

acquaintance, mental growth and practical thinking, a proper understanding of them. If this is so, even in things pertaining to common science, much more must it be true of the deep things of God in revealed Religion? Of these facts and truths, how many have to be taught the child,—have had to be learned by even yourselves in your maturity,—as, so to speak, mere arbitrary elements of knowledge, into which, only growth, riper thought, and deeper experience, can put their full meaning, and through which only, he reaches any fair comprehension of them! Besides this, might not one pertinently ask the objector, when it comes to the mysteries of Revealed Religion, the being, works and providence of God; and the still profounder mysteries of the Gospel,—His incarnate mission, the atonement, His saving grace, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and other things of like nature: what do you yourself know, beyond mere *uncomprehended facts*? It is given us to *know* by faith, but not always by wisdom to *understand*. Both modesty and mercy, then, should make us pause before venturing to thrust between the little child and the grace of God in His Holy Sacraments, any such exacting demands for a comprehending intelligence.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE astonishing rapidity with which The Church has increased in numbers and membership throughout the United States within the last few years, has not escaped the attention of its denominational brethren, and from time to time various reasons have been assigned for its phenomenal growth, other than that of its Apostolical character and historical claims. Perhaps in no one city has this been more marked than in the great commercial metropolis of New York, and indeed on the whole of Manhattan Island. The matter has lately engaged the attention of the Rev. Dr. Shaufler, of New York, who, in an article contributed to the *Treasury* for April gives the result of his deliberations thereon, and points out what he considers to be the *most potent* of all the causes which brought about such rapid increase. He attributes this to the *doubling of the ordained working force* which the Church has thought wise to inaugurate in that city. He compares the membership of the Episcopal and Presbyterian bodies respectively. He says that in 1872 there were in New York city 19,672 communicants of the Protestant Episcopal Church; in 1882, 25,733; in 1890, 36,135. In 1872, there were 18,773 Presbyterian church members; in 1882, 25,120; in 1890, 24,230; showing that the Episcopalian communicant membership increased from 19,650 to 36,135, whilst the Presbyterians only grew from 18,773 to 23,430. Dr. Shaufler adds, 'the other bodies such as Methodists and Baptists and the like have not grown with anything like the same rapidity, in fact the Methodists on Manhat Island [not counting in the annexed district] have lost twenty members in the last ten years.'

Dr. Shaufler then points out that according to the year book of the P. E. Church for 1890, there were 22 out of the 75 churches in New York city that had more than one ordained minister in each, these 22 having 53 clergy, and the churches pretty well distributed throughout the city, and 'not massed in the most aristocratic parts alone.' He then proceeds to give the names and church membership of these several parishes for 1872, '82 and '90 promising 'that this *dual force of ordained men* did not begin as far back as 1872, but has only been in force a few years.' The result of his examination is that the 53 churches with one

man each, in 1872 had 11,121 members, communicants, and in 1890, 18,755; whilst the 22 churches alone with more than one ordained minister, had in 1872, 8,529 members, and in 1890, 17,280, showing that the former had much less than doubled, and the latter much more than doubled their strength.

The list given by Dr. Shaufler is so instructive that we reproduce it together with his own remarks, immediately following such list:

NAME.	1872.	1882.	1890.
All Angels'.....	40	100	204
Ascension.....	500	750
Calvary.....	455	500	905
Grace.....	520	950	1,300
Heavenly Rest.....	191	445	880
Holy Communion.....	650	878	1,100
Holy Innocents'.....	75	60	136
Holy Trinity.....	932	965	1,420
St. Andrew's.....	247	674	1,152
St. Ann's.....	490	553	589
St. Bartholomew's.....	550	450	600
St. George's.....	1,550	500	1,900
St. Ignatius'.....	150	260
St. Luke's.....	300	375	600
St. Mary's.....	316	511	551
St. Michael's.....	160	318	532
St. Thomas'.....	600	1,000	857
St. Paul's.....	420	564	614
St. John's.....	400	260	913
Trinity Chapel.....	563	1,558	917
St. Augustine's.....	120	480	814
Zion.....	178	276
Total.....	8,529	11,969	17,280

This is certainly a most remarkable growth. These churches now have nearly one half of the entire membership of all the Episcopal churches in this city. They number 17,280 members, to 18,855 for all the other 53 Episcopal churches of our metropolis. That is to say, 22 churches, which eighteen years ago had nothing like half of the membership of the combined Episcopal churches of the city, have so gained on their sister churches that now they almost equal the other fifty-three. These figures are full of food for thought, nor will it do any longer to say that the denomination in question grows because of its superior attractiveness in its ritual, or because of its doctrinal looseness, or for any other reason. If that were the true reason for the remarkable increase of membership, then all the churches of that denomination (sic!) ought to have grown with *equal pace*, as they all have these advantages. But the growth in the 'single minister' churches has not been anything like that in those which have more than one ordained man."

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE COTTAGE HOSPITAL FOR SPRINGHILL MINES.

To the Editor of the Church Guardian:

SIR,—I gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following list of subscriptions for the Cottage Hospital:

Rev. R. T. Hudgell \$2; a friend, Galt, Ont., \$5; Rev. Vincent Clementi \$5; per Rev. L. DesBrisay, Strathroy, Ont., \$4; 'Goodwood,' Orillia, Ont., \$8. Total \$24. Amount received from Canada, \$634.57. The amount required \$4,000.

We have been cheered this week by the receipt of a cheque for \$100 from the Missionary Society of St. Paul's school, Concord, N. H., a truly noble offering from the young gentlemen of the school. The gift will provide a St. Paul's School Bed, which shall continually testify to their act of kindness. If Canadian friends would enthusiastically rally round this work, the proposed building could be started this summer. It is most surely the work of Him, the Merciful One, who said, 'I was a stranger and ye

took Me in, sick and ye visited Me,' and 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto Me.'

I remain yours, very sincerely,

W. CHAS. WILSON.

Springhill Mines, N.S., May 6th, 1891.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

ST. JOHN.—Bishop Kingdon had a busy time of it on Sunday, May 3rd. He preached at St. Paul's Church in the morning. In the afternoon he administered the rite of confirmation to twenty eight persons at St. Luke's Church, 13 males 15 females. In the evening he was at the Mission Chapel and there confirmed a large class.—*Globe*.

ANDOVER.—Never in the history of the Parish of Andover has the Church been called upon to record so great a loss as when, on the 7th February last, Lewis Pickett, Esq., was called to his eternal rest. For thirty years he was the foremost figure in church matters always loyal to the Church's interests and always supporting by his influence and with his means every work of piety and charity which she required, when presented to him as a citizen, he was most respected, and the whole community were shocked at the news of his death. Having always taken a lively interest in public affairs his counsel will be very much missed, while the widest sympathy has been extended to his bereaved widow and family at their irreparable loss. As Mr. Pickett had been a Churchwarden for many years, and had represented the parish in Synod on several occasions. The Parish at its Raster meeting, passed the following resolution:—

Moved by the Rev. H. B. Morris, seconded by Mr. B. Hoyt and carried by a standing vote: Resolved—That this meeting desires to put on record its sense of the great loss to this parish and neighbourhood occasioned by the death of Mr. Lewis Pickett, who has been, for many years, Churchwarden, and whose character and rules of life, as a faithful Church member, have made his example exceedingly valuable, not only to the thoughtless, but also to those of advanced Christian experience, and that the Rector be requested to present a copy of this resolution to Mrs. Pickett.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

STANSTEAD.—Miss Janet Hepburn, sister of Rev. James Hepburn, Rector of Richmond, P. Q., who has for eight years been a successful teacher in Christ Church school, was stricken down ill, April 16th, and after an illness of two weeks has passed away. The funeral services were held on last Thursday and the next morning the remains were taken to her home in Robinson, Bury, for burial. Miss Hepburn will be greatly missed by her many friends and scholars. At the funeral service Rev. Mr. Forsythe bore an earnest and eloquent testimony to the high esteem and regard in which Miss Hepburn was held by all creeds and classes in Stanstead, where for the past nine years she has so ably and so faithfully filled the place of teacher; being, indeed, a teacher in the truest sense, for her life and conduct were full of noble lessons. There were many lovely flowers upon the coffin, a cross given by the members of the choir of Christ's Church, Stanstead, being especially beautiful.

BISHOP'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.—A meeting of a sub-committee, composed of his Lordship the Bishop of Quebec, R. W. Heneker, Esq., Rev. Dr. Adams, Professor Watkins and Messrs. R. Campbell, of Quebec; A. D. Nicholls and Rich. White, in connection with Bishop's College and School at Lennoxville, was held at the Windsor Hotel in Montreal on the 8th May. A report it is understood, was unanimously adopted to be submitted to an early meeting of the Corpora-