if he would give it to him."

Now, apart of the vulgarity, if not profanity of the expression, is it not humiliating to find that no one, clerical or lay, is stated to have called Mr. Allan to order? The Synod when it was called a bear garden, never got so far down as this.

How we unfortunate generation of vipers of laymen can be expected to resist the devil, so that he may flee from us, is hard to say; or carry out other similarly interesting and useful instructions, when we find a clergyman in open Synod, quite willing, apparently, to shake hands with one whose tremendous power and influence for evil we all acknowledge, and from which evil we daily pray to be delivered. I enclose the published report, and remain,
Yours truly,
E. LUSHER.

Montreal, June 25, 1880.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS OF TORONTO.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE VENERABLE THE ARCHDEACON OF OTTAWA—PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL SYSTEM.

MY DEAR ARCHDEACON,—As you have doubtless seen from the public prints, the Sunday School Centenary is being celebrated here with much spirit. It would have gladdened your heart to see the large Cathedral of St. James' on Monday evening last crowded in gal-

leries, choir, Church nave, and every aisle, nook and corner where standing room could be found, with at least two thousand well dressed, and exceptionally well behaved Sunday School scholars, when a delightful service of song was rendered. I understand that over twenty different schools were represented; and I am informed that at the great picnic, which is to conclude the programme of the celebration, to be held in the Park on Tuesday next, it is expected that there will be present six thousand pupils, and six or seven hundred teachers, these being the numbers in the Church of England School rolls of Toronto. You can readily understand with what eagerness I have watched the proceedings, for no one as well as yourself knows how deeply I was interested in the Sunday Schools of Ottawa, and the delight I took in the performance of my duties as superintendent of your School. Last evening a conference was held in the large School room of the Cathedral, when papers were read, and addresses delivered on Sunday School work. I need not tell you that it was very largely attended, and you will fully appreciate my remark when I tell you that I have been much struck by the interest taken in this Centenary by leading and representative heads of families. This speaks volumes for Toronto, and I could not help saying to myself as this characteristic several times forced itself on my notice, "How I wish, how I do wish, that our leading laity throughout the Dominion would wake up and fully comprehend the immense good they can do by taking a prominent part in the work of Sunday Schools." But on enquiry, the same lamentable want of organization which existed in Ottawa, but which, thanks to the cordial co-operation of his Lordship the Bishop and the clergy, I was in some small degree instrumental in remedying, though my departure from the capital prevented me from working out the schemes which I propounded to his Lordship and yourself. I listened with much pleasure to the papers and addresses of last evening until the close, and I confess that my heart sank when I reflected that not one word had been said pointing to any plan for organization. Of course everything said was good in its way, but what to my mind is the supreme want, not only in this but in every diocese in the Dominion, was not even referred to. I use the word "supreme" in its highest and widest sense, for as you know I feel deeply and intensely on the point. To my mind our Church is far, very far behind the age in Sunday School work, and her Sunday Schools are her sheet anchors. Neglect of them is suicide. And the suicidal fallacy of inertness, sluggishness, and want of organization has too long prevailed. But I believe a new feeling is appearing both in clerical and lay circles. His Lordship the Bishop of Toronto is evidently, I hope you will excuse an Americanism, a "live" man. I have not the honor of his acquaintance, but as far as I have seen and read and heard, he will be delighted to hear nothing of "High" Church, or "Low" Church, or of "Broad" Church, or of the torturing and really destructive discussions involved in these sickening terms. Sickening, I mean, from the wretched effects they have produced in this diocese—and he will be as delighted to concentrate all his administrative ability, of which I think he possesses a great deal, and to concentrate the energy of his clergy and laity on the more important and congenial task of bringing the grand old Church of England in his diocese where she shall be, first among the foremost. It is simply and utterly abominable to see the magnificent social forces of our Church frittered away in unseemly bickerings; and bickerings, too, kept up more through ignorance of the Church history, pure Church practice, and genuine Church sentiment, than from any unworthy feelings on the part of the contestants. But I am drifting on to ground which I have resolutely determined not to occupy, for I have too profound a contempt for such discussions to take part in them.

Well, I have said that no speaker has touched the all important matter of organization. I am told that there is in Toronto no teachers' association such as you have in Ottawa; no system for training teachers; no general routine of teaching in the schools; no public catechizing in the Church as you have; no system of Sunday School books, or Sunday School literature; no organization for the training of the pupils in Sunday School singing; no Litany services in the Schools; no choral services; no medals; and, most fatal of all, no Diocesan organization. In short there is an utter want of system, and I need not waste words in enforcing the truism that without organization no great work can possibly be accomplished. It is possible that some schools possess one or more of the appliances I have mentioned, but the idea I wish to convey to you is that there is no general system, no central power, no universal method governing all the Schools. Each School seems to be worked on its own lines, without accord or connection with any other one.

When the papers were read last evening, and the addresses were finished, I said to myself:—"Now, is it possible, that this splendid opportunity, the Centenary of Sunday Schools, is to be allowed to pass over without some practical work being done? Will not advantage be taken of this great occasion to inaugurate a new departure, organize a system, and

place our Schools on a proper basis, and our Church in her proper position?" While inwardly lamenting that nothing was proposed, I was delighted to see the Bishop rise and as if reading my thoughts announce that advantage would be taken of the event, and that measures were then being formed to establish a connection or connections with the Church of England Sunday School Institute, of England. I cannot tell you how pleased I was to hear this, for it opened up to my vision a road by which all the great objects I have mentioned may be reached; and one of my objects in addressing this letter to you is respectfully to urge upon you, though I know you need no urging, the propriety of taking a similar step in the Diocese of Ontario. I know your excellent Bishop will warmly second you.

I do not, of course, know what shape the movement here will take, but I hope it will have these as prominent ends to achieve:—1. The formation of a teachers' association, at whose weekly meetings they will receive lectures from the clergy, and be prepared for the lessons of the following Sunday. This organization should in fact be a Normal School. 2. The organization of a Diocesan Sunday School Institute, composed of all the clergy and Sunday School superintendents of the diocese, who shall arrange a curriculum of teaching to be adopted by every School in it. This would ensure uniform teaching, and would involve the purchase of a large number of Sunday School books; and to supply them, a depot should be established in Toronto where these could be obtained. These two organizations would do all the work necessary, as under them a thousand improvements could and would be made in the working of our Schools. Of course, frequent public meetings and annual gatherings for discussion, and annual picnics for social converse would be held. The teachers would be frequently brought together for the interchange of ideas on School matters. Public competition examinations with prizes would be established, the general public would be interested, parents and guardians would feel that the Church Sunday School was a living organism, full of energy and usefulness; the sympathy and support of the laity—in whom I have unbounded confidence—would be extended to the movement, and funds would not be wanting. Increased zeal in teachers, and increased industry in pupils would be produced by the medal system, which has worked so admirably in your own School; and, above all, our young people, really the bone and sinew, and only hope of our Church, would grow up distinctive Churchmen, and not distinctive nobodies, or distinctive latitudinarians, exhibiting a milk and water respect for all denominations, and a genuine love for none. We should have Church of England, and not Presbyterian, or Methodist, or Congregational School books. We should have Church of England, and not denominational hymnology. We should have warm, hearty, bright, and attractive children's services, all leading up to the services of the Church, and eventually the organization must spread. It would be adopted in every diocese in the Dominion; and in a few years the magnificent spectacle of a Dominion Church of England Sunday School Parliament would be seen, gathering together hundreds of the representative men and women of the Church, hailing as well from the shores of the Atlantic, as from the slopes of the Pacific, and forming a power in the Church, and for the Church, unequalled in force, and momentum by any ecclesiastical organization of Canada. This may seem a highly colored picture, but it is one quite within our ability, and if the efforts of our Bishop are warmly seconded, as I do not doubt they will be, you and I will yet meet on the floor of a Sunday School House of Commons, and congratulate each other on the fact that if your cloth and my modesty prevented us from serving our country in that august assembly, we are serving her in another and a better way, by elevating the status of that noblest, save the Church of England itself, of all our institutions, the Church of England Sunday School of Canada.

Yours very sincerely,
Wm. Leggo,
Toronto, July 2, 1880, 286 Sherbourne Street.

To Correspondents.—Received, H. S. K.; T. B. J.; Trinity College School; Reports of Synod (Nova Scotia and Fredericton); J. W. B.; S. T.; Huron.

Hon. John Beverly Robinson has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.

WANTED.
AN ASSISTANT CLERGYMAN
FOR ST. MATTHEW'S QUEBEC,
FROM AUGUST 6th. Address:
Rev. Chas. Hamilton,
QUEBEC.