

St. James Cathedral. The second of the course of sermons to young men in connection with the St. James Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, will be preached on Sunday evening, December 27th, by the Bishop of Algoma.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Active preparations are now being made for the annual Convention of the Canadian Brotherhood, which will be held in Toronto on February 12th, 13th and 14th. A large number of delegates are expected to be present, and the event gives every promise of being a great success.

St. Thomas. The Christmas services will commence with choral Evensong at 5.30 p.m., Christmas Eve, by the treble boys of the choir. Carols will be sung at this service. This will be followed by a choral celebration of the Holy Communion commencing at midnight. A second celebration (plain), will be held at 8 a.m.; Matins will be sung at 10.30, followed by a choral celebration at 11 a.m. The music at the 11 o'clock service will be the "Missa de Amphibalo," by P. Agutter, with orchestra. The choir will be assisted as usual by an efficient choir of ladies.

NIAGARA.

HAMILTON. Rev. E. J. Fessenden, B.A., of Chippewa, delivered a lecture in the Church of the Ascension school-room recently, under the auspices of the Woman's Auxiliary Society. His subject was "The History of the Church," and he treated of its life from the earliest times, including the noble efforts put forth at different periods in the cause of missions, and supplementing his theme by an allusion to the Woman's Auxiliary. The lecture was an entertaining and instructive one, and the audience appreciative. About fifty fine light views, representing illustrations of English cathedrals, scenes in the lives of early missionaries, etc., aided the lecturer's efforts. A collection was taken up to defray expenses, and the proceedings were ended by a hearty vote of thanks tendered to the reverend gentleman. The W. A. held their quarterly meeting at the Church of Ascension school-room; there was a good attendance and pleasant meeting. Miss Patterson, of Toronto, gave a most charming account of her "Two months among the Sarcees." Interesting letters were read from Miss Sherlock and Bishop Bompas.

ST. CATHARINES.—*St. Barnabas.*—The Women's Guild of this active congregation forwarded on the 15th of this month their usual Christmas present to the Rev. Mr. Chown, of Muskoka, consisting of three large barrels filled with clothing of all kinds, confections and toys, for distribution among the needy poor of the congregations, for Christmas trees, etc.

HURON.

LONDON.—The eighteenth anniversary of the opening of the Memorial Church was celebrated with special morning and evening services. The congregations were very large, and entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion. Rev. Canon Richardson, rector, conducted the service in the morning, and the sermon was preached by Rev. H. G. Miller, M.A., Principal of Huron College. His text was Malachi i. 1, 2: "The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi, I have loved you, saith the Lord." He said:—Met together as you are to commemorate the anniversary of the opening of this church and its public consecration to God's service, it is the burden of the Lord that I would try to deliver to you—for the burden of that word is a message which cannot fail to come home. At no time surely could it fail of most joyful acceptance. But at a season, such as this, not a heart of those who hear me but must be specially disposed to receive it, to hear it and to go forward in the joy and strength of it. Your first thoughts will fly up to the throne of God's grace, upborne by the wings of praise and thankfulness for the richness and multitude of His mercies, vouchsafed to you—the mercy of faithful ministry of a pastor who, however conscious to himself of defects and shortcomings, has handled truly the word of God, and by manifestation of the truth commended himself to every man's conscience in the sight of God—the mercy of an attached and undivided congregation careful as a body to maintain good works, forward in its zeal for the extension of Christ's Kingdom on earth, forward in the duty of diffusing the glad tidings of salvation, as well as eager for itself to receive them—a congregation so well and thoroughly organized that not one member, young or old, can say that if he care to size it there is no room to be found amidst your network of agencies for the fullest employment of his time and his talents. Mercies these are truly to be thankful for; mercies more than man can number; more—assuredly more—than have been

either desired or deserved. With thoughts of these you will approach God's throne, and with thankful hearts will look up. But you will also look back. The very name of your church points you back—points back to him who was the first to be called in the providence of God to preside over the church of the separate Diocese of Huron. And for myself, I am glad to have been asked to take part with you to-day in your services, for indeed, it seems a fitting thing that there should be at this commemoration season a direct and open association between the church erected to the pious memory of the honored and saintly Bishop Cronyn when he was gathered to his heavenly rest, and that college which was inaugurated by him in his lifetime to provide for the training of young men for the ministry, who may go forth and preach Christ and Him crucified. This church and that college—I think that they both may be described as memorial institutions, for through them both he "being dead, yet speaketh." Long be it ere that voice is silenced. Long be it ere the truths which he loved—the plain and simple truths of the unadulterated Gospel of Christ—cease to be proclaimed from this pulpit, as in living echoes of his living voice; and distant also be the day when the college which he founded shall have ceased to be that which he designed it to be, an effectual barrier for the Diocese at large against encroachments of a superstitious ecclesiasticism and of its ever closely accompanying opposite—the frosty blight of utter infidelity. All honor to the faithful hearts who have secured by the stately monument of this church, that the fragrance of the memory of him who was the first to be called in the good providence of God to preside over the Diocese of Huron, should be preserved to generations yet to come. But honor, the supreme honor, all honor, praise and glory be to Him who, "ascending up on high, led captivity captive, and received gifts from men." And the gifts which he received were also of men, for "He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." It is for one of such gifts at this season we thank Him, and from the ground of the heart we now pray to Him:—Forever be such gifts continued to us. Continued to the very end—continued in Christ's Church throughout the world. But be they also continued to us, in this parish, city, province, mighty Dominion—the gift of men who will own a whole-hearted allegiance to Christ—unswerving loyalty to the pure and simple Gospel of Christ, and unfaltering zeal in the service of Christ. Forever be such gifts continued to us—the gifts of men whom it will be to our profit to follow, because they truly followed Christ—men who ere they pass from earth shall have built up for themselves everlasting memorials in lives reformed, in hearts consoled, in souls saved against the day of Christ's appearing—men who will approve themselves true ministers of Christ and faithful stewards of the mysteries of God. For ever be such gifts continued to us, "until we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, with a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the Son of God," and are given to comprehend the love of Christ which passeth knowledge—that love of which I now would speak to you; for it is the burden of the Lord I now would deliver to you; the burden is the same to the now Israel of God as it was to the Israel of old. The reverend gentleman then, in a faithful and scholarly manner, proceeded to a fuller exposition of the subject of the text. He set forth the meaning and force of the term "Burden of the word of the Lord," and showed how that the love of the Father manifested in the advent and incarnation of Jesus Christ was the highest and most blessed testimony to the declaration, "I have loved you."

In the evening Rev. Principal Miller again preached in continuation of the morning subject, taking the same text. The Bishop of Huron was present, and took the closing part of the service.

ALGOMA.

Christmas Pastoral to the Laity of the Missionary Diocese of Algoma.—MY DEAR BRETHREN,—We are once more approaching the commemoration of the birth of Christ, that great fact in which we find the root miracle of our common Christianity. How much it has done for us individually, and for our race collectively, you will doubtless be reminded on the day specially set apart for its celebration. Let it suffice to say here that in it lie the spring and fountain-head from which have come to you, not only your richest earthly blessings, but still more, all your brightest hopes and expectations of the life hereafter. Civil and religious liberty—the blessings of education—the elevation of public opinion—the impartial administration of justice—the sanctity of marriage—the peace and purity of domestic life—the rescue of woman from the degradation imposed upon her sex in pagan lands—better still than all these, your spiritual blessings, such as adoption into God's family, "the household of faith," as "heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ"—the remission of sins—the assurance of

God's favor—"the hope of salvation"—all these things are yours because "when the fulness of time was come," He who was "God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God," yet "for us men and our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary": of all these you will doubtless make grateful acknowledgment when you meet on Christmas day in your several houses of prayer in hearty, reverent praise and thanksgiving. See to it, brethren, that your gratitude takes a substantial form. The diocesan custom has been hitherto to have a special offertory, larger and more liberal than at other times, and to present it to the clergyman as a Christmas gift appropriate to the day, as a token of the loving regard and good-will of his people. I trust that the custom will be carefully observed this year also, and that other gifts from your stores, fields, and farmyards, will be added, it being clearly understood that all such offerings are to be regarded as *special*—that is, over and above the stipend ordinarily paid. In so honouring your spiritual pastor, you honour Him whose messenger he is, and ensure for yourselves the fulfilment of the promise, "Them that honour Me I will honour."

Praying for you and your households an ever-increasing enjoyment of the blessings flowing from the "unspeakable gift" of God's dear Son, and wishing you, in the fullest sense, a happy Christmas, I remain, dear brethren, yours faithfully in the Lord, E. ALGOMA.

RUPERT'S LAND.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 14.—This morning before the Manitoba full court, an application was made by a member of the Church of England to quash the city by-law for levying taxes on the ground principally that it is illegal to assess members of the Church of England for support of schools which are not under control of the Church of England and in which there are not taught religious exercises prescribed by such Church. This is a similar appeal to that taken recently by the Roman Catholic Church of the Province. The Chief Justice delivered judgment of the full court, granting the application and quashing the city by-law.

British and Foreign.

The Bishop of Nova Scotia's address is 55 Hill Park Crescent, Plymouth, Eng. He expects to be able to return to his diocese May 1.

The Additional Curates' Society has benefited by legacies from the late Miss Mary Collins, of Knaresborough, to the extent of £2,000, and from Miss Stone, of Castle street, Norwich, £200.

Lord Savile has sent £200, as lord of the manor, to the restoration fund of Egmont Church, North Notts.

Lord Mostyn has given the site, and Lady Augusta Mostyn a donation of £1,000, for a new church for the Llanrhos part of Llandudno.

At Tuesday's sitting of the Prussian Protestant Synod, Doctor Frick announced that the revision of the Bible is now completed. The new revised edition, which contains many theological and grammatical emendations, is expected to appear in January next.

The *Bristol Mercury* states that at Bristol Cathedral on Sunday, "for the first time for many years, the Communion table bore an altar cloth, and a pair of candlesticks. The candlesticks were, we understand, presented to the Cathedral more than a century ago, but it is upwards of forty years since they were last used—in fact prior to the time of the late Dean."

On Wednesday Lord Penzance decided in the Court of Arches that the Bishop of Norwich was justified in refusing to institute the Rev. C. E. P. Boyer to the living of Brantham, in Suffolk, to which he had been presented by Emmanuel College, Cambridge, on the nomination of Sir A. Dixie, a Roman Catholic.

The Earl of Stamford, in the capacity of a London diocesan lay preacher, occupied the pulpit of St. Botolph's Church, Aldersgate, on Wednesday afternoon last week. He was robed in a surplice, an Oxford M.A. hood, and wore the badge of office belonging to the Bishop of London's Order of Lay Preachers. He delivered an address to business men on "Foreign Missions." The short service was conducted by the Rev. T. Selby Henrey.