

besides ten turkeys, some almost as big as those who presented them, besides clothing, which will be distributed by the Sunday school teachers during the week.

*All Saints.*—The Christmas music at All Saints was not of an elaborate character, but the service was a most hearty one, joined in by the congregation. Rev. H. J. Evans preached the sermon from the words "Behold it is come and it is done, saith the Lord God. This is the day whereof I have spoken." The ladies of the congregation had handsomely decorated the church and chancel. In the centre of the latter was the motto, in a circle of evergreens, "Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ," this was surmounted by a cross of evergreens, encircled with vermillion, giving a pretty and chaste effect.

*St. Stephen's* was beautiful decorated. The windows were wreathed with evergreens, the chancel filled with beautiful palms and blooming plants, while there was a wealth of bloom, beautifully arranged behind the altar. The effect was very Christmas-like and seasonable. The congregation was large for such weather, and contained many strangers. The services were conducted by the rector and Mr. W. H. Naylor, of the Theological College. The Holy Communion was celebrated, a large number partaking. The offertory, which was large, was for the parish poor fund. The sermon was preached by Archdeacon Evans from I Cor. II, 9, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them which love him."

*St. John the Evangelist.*—St. John the Evangelist was well filled at the four Communion and Christmas services. Holy Communion was administered at the services at 6, 7, 8 and 11 o'clock, and there were over 300 communicants. The 11 o'clock service was a choral one by the vested boy choir, augmented by a choir of ladies and a few violins. The anthem, "And the Glory of the Lord," from Handel's "Messiah," was beautifully rendered. The services were conducted by the rector, Rev. Edmund Wood, assisted by the Rev. Arthur French. The sermon was preached by the rector, who took his text from Zechariah, xii. 9—"And it shall come to pass in that day that I will seek to destroy all nations that come against Jerusalem." The offertory was for the poor of the parish, and amounted to over \$250. The decorations of the church eclipsed many of the former efforts at this church.—*Condensed from Gazette Report.*

## Diocese of Algoma.

The Bishop of the Diocese issued a special Christmas Pastoral to the Laity, in which he says:

We are once more permitted to see the near approach of the season at which the Church Universal commemorates the Birth of Christ. This wondrous event, commonly known as the Incarnation, is the foundation fact of our common Christianity—the first in its long series of miracles, the belief of which makes all that follow credible—the root, therefore, out of which have sprung the best and choicest blessings we enjoy. Forgiveness of sin—justification through faith in Jesus Christ—acceptance with God—the gradual purification of our nature by the Holy Ghost from the indwelling power of evil—all these, furnishing, as they do, our "hope of glory," are ours because, as on this day, "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." Well might the angelic messenger announce to "the shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night," "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great

joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

His Lordship in the suggestions given for the observance of the day, gives the following instructions:

Be careful to maintain the good old custom of decorating your homes and churches with such material and in such measure as may be practicable. We cannot afford to neglect or ignore this time-honored usage. It has come to us associated with the most sacred facts in the Gospel story, and the holiest feelings and sympathies of our nature. It binds us to the past, and educates for the future.

Let every worshipper be found in his or her accustomed place in God's house on this holy, happy day, taking part in its joyous solemnities, and every communicant kneeling reverently at God's Holy Table, commemorating the "one full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, once offered for the sins of the whole world," and seeking to be made partakers of Christ's "most blessed Body and Blood."

If, unhappily, there has been any grudge or malice—any lack of Christian love and charity—during the past year between you and any friend or neighbor, let Christmas be the day of its death and burial. "Go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother; then come, and offer thy gift. Unforgiveness is unchristlike, and excludes from the Kingdom of Heaven equally with the darkest sins forbidden in the decalogue. Christ not only forgave, but prayed for His very murderers. How can we consistently expect God to "forgive us our trespasses" unless we also, "from the heart," "forgive them that trespass against us?"

## Diocese of New Westminster.

### DONALD AND GOLDEN.

There has been a wonderful change for the better in the last four years in this district, and some good solid work has been done and well done. The greatest change has taken place in Golden, where there is a beautiful church which is already too small for the congregation. T. F. Armstrong, Esq., the lay reader there, has done great things for the Church, and the hearty good will with which his efforts have been met proves how great a blessing and how great a power is in the regular services of our Church.

The Harvest Festival this year was enough to prove what the heartiness is; there was abundance of corn, fruits and flowers, and the Chancel screen handsomely decorated with the beautiful leaves of the Oregon grape encircling the text round the screen, formed a fitting frame for the Altar, surrounded with fruit and great sheaves of grain, as the picture of what thankful hearts could do in making the place of His feet glorious. The screen is to remain, and no doubt it will be soon necessary to throw out a chancel so as to give more room.

There was a special celebration on the Feast of All Saints, and it was charming to see that even a foot of snow and hard frost was not felt to be a hindrance to those who have made their Church almost their first thought and care. It is not that the town is big for its age, but it is growing fast, and although there has been no boom, there are undoubtedly signs of a sure and steady growth, as it is not in many towns that can say that in three large hotels there has been difficulty to get a room for the last few months.

It is all the more credit to the town to have almost as its first public building a handsome church.

The services at Field, which are held in the Reading Room, are enough to prove that there will soon be a church built in the heart of the Rockies. It is not every place of its size that can afford to raise \$17.50 a month when they

have only one Sunday and a couple of week day services a month, yet for over a year they have been doing so.

Last, but not least, Donald, as the old centre of work, can now boast of a nice parsonage, close beside the church. Of course the population of the town is far less than it was in the days of construction, but it is still plain enough that there are many to take an interest in the little church that was the first church built in the mountains. No doubt when there is a resident parson and regular services there will be a larger congregation, as the little church is but scantily filled now, and there is room for all. There is great need for some faithful layman to come forward and keep the services going, as we know what a power it was in the days gone by to have had Mr. Evans bravely and faithfully filling the gap; and the work of Mr. Armstrong at Golden is proof enough without any other example.

## BACK TO THE ENTRENCHMENT.

In the city of Constantinople, that shrine of the East, where God seems to have concentrated all his rays of beauty, is to be seen a grave upon the tombstone of which we read the inscription: "Died at the post of duty." Many years ago, when that city was surrounded by the Mohammedans, the soldiers safely protected behind the breastwork, the general gave the order to rush out and attack the enemy. The flag bearer sprang to the bank and started forward without hesitation. When he reached the line of battle and looked behind he found his comrades still in the trenches. One of the soldiers ordered him to bring the flag back. His answer was, "Never! If this flag is saved you must come to its rescue." Inspired by that brave spirit every soldier leaped from the intrenchment and sprang forward to protect their ensign. Just as they reached the spot a bullet pierced the heart of the flag-bearer and he fell back into the arms of his comrades, but the day was won and the flag's glory protected. Is not this an illustration of our Church's position in the missionary field? The Priest is ordered forward as the ensign bearer of the Church's hosts militant. He reaches an outpost, finds a few churchmen and organizes services, but soon some sectarian steps in and because they are stronger numerically the church people cry to the Priest, "bring back the flag, give up the field and retire from the work as we cannot meet the opposition." Shall the Priest retire, shall the services be given up, shall the work be stopped? With all our soul we cry "No!" If the church people are too timid to stand by their Priest let him stand alone and die on the field of battle. With all due respect for the sectarian energy, goodness, and work we believe that we are the keepers of God's truth, the kingdom of God in this world, and to give up the work would be an acknowledgement of weakness and a denial of our divine commission. The Church of God is a living organism, born on the day of Pentecost, filled with the spirit of God, crowned with the blessed sacraments, and sent forth to conquer the world. The Church is no aggregation of voluntary societies, man-made and man-inspired; she is no sect of to-day, no social institution in which fashion is baptized with the name of religion, but the temple of the living God, the faithful witness of the truth, teaching men what Christ taught here, and giving to them what he intrusted to her stewardship, until He comes to receive His own. The Church is the very bride of Christ, the very body of God, into which we are to gather all the people as the one means and the one remedy for our disorganized humanity. The Church stands to Jesus Christ