

delicate health consequent on the baleful climate on Western Africa. She gave in the Sunday School, to an unusually large audience, a very interesting account of her former work and shewed numerous native curios. So injurious are the malarial effects of the climate that no European Missionary remains for more than two years at a time without furlough.

Dannevirke.

Vicar: Rev. E. Robertshawe, B.A.

Curate: Rev. C. E. Nicholas.

During the last year steady progress has been made in this Parish. The Parish is entirely out of debt, a new Church is nearly finished at Matamau, a Church site has been given at Te Rehunga, and we hope that, in a short time, a beginning of the Stone Church Fund will be made. In many ways, therefore, it has been a year for thankfulness. Unfortunately, we have lost by removal some of our best Churchmen, but we must console ourselves by saying that our loss is another's gain, for wherever they go they will be a help to the Clergyman in whose Parish they settle.

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners will have been held before this communication has gone to press, and we can only hope that the Church officers for the next year will be equal to those of the last.

The following reports of the various Parochial Societies are appended here:—

The members of the Dannevirke Girls' Friendly Society entertained their parents, friends, and the members of the Mothers' Union and Church of England Men's Society on Tuesday, June 6th, at a social evening, when music, parlour games, and dancing were indulged in. It is hoped to make this an annual gathering.

On June 13th, Miss Leslie gave an address on "Mission Work in China," which was greatly appreciated. Miss Leslie showed some very interesting specimens of Chinese art.

The Girls' Friendly Society is now working for a Sale of Work, to be held in September, with the object of buying a piano for their meetings. It is also their intention to give a percentage of the proceeds to Mission work.

On Sunday, July 9th, a corporate Communion of the Society was held at 8 a.m., when a number of the Associates and members were present.

Mothers' Union.—The eighth meeting since its inauguration was held on Wednesday, June 21st. There was a great number of members present. The Litany being read in the Church, the members afterwards adjourned to the Parish Hall, where Mrs. Eaton read a paper upon "Intercession for the Coronation." Afternoon tea was dispensed by Mesdames Benson and Grey, and a very pleasant chat being indulged in among the members.

This Branch has about 30 members, with several more to be admitted, and the meetings are held every third Wednesday in the month, this day being strictly adhered to.

Wairoa.

Vicar: Rev. W. J. Simkin.

Curate: Rev. R. G. Coates.

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on July 17th, and was well attended. The retiring Wardens were re-elected. The

Church accounts showed an increase of over £70 in offertories.

The chief business before the meeting was a scheme for providing additional Church accommodation. Of late the Church has become overcrowded on Sunday evenings, and it was imperative that something should be done immediately. The Vestry contemplate erecting a new Church in brick and are setting out to raise the necessary funds, but, as a long time must elapse before the building could be erected, something had to be done to cope with immediate needs. Another difficulty which the Vestry have to contend with is the question of the size of the proposed Church. If the harbour works are successful it is felt that the town will grow considerably and will, it is hoped, be of some importance, in which case it would be unwise to erect a Church only large enough to seat the present congregation. The Vestry considered the advisability of building an addition to the present Church, but unanimously decided that such a scheme would be a waste of money. A suggestion was made that the present Church and School might be moved on to land adjoining the Vicarage, and be joined together to form one large building which would be capable of seating 250 people, and adequate for the present. This scheme was brought before the annual meeting, received with enthusiasm, and carried unanimously. Application will be made to the Standing Committee for permission to carry the scheme into effect, and it is hoped the transformed buildings will be ready for use by the end of October.

Building Fund.—The Vestry will hold a Sale of Work in Carnival week (January next) in aid of the Building Fund of the new Church.

FRASERTOWN.—A Mission will be held in Frasertown at the end of the present month by the Revs. W. J. Simkin and R. G. Coates. Of late the congregations have considerably improved, and it is felt that a special effort is required. The Bishop of the Diocese intended to hold the Mission himself but was prevented by the bad roads and river bar from reaching Wairoa.

TINIROTO.—Early in the month the Rev. R. G. Coates visited Tiniroto for a week end and held two services, which were remarkably well attended and much appreciated.

Gisborne.

Vicar: Rev. L. Dawson Thomas.

Curate: Rev. W. H. Roberts.

THE DIOCESAN GAZETTE.—Our Parish is now taking four hundred copies of this GAZETTE. We have localised it by having a neat cover bound up with it on which is placed all Parish news and articles on Church life and work. The combined MAGAZINE is meeting with the approval of Parishioners generally. Next year we hope to largely increase the circulation. Too much thanks cannot be accorded our devoted band of distributors, who deliver the MAGAZINE each month and collect subscriptions.

The Girls' Friendly Society.—The weekly meetings of this Society attract a remarkable number of young people and their elders. During last month the Society had a sewing meeting, a physical culture evening, and a Scripture reading evening.

On one evening the girls invited the elder members (the Associates) of the Society to a Social evening. A capital programme was prepared for the entertainment of the guests. The evening closed with a supper prepared entirely by the girls.

The Society is doing a very good work in the Parish. In the large incoming population there are sure to be many girls who are friendless and lonely. The Girls' Friendly Society exists partly for the sake of this class of girl, and parishioners are asked to mention the Society (which meets every Monday evening in the Parish Hall at 7.30) to any strangers coming into the district.

Te Puke.

Vicar: Rev. J. Hobbs.

TO THE PARISHIONERS.—

My Dear Friends,—We are all so pleased to watch the gradual return to convalescence of our trusty Church servant, Mr. George Henry Fenton, who accidentally broke his leg and caused a very severe shock to his system. Mr. Fenton has spent the most part of a long life prominently in the Bay of Plenty District, where his every action has been subject to criticism. What an honour to such an one that everyone is moved by his sickness to bear willing testimony to his integrity of conduct and docility of character. Young men, take this object lesson, good conduct gives you a strong physical constitution and a stronger moral power.

Another little infant was brought to really Public Baptism at Maketu by both parents and three godparents. When will the exception be the other way?

We have also had a wedding in the Parish—the first for nearly two years. It was the quietest affair possible, taking place in the bride's residence (over seven muddy roads from a Church, my Lord!). Mr. and Mrs. Maclean have the brightest wishes of many friends.

A certain number of men and women have intimated to me the fact that for various reasons they remain unconfirmed. In deference to their wishes it is my intention to delay all younger catechumens till next year, and on the Bishop's visit to present, so far as possible, only adults. In the meantime all the sermons at Te Puke will bear upon this important subject, so that they and others who may have allowed their impressions of that occasion to wane, may have opportunity of preparation for receiving or renewing their Confirmation Grace. I shall be so thankful if any unconfirmed Parishioner will kindly send for me to discuss the subject.

On Coronation Day I thought we made the record of being simultaneously the most distant and the smallest locality with three Services of Intercession. Unfortunately there was rain in the morning and much rain in the evening, but we had the soldiers with the civilians, and sent £1 6s to the Auckland Veterans' Home.

Three members of our Vestry invited the Parish to a social in order to discuss finance matters in view of the close of the financial year. Rain and mud again effectually displayed their power, so we were contented with a nice little social without the business. However, we hope that arrangements may be forthcoming for a truer estimation of our revenue, as well as the simplifying of machinery in its collection.