

the Lord Bishop presiding. The Rev. Canon Richardson was re-elected Clerical Secretary and Mr. Wm Swaisland lay Secretary. From the report of the Committee on certificates and assessments it appeared that 218 congregations had returned 263 lay delegates; 21 congregations had failed to elect delegates at Easter as required; 90 congregations had failed to pay the assessments required. The question of dealing with the parishes or missions in arrears was referred to a special Committee.

The Bishop in charge referred to the losses sustained by the Diocese by death since the previous Synod, namely, the Revds. William Davis, Rector of Woodhouse; John Gemley, Rector of Simcoe, and Henry Banwell of Port Stanley. His Lordship also stated that there had been an increase in receipts of over \$1,000 during the year, although it had been necessary to overdraw the Maintenance and Mission Fund. He feared that in endeavoring to carry out the rule of Synod that \$10 should be paid from the Mission Fund for every clergyman on the list, and also providing for an increase in the stipend of the clergy at the rate of \$100 for every five years of service up to \$1,000 would bring about a grave financial crisis unless there was an increase in revenues. The rule was one which should receive support in every possible way, and the clergy should see that the collections required by Synod in this behalf were made.

From the statistics given by his Lordship in his address it appeared that the Diocese had within its limits more Indians than Algoma, the numbers being in Huron, Protestants, 5,870; Romanists, 303; Pagan or unknown, 1,268; whilst in Algoma there were Protestant, 1,054; Romanists, 6,043; Pagan, 158.

His Lordship also referred to the scheme for the Consolidation of the Church of England in British North America, remarking that it would necessarily subtract power from the old governing body, the Provincial Synod, the abolition of which he was far from advocating. The unification of the Church was undoubtedly a grand aim, but he desired to present the facts before them before they committed themselves to it, thinking personally that a simpler plan might attain the result aimed at.

Huron College was commended by his Lordship and it appeared from his address that there were now upwards of twenty students, too many for the present building and staff to do full justice to. He commended the Institution to the care and support of the Diocese.

The Bishop also referred to the question of patronage and appointment to parishes. He did not approve of all the power being vested in the Bishop, but thought that the Canon providing for the interchange of views before the appointment was made was perhaps the best solution of the difficulty.

Two ordinations had been held during the year, and 841 persons confirmed.

The Woman's Auxiliary and the Lay Workers' Association were both highly commended for the assistance given by them to the work of the Church. His Lordship closed his address with reference at some length to the deceased Premier, suggesting a resolution of condolence and sympathy with Lady Macdonald.

The following resolution regarding the Premier's decease was adopted by a standing vote:

That we, the members of the Synod of the Diocese of Huron, desire to give expression to our sense of the great loss which our country has sustained by the death of the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, late Premier of the Dominion of Canada, and our grateful appreciation of the distinguished services rendered by him to the Dominion during his long and useful career, and also to extend to his sorrowing children, and above all to Lady Macdonald his true and noble helpmate and companion in life, our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

The report of the Executive Committee showed that there was a debt balance against the Maintenance and Mission Fund of \$4,015.44; whilst in 1890 there was a surplus of \$974.52. This arose from the increased payments referred to in the Bishop's charge; from the more complete filling up of the vacancies in the Diocese, and from the transfer to the W. & O. Fund of \$1,390, which latter would in former years had gone to the credit of the Mission Fund. A noticeable and gratifying fact was this that in nearly every parish the collection for the Mission work of the Church outside the Diocese—controlled by the Domestic and Foreign Mission Board—were much larger than those for Diocesan purposes.

#### DIOCESE OF ALGOMA.

(TO INDIANS.—Sir,—Few people know with how much eagerness I scan each issue of our Church papers and magazines to find anything favorable in regard to our work among the Indians. The Indians always seem to me here in Canada to be left out in the cold, so few seem to take any real interest in them. Over and over again have I longed that we had a Bishop Whipple or a Bishop Hare to champion the Indian cause as they have over in the States. It was with feelings, therefore, both of surprise and pleasure that I read Bishop Anson's letter in your issue of June 11th. The Bishop just strikes the key note that I with my unmusical ear have been trying to strike for years past. Let our Canadian Missionary Society become a true missionary society with a distinct twofold object, (1) the conversion and Christian training of heathen Indians; (2) the caring for and helping of our poor backwoods settlers. There would be, I believe, an immense reversion of feeling in favor of our so-called Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society if only it would adopt a clear unmistakable missionary name and undertake a clear unmistakable missionary work, such as the Bishop has defined. The C. M. S. has commenced with drawing one-twentieth of its annual grant to our Indian Missions in the Northwest year by year. I am glad it is doing so. It is not the work of England but the work of Canada to support our Indian missions. I have been urging and urging that the Canadian Sunday Schools throughout the Dominion should make our Indian missions, and especially the training of the Indian children, their own specific work. Each Diocese, as the Bishop says, has its own mission fund for the support of its own Diocesan work, and when people are asked to contribute money over and above what they give to the mission fund, it should be, I think, plainly and distinctly stated for what their money is required, otherwise they will not give. Surely there would be infinitely more interest aroused and the funds of the Society would be infinitely increased, if instead of so much confusion being left on the mind about Domestic this and Foreign that and about paying back complimentary sums to the English societies, it were put fairly and squarely before our Church people that the Missionary Society of Canada has but two great objects before it: (1) the conversion and training of the heathen Indians; (2) the support of missions among the backwoods settlers.

In regard to my own work among the Indian children, my Shingwauk and Wawanosh Home here in Algoma, my Homes at Elkhorn, and my prospective Homes at Medicine Hat, I may say that I am just waiting the opportunity to remove the reproach and stigma which at present seems to rest upon them on account of their independent character by handing them over to such a Society the moment it is prepared to undertake them. It seems to me that events are at present shaping themselves under Almighty God's providence for the taking of some such course. The burden of my Homes for the Indian children has become too heavy

for me, the responsibility too great. Our funds instead of increasing with my increased work are at present decreasing. My scheme for carrying on Homes for Indian children in three different dioceses with a local advisory committee at each point I fear will scarcely work so long as all the responsibility of providing suitable employees, gathering in the pupils, and meeting the expenses rests with myself. It is too much to expect that the Church at large will have such confidence in an individual as to place in his hands funds sufficient for carrying on so extensive a work; and, for myself, I do not wish it; I am prepared, ready, anxious, to give over the whole of my work for Indian children to the Missionary Society of Canada if it will accept it and make provisions for carrying it on. I would take this opportunity of urging that the Board of Domestic and Foreign Missions will prepare itself to take action in this matter when it meets again in October. Let it undertake the entire responsibility of these Homes for Indian children, both mine and any others in the Northwest that would wish to place themselves at the same time under its fostering care.

I have made this *bona fide* offer now here openly in the Church papers. I see no probability of being able to carry on my work on its present lines through another winter unless our funds are very largely augmented. So far as I can see it must be one of three things. Either (1) the Canadian Missionary Society must take over these Indian Homes; or (2) more funds must be placed in my hands to enable me to carry on the work; or (3) the Homes must be closed. I hope it will not be the last; I am not at all anxious for the second; nothing I believe could be better both for the Indian cause and for the Church at large than for our Missionary Society to take upon its own shoulders the responsibility and maintenance of this and all other Indian work.

Will not others who with me really care for our poor Indians make it a special subject of prayer to Almighty God that at the next meeting of the Society in October there may be a great change made not only in the name but in the spirit and work of our Missionary Society, and that the Indian work which has been so long neglected may be brought to that place in the fore-front which surely it has the right to occupy. Yours, etc.,

EDWARD F. WILSON.  
Shingwauk Home, June 14th, 1891.

#### DIOCESE OF BRITISH HONDURAS.

From the British Honduras *Churchman*, issued monthly in the above Diocese, we find that the newly consecrated Bishop, Dr. Holme, entered upon his work with vigor, and that probably a great impetus will be given to the work of the Church through his appointment. Early in May he visited the Churches in the Northern district of the Diocese and called together his Synod for the fifth of the present month.

A general meeting of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society was held on the 6th of May.

The *Churchman* also gives the following information as to the Diocese of British Honduras.

The Diocese contains about 7,562 square miles with a coast line of 180 miles and a great many small islands called cays: hence there is much travelling to be done, and the Bishop ought not to be restricted by local duties.

Outside the Diocese, the Bishop has Missionary jurisdiction over the Protestant communities in the adjacent countries of Central America, entailing more travelling and long absences. At Greytown, Nicaragua, the headquarters of the Canal Company, where a clergyman is to be sent as soon as one can be obtained, there is a large and increasing population with no Protestant Minister.

The Episcopal Endowment Fund is only