



THE CITY OF HALIFAX, N. S.

Dr. Breynton, the Society's old and most respectable missionary at Halifax, has acquainted this Society of his having been instituted into that parish by the Bishop of Nova Scotia, and legally inducted by the churchwardens and that he had received every mark of attention which he could expect or desire. In 1794 Mr. Stanser paid a visit to England "to settle some Private Concerns," and returned in the spring of the following year, and in 1796 the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel briefly reports that "the Rev. Mr. Stanser, missionary at Halifax, continues his usual diligence in the discharge of a very laborious duty. In the last half year he baptized thirty infants and one adult, married twenty-seven couples and buried fifty-two corpses, not including the garrison. The communicants are numerous and increasing."

The Bishop of Nova Scotia at this time seems to have resided at Aylesford, a place some ninety miles distant from Halifax. In 1799 Mr. Stanser again paid a visit to the old country, bearing with him the thanks of his own vestry "for his diligent, faithful and conscientious discharge of his parochial duties, as also for his assiduous and affectionate attention to his parishioners during his residence among them from his first induction in 1791."

So the parish increased and prospered till 1812, when the church was enlarged, the salary of the rector, who continued his work with diligence and tact, was increased by the addition of £50 a year, and £2,200 were spent upon the church edifice. In 1815 Dr. Stanser's wife died. A very chaste monument was erected to her memory by the congregation and put up in St. Paul's Church, and the doctor received leave of absence to pay another visit to his native land.

In February, 1816, in the 82nd year of his age, died at Aylesford, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Charles Inglis, the first Bishop of Nova Scotia, having been bishop for twenty-nine years. During the latter part of his life he failed very much, both in mind and body,

and his son, the Rev. John Inglis, acted as his commissary. Mr. Inglis naturally expected to succeed to his father's position and sailed for England with this prospect, no doubt, in view. But this expectation, enthusiastically shared in by his many friends, was doomed to disappointment. The same vessel which conveyed Mr. Inglis to England carried also a memorial to the Imperial Government requesting that Dr. Stanser, at that time in England, should be appointed to fill the vacant see. This memorial was drawn up by the Provincial Secretary of the day (the Hon. H. H. Cogswell), and was signed by many

influential men.

Dr. Stanser was not only much beloved and popular but he held many official positions, which seemed to give him a prior claim. At all events he was appointed second Bishop of Nova Scotia, and Mr. Inglis, bearing his disappointment with dignity, returned to Halifax and was elected the third rector of St. Paul's. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel spoke highly of his "important services in the active superintendence of the diocese during his father's long illness," and advanced his salary £200 per annum, voting him also £100 a year for an assistant at St. Paul's.

But Dr. Stanser's day for active work was passed and gone. Since the death of his wife his health was shattered and he found himself unable to perform the high and onerous duties of his office, which, after his consecration he bravely attempted by returning to Halifax, meeting his clergy and performing with the utmost difficulty, the offices of visitation, confirmation and ordination.

On the approach of winter he was obliged to return to England, where he remained for the greater part of his episcopate, which extended over a period of eight years. Why the bishop remained for so long time away from his diocese, feeling no doubt his inability physically to perform its duties, has not been, so far as we know, satisfactorily explained. It may have been that he lingered on each year with the hope of becoming stronger and so let the eight years pass by. It is said that he frequently expressed his desire to resign but that his friends dissuaded him, and so Nova Scotia, in the infancy still of the Colonial Episcopate, suffered a long and tedious interregnum. The Rev. John Inglis, in the year 1825, succeeded to the episcopate and entered at once upon active work.

The first Bishop of Nova Scotia was never called "my Lord," but the title was given by courtesy to Dr. Stanser in England and has been continued in the case of colonial bishops ever