

Claus." Two or three hours were indulged in sleep and then the Rural Dean, accompanied by the Rev. Charles T. Lewis, left the horses in charge of the hotel keeper and proceeded the remainder of their journey by train. Thus ended the first official visit of the Rural Dean to the mission of Calabogie.

It will be seen that the distances between out-stations are very great. The church population amounts to about 40 families. They all appreciated very much indeed the Rural Dean's visit, and gave him a most cordial invitation to "come again."

Immense benefit will doubtless accrue to the church where the Rural Dean sympathizes with and understands the difficulties of backwoods mission work, and who will not object to undergoing personal hardships and inconveniences in paying occasional visits to such backwoods missions as this. Such visits are of a two-fold benefit: Firstly, they help to keep alive the interest and enthusiasm of the people, and secondly, the isolated priest is cheered and stimulated by having true sympathy shown him and receiving encouragement to persevere.

In conclusion it might be interesting to note that one man in Calabogie has signed \$25 per year towards clergyman's stipend, and another in Dacre \$15 per year, and yet neither of them as well off as farmers in some older missions who grumble at giving \$4 or \$5 a year, which proves that the Board is wise in opening up these fields, and that old well-off districts with wealthy farmers might very well be taught a practical lesson if left for a time without the services of the Church.

TORONTO.

Miss Lizzie A. Dixon acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of the following amounts for Rev. J. G. Brick, Peace River, Athabasca: New St. Paul's, Woodstock, \$10.00; Lucan, \$19.00, per Mrs. Lings, London, Ont., also for building fund in response to special Lenten appeal; Rev. Canon Bull, Niagara Falls, 50c.; Mrs. H. C. Mewburn, Stamford, 50c. In addition to above, the following amounts have also been received for Rev. J. N. Timms, Blackfoot Reserve; "A Widow's Mite," \$2.00; for Rev. Gilbert Stochen, Sarcee Reserve, \$2.00; for Rev. Mr. Holmes, Lesser Slave Lake, \$3.00; the two latter from R. B. S., in response to special appeals lately made by them. The following sums have also been received: \$22.00 from Rev. Samuel Massey, Montreal, for Rev. J. G. Brick, Peace River, Athabasca, divided as follows: A merchant, \$10; a lady, \$2; Sunday-school at Beach Ridge, per James A. Drew, \$10.

MARKHAM.—Rev. Alfred Osbourne, D.D., banqueted.—On Monday evening last, between sixty and seventy of the members of the congregations of the churches of Stouffville and Markham gathered at the residence of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Osbourne, to bid him good-bye and God-speed on the eve of his departure for England, for a six months' sojourn in the Mother land. The gathering took the shape of a surprise party, and after an hour was spent in social intercourse, Mr. F. A. Reesor, Incumbent's Warden, addressed the Doctor, who was seated at the head of the room, and in a short but appropriate speech, voiced the sentiment of a most enthusiastic audience, regretting exceedingly the temporary loss of a much esteemed pastor, who had for the past three and a half years so ably, honestly and fearlessly expounded the Scriptures to them, and who was always to be found at the sick bed, and ever mingling with his flock in time of trouble or distress, who never shirked the duty of a true Christian and friend, and an untiring pastor; and although some doubt existed in the minds of many that so able a man may during his absence be called to a larger field of labour, yet one and all cherish the earnest and selfish hope that he may return to his people here—who love and esteem him so dearly, and whose very heart strings strain at the thought of his permanent removal—in renewed health and vigour. At the close of the Warden's remarks, which were warmly applauded, he, on behalf of the congregations, presented the pastor with a substantially lined purse. The Doctor responded in appropriate terms, assuring those present that their warm-heartedness was fully reciprocated by him. The ladies then prepared tea, and the usual parlour amusements followed till nearly midnight, when a most enthusiastic sociable was brought to a close by singing Auld Lang Syne and God Save the Queen.

Correction.—In letter re "Church Choir Association," which was inserted last week, we omitted the name of St. Philip's from the list of choirs in union with the association.

HURON.

Huron Anglican Lay Workers' Association.—The quarterly meeting of the committee of management of this association met at the Synod offices, London, on Friday, 18th inst., Mr. Dymond, Brantford, chair-

man, presiding. The Bishop of the diocese, and Dean Innes, who are respectively president and vice-president of the association, were both present. The work done since the last meeting was briefly reviewed, and the belief was expressed that the practice of employing laymen in connection with the services of the Church is finding increased acceptance in Huron. The death of Mr. E. A. Goodeve, of Hanover, one of the lay members of the committee, and a most exemplary Christian, was alluded to in fitting terms. The report presented to the annual meeting at St. Thomas in October last and other documents have been widely distributed. The cordial assistance rendered by the Church press was also specially referred to. Correspondence has been opened with the Diocesan Lay Workers' Association in England. A sub-committee was appointed to draft a report to Synod. Also one to make early arrangements for a convention in the fall. It is hoped Stratford will be the meeting place this year. The Bishop has approved a short form of service (abridged from one already used in Toronto diocese) for the public admission of lay readers to their office.

BRANTFORD.—Grace Church Workers' Fellowship Guild.—The quarterly meeting of the church guild was held in the school house on the 22nd inst., Rural Dean Mackenzie presiding. Although the weather was most unpropitious, the attendance was good and thoroughly representative of both the parish church and the two mission chapels. A series of very interesting reports was presented and fully discussed so far as time allowed. They comprised executive committee's report, read by Principal Dymond, chairman; church finance, read by Churchwarden F. T. Wilkes; the lay reader's work, by Mr. Caldwell; the choir and musical services, by Professor Boyce; the Sunday school (an excellent resume of its operations), by Mr. George Hatley; the Bible class, by the rector; King's Daughters, by Miss C. Wye; Brotherhood of St. Andrew, by Mr. W. F. Cockshutt; St. Paul's chapel, by Mr. Creasor, and St. James', by Mr. G. F. Scace. While it is recognized that the control of the services of the church is, in the Anglican communion, vested exclusively in the rector or incumbent for the time being, Rural Dean Mackenzie has always made it a practice to take his people fully into his confidence in these respects. At the guild meetings such matters are very freely talked over in a suggestive and consultative sense. This, no doubt, is one of the reasons why, with time and changes, complete harmony has been preserved in Grace church under the present incumbency. The rector by such means learns the mind of the congregation, and they in turn feel that nothing is done in which they have not at least been consulted. The growth and state of the mission chapels was referred to in most encouraging terms. St. James', Terrace Hill, with its Sunday morning well-sustained service, and large Sunday school, has long since paid off the debt on the fabric, which is now, therefore, in a position to be consecrated, and owes only the small balance of \$25 on a new organ. St. Paul's, Holmedale, with a well-attended and most hearty evening service, and also a week-night service and Sunday-school, largely by the efforts of the King's Daughters, now carries a debt of some \$150 only. Services are also conducted at the House of Refuge and the gaol, this branch of the work being undertaken by the chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

Public admission of Lay Readers.—At Grace church on the evening of the 23rd inst., Bishop Baldwin delivered the third of the series of Lenten discourses; this one being on "How to read the Bible," and the text taken from II. Peter i. 20-21. The address was listened to with the greatest interest and attention by the very large congregation present, and was distinguished by all the Bishop's well known eloquence and power of illustration, as well as by intense earnestness. The liturgical portions of the service were read by the Rev. R. L. Macfarlane, the assistant rector, and the lesson by Principal Dymond.

At the close of the sermon the Bishop took his place at the front of the chancel, and the rector (Rural Dean Mackenzie) formally introduced by name to his lordship the following persons as suitable to be admitted to the office of lay reader in the parish of Grace church, namely: A. H. Dymond, G. F. Scace, Joseph Stanley, George Caudwell, James Beckett, H. A. Genet, and E. M. Shadbolt. All of these gentlemen have been long filliag, in connection with Grace church and its missions, the position to which they have now been canonically appointed, except Mr. Shadbolt, who has recently come to Brantford with a record of many years service in his former parish in Chicago. After a brief antiphonal service and prayer, the bishop addressed the candidates in a very earnest manner. He then put to them the following question: "Do you, unfeignedly, believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testament?" and the answer having been made, "I do believe them," the bishop, handing to each one his written license, said:

"Take you authority to exercise the office of lay readers in the Church of God. Be you wise setters forth of the Word of God, and may you by His grace fulfil this your charge with a pure heart and mind, and be made partakers of the glory of them who turn many to righteousness."

A very solemn and appropriate prayer brought these interesting features to a close. It is, we believe, the first time such an event as the public admission to the lay readership by the bishop in person has, during Bishop Baldwin's episcopate, taken place in the diocese of Huron. The form of service used was an abridgment of one adopted by the Bishop of Toronto, who was himself a former rector of Grace church.

ALGOMA.

RAVENSCLEIFFE. On Tuesday, March 15th, the Right Rev. Bishop Sullivan visited St. John the Baptist's Church for service at 10.30 a.m. His lordship was assisted by the Rev. T. Llywyd, Rural Dean of Muskoka. The Rev. L. Sinclair presented seven candidates for confirmation six of whom were adults. The Bishop founded his address to the newly confirmed on the words, "Thine for ever," and his sermon on the text, "If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves." The anthem, "Lord, for Thy mercy's sake," was beautifully rendered by the choir. The Bishop expressed his appreciation of the Rev. L. Sinclair's choir and Mr. Tipper, choirmaster, and exhorted the congregation to keep up their interest in praising God. His lordship also intimated that the services at Dixon's corner school house were to be discontinued.

British and Foreign.

A thousand Chinamen, members of the Congregational Church in California and Oregon, have sent two missionaries to their native land, and have organized a foreign missionary society.

The London Missionary Society have been promised £200 per annum for not less than three years, towards the cost of carrying on a mission in the region around Lake Ngami, Central South Africa.

In the Bishop of Worcester, Dr. Lunn has secured another Bishop for his *Review of the Churches* party to Grindelwald in next July. Dr. Boyd Carpenter was the first to accept the invitation.

It was announced in Dublin that the Rev. Dr. Joseph Antony O'Shea, O.S.F., had seceded from the Church of Rome. He attended a Protestant church on Sunday in the company of a number of other converts. Eight conversions altogether, in different parts of Ireland, are announced. All the converts have joined the Church of Ireland.

Boston has recently been visited by several Bishops. On the fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, Bishop Walker, of North Dakota, officiated at All Saints' Church, Dorchester; Bishop Talbot, of Wyoming, preached at Trinity Church and at St. Paul's; Dr. Reeves, the Bishop of the Mackenzie River, Canada, gave a most thrilling account of the hardships and ignorance of the people among whom he had laboured for over a score of years. In response to his appeal, Dr. Reeves has received substantial help from the Church people of Boston.

The United States Supreme Court has decided in favour of Holy Trinity Church, New York, in the case of a suit to test the question of its right to import a rector from abroad in the person of the Rev. Walpole Warren, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Lambeth, London, who had been nominated to the incumbency.

Rev. Henry A. Adams, lately of St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo, formally entered upon the rectorship of the Church of the Redeemer, on the morning of the first Sunday in Lent. He preached from the text, "Behold His reward is with Him and His work before Him," and urged the congregation to vigorous work in gathering the people living around the church, and in undertaking all Christian energies.

ALBANY.—It is reported that the indebtedness upon the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, which amounts to \$40,000, has been paid off. One-third of the debt was promised on condition that the other two-thirds should be raised. This having been done, a friend of the bishop, who is, according to the daily papers, Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan of New York, sent his check for \$13,333.33.