

goodly Church in Canada; 95 under the S.P.G. It is this last feature which makes his family's service to be something unique in the annals of clerical life, and especially interesting in this centennial year of the first Colonial See. Mr. Cochrane's family service covers the whole period of independent Church life in the diocese, his grandfather (an old friend of the first Bishop, Inglis) being one of the first priests ordained in the Province.

THE *Pacific Churchman*, says of Bishop Perry's election it is the first instance of the kind. It is Nova Scotia's third effort to fill the vacancy in her episcopate. Whether Bishop Perry is likely to leave Iowa for Nova Scotia, and the United States for the British Colonies, is a question. He could not under any circumstance be transferred to another diocese in the United States, but there would seem to be no canonical reason forbidding his going to Nova Scotia, providing the House of Bishops accepts his resignation of his present diocese. Unless there is some peculiar reason for Bishop Perry's wishing to leave Iowa, we scarcely think Nova Scotia will tempt him.

THE Official Year Book of the Church of England for 1887 reports that the annual average number of candidates confirmed in the nine years ending with 1883, compared with the corresponding number for the three years ending with 1886, shows a gain of 22½ per cent.; and if we compare the two together the annual average for the three years before 1875 with that for the three past years the gain is no less than 47 per cent.—a figure which shows that the growth in the number of confirmees is outstripping the growth of population by nearly four to one.

## NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

### DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

AMHERST.—On Sunday last Rev. Mr. Lowe, of Summerside, P.E.I., assisted the Vicar, and delivered two admirable sermons. Wednesday morning at eight o'clock, Holy Communion was celebrated in Christ Church, and at two o'clock the vicar, Rev. W. E. Harris left for England via Halifax, followed by the good wishes of the parishioners for a safe journey and speedy return. Rev. Mr. Brine, deacon at present in charge of St. George's, Halifax, will take the duty during the Vicar's absence. The Rev. W. Chas. Wilson, rector of the adjoining parish of Springhill will have the priestly oversight of the parish, and perform all the offices requiring the presence of the priest. Rev. J. R. S. Parkinson will occasionally officiate in the parish.

PORT HILL.—The congregation of St. James' Church presented their Rector, the Rev. Henry Harper, with a handsome set of harness and an appropriate address.

GEORGETOWN.—The Rev. Mr. Cooper did a goodwork in this parish during his vacation in P.E. Island, and greatly attached the people to the Church and to himself. Georgetown should awake and put on its strength and secure an earnest enthusiastic Churchman to carry on the work.

MILTON.—Rev. Mr. Sampson has taken charge of the parish of Milton. Mr. Sampson will be remembered by his untiring efforts to build up a permanent congregation at Trinity, Halifax.

WOLFVILLE.—The reopening of St. John's Church, Wolfville, after having been closed for some weeks for repairs and extensive alterations, took place on Friday evening Sept. 2nd.

The pretty village of Wolfville stands on a gentle slope near the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, about midway between Halifax and

Annapolis. It is near the locality now celebrated in the verse of Longfellow as the scene so closely connected with the expulsion of the Acadians. The whole Annapolis valley is becoming more noted year by year for the number of American tourists, who wend their way hitherward for a summer resort. And among the some two hundred forming the congregation at the reopening service, there were noticeable the pleasing faces of some well-known representatives of American society from New York and the New England States.

Though the church building here was until late years a very good specimen of the architecture known as "early Nova Scotia," it is now so completely changed that it is well worthy the attentive examination of any one desirous of obtaining plans for a really good church structure. Though surrounded by a population not sympathizing with Church views; there is not the least attempt at compromising any of the principles which we look upon as distinctive.

The outside is boarded vertically with planed material tongued and grooved, and on the inside both walls and ceiling are covered with pine laid in pleasing patterns, so that no appearance of the often unsightly mortar presents itself throughout the whole building.

Though this is the Mother Church of the parish and was first erected many years since and enjoyed, or otherwise, the presence of a resident rector, still the neighboring village of Kentville, about seven miles distant, which fifty years since was but a hamlet and had scarcely even monthly church services, now rejoices in being an incorporated town of 2,500 inhabitants, and the church congregation have far more than kept pace with the growth of the population; it was, therefore, only natural that the Rectory should be placed there.

However the day is confidently anticipated when Wolfville will form a separate cure, and the writer believes only a resident rector of the right stamp is necessary under God to lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes of the Church in this flourishing community to a very great degree.

The reopening services, which were largely musical appeared to be greatly enjoyed and entered into heartily by all. Mr. Barnett, the accomplished musician of Kentville, with his choir from the latter place gave more interest in rendering their kind assistance. The Rev. F. R. Murray, of St. Luke's Cathedral, preached an excellent practical sermon, which gave forth no uncertain sound, and the other clergy present, viz.: Rural Dean Maynard; Dr. Brock, President of King's College, Windsor, who by the way has been doing clerical duty here most acceptably during the College vacation; Mr. Axford, of Cornwallis; Mr. Hind, of Newport, and Mr. Gwillim, of Aylesford, either by valued addresses after the sermon or in other ways gave their kindest and heartiest assistance to the Rector in performing what is acknowledged to have been a most successful and we believe profitable service.

This alteration may convey an excellent lesson to many another congregation. All the above improvements have been performed by the congregation itself—by no means large or wealthy, without the urging of either Bishop or priest—and there need be no doubt but that the same Holy Spirit who has led them hitherto will aid them in wiping out every vestige of debt on the Church. The cost of the alterations is in the neighborhood of \$1,100. The collection at the reopening service amounted to the creditable sum of \$52.

NEW ROSS.—Cloudy weather, but cool and bracing just right for the purpose, here on 1st Sept., when our 8th annual Sunday-school Picnic was held. Eighty-four scholars and over 400 other persons present; of the latter many from places far distant, even from the United States. Short Evensong said for the Sunday-school at 2 p.m., followed by long double-file

procession of the scholars, class banners flying into the rectory grounds; then a race after Mrs. Groser to catch the candy hail she scattered. A branch Sunday-school begun this summer, seven miles north, at Aaldersville, under the able joint management of Sq. Aalders and Mrs. John Hatchard is already making itself felt in the neighborhood as an influence for good. It numbers some 36 scholars. This school was well represented in the procession and at the Sunday-school table at 9:30 p.m. All scholars wearing badges take their tea at this table, which is specially provided for them by their parents. All materials on the visitors' dinner and tea tables (25c. per ticket) were as usual the people's offerings of the first-fruits to be converted into cash for church purposes. In addition, many kind friends in Lunenburg, Bridgewater and elsewhere, to whom sincerest thanks are due, had generously supplied a bountiful tempting refreshment stand. Fully \$144 were realized, with no bills or expenses to pay, and the day may well be remembered with satisfaction and pleasure by all present.

NEW GLASGOW.—St. George's Sunday-school held their annual treat on the 6th instant. Mr. John Cameron, a kind Presbyterian friend, furnished a charming spot near the town, and the children proceeded thither after a short service in the church, singing heartily (Hymn 564, Church Hymns), "Lord this day thy children meet in thy Courts with willing feet."

The day was lovely, and the whole affair was a source of pleasure to old and young.

### DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

BATHURST.—This Parish has just had a visit from the Most Rev. the Metropolitan, who is now confirming in the Deanery of Chatham. The Bishop was with us for five days, and was the guest of Theophilus H. des Brisay, Esq. On Sunday, August 28th, Confirmation was held in St. George's Church at nine o'clock, followed by a semi-choral celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The number of candidates was forty-five, of whom twenty-seven were males. The candidates assembled in the School-chapel, and led by the Rector, walked in procession to their places; the women and girls wearing veils. Immediately afterwards the Choristers and Clergy entered by the west door singing as the processional hymn "Soldiers of Christ arise."

The Bishop gave a most useful, and earnest address to the newly confirmed. His Lordship also preached at evensong, on the "Ministry of the Holy Angels," to a large congregation. The altar and font were handsomely decorated, and the former with its many lights, at evensong presented a very festal appearance.

On Tuesday evening the Bishop visited Christ Church, New Brandon, and confirmed forty more persons. The small Church was crowded to the very sanctuary, and many stood at the windows. Rev. J. M. Davenport, of the Mission Church, was present at this service.

On Wednesday evening, a special service for the newly confirmed, was held in St. George's Church, and an eloquent and instructive address given by Rev. J. M. Davenport upon the two important steps taken in the spiritual life, viz.: Confirmation and Holy Communion. We also had the pleasure of having our Rural-Dean Rev. D. Forsyth, with us. For some months the Rector has been assisted by Mr. Allan Smithers, of King's College, Windsor, as Lay Reader. Much good work has been done by him among the Clifton congregation, as shown by the improvement in the services, and large number of candidates. It is with great regret that we must allow him to return to his studies, but our prayers and loving thoughts will be with him, and we hope to have him among us another year. Meanwhile we all rejoice over the fact of over eighty communicants