

For the love and unselfishness which lie hidden behind the fierceness of war.

For Thy hand of power that can turn affliction into fruitful blessing.

For the widespread spirit of service which the war is calling forth.

For the power of the Church to bring comfort and consolation to the afflicted by her ministry and sacraments and prayers.

For the openings now given to the Church to draw men nearer to God.

For the spirit of unity manifest in the Nation and in the Empire.

Letter from the Bishop.

Bishopscourt,
Napier,

January 25th, 1916.

My dear People,

In June last I made an appeal through the "Gazette," as well as through the Vicar and Church wardens of the various parishes, for financial help towards the enlargement of the Church Institute at Trentham Camp. There was considerable response to this appeal from many of the parishes and parochial districts, for which I am deeply thankful. This Institute which was completed some time ago, is now in use, and is a great boon to our men. There services are regularly held, and there the men also gather for social purposes.

When the military authorities decided that there should be other camps besides Trentham, it was found necessary to provide similar Institutes at the other camps. We have now a good building at Featherston, with a permanent resident chaplain. In order to meet the increased expenditure, our Diocese was assessed at £400. Of this sum £265 has been received by our Diocesan Treasurer, £250 of which has been forwarded to the Central Committee at Wellington. To fulfil our obligation, £125 is still required.

These Institutes are doing such important work for our men that I can confidently appeal for the balance.

The claims upon us at this time are numerous and constant, but among the many that are made, I can conceive of none more important than the one which I now make, for it touches the whole life of the men.

I am laying this before you because I feel that it is only necessary for you to know of the need in order to respond.

Contributions may be sent to Mr J. B. Fielder, Diocesan Office, Napier.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

WM. WALMSLEY WAIAPU.

Bishop's Engagements.

February 1st: Tolaga Bay.

February 2nd: Address Confirmation Candidates in Parish Church.

February 3rd: Service at Mangatokerau in evening.

February 6th (Sunday): Tolaga Bay—8 a.m., Holy Communion, Parish Church; 10 a.m., Matins and Holy Communion in Maori Church; 3 p.m., Confirmation in Parish Church; 7 p.m., Evensong in Parish Church.

February 7th: Maori Hui.

February 13th (Sunday): Tokomaru Bay—Maori and European work.

February 20th (Sunday): Te Araroa.

February 27th (Sunday): Waiomatani and Kaharau.

March 5th (Sunday): Whareponga and Waipiro Bay.

Bishop Montgomery, when addressing a conference, told his audience that an officer in the Army had been brought back to the faith through reading, as censor, the men's letters home. Their simple faith and hope touched him, and showed him what a comfort and stand-by real religion could be in the cloudy and dark day.

Lessons.

(In accordance with the Diocesan Syllabus.)

March 5th.

(Quinquagesima.)

Subject—

HAPPINESS
IN GOD'S PRESENCE.

Main Scripture Reference: Genesis ii., 8-end.

The Scripture appointed contains one of the beautiful old stories of the "origins" or "generations," Genesis ii. 4. The teacher should tell the story simply—the older children may be shown the traditional sites of Eden on the map. Emphasise verse 9, two special trees: 15, the duty of work—work itself is not a punishment; 17, eating of tree of life is NOT forbidden. The Hiddekel is the Tigris; bdellium is a transparent wax-like gum, fragrant and soothing: onyx, probably turquoise or emerald; "in front of" means "westward of"; Cush means Ethiopia; "help meet for him" means a help suitable for him, able to help him and be a companion. None of the animals satisfy his needs—their natures do not correspond with his, so God makes a woman of Adam's own substance and nature. The true relation of man and woman is typified by the allegory of woman's creation. "This is NOW," at last, a suitable companion has been found. "Eve" means "life." Note as follows:—(1) Everything is done to make Adam happy if he will only observe the conditions. (2) No man is fulfilling the purpose of his creation, or is truly happy, unless he is doing some work. An idle life is unhealthy both for the body and for the soul. Work trains a man's faculties and limbs and makes him truly manly. God has put us in His garden—the world—it is our duty to "dress it and to keep it," that is, to till it and protect it against wild animals. Lazy people find life "boredom," and are constantly inventing new and extravagant pleasures to relieve its monotony. (3) The knowledge of good is natural to a man made in God's image; good is to be known by practising it,—you know warmth by being warm, you know good by being good. But man was