

putation is met by the great teacher, philosopher and friend, Mr. Frederic Harrison. The climax is reached when this band of enthusiasts is escorted to "their Mecca and Jerusalem," the home of Comte, the object of their adoration, where, amid much French gesticulation, they are shown the scales with which he weighed his daily food, and are permitted to touch the sacred hand-rail once pressed by his emaciated hand, after which the English and French disciples formed into a procession to Pere La Chaise, where upon the grave whose modest head-stone bears the inscription, which is the Positivist motto, "Love, the Principle; Order, the Basis; Progress, the End," wreaths and bouquets were deposited. Finally, the ceremony concludes with a dinner, consummated by what the writer describes with the utmost gravity as "a punch." Speeches are delivered by a French, an English and a Hindoo orator, and the pilgrims drink to the French Republic and "the Great British nation, not forgetting Ireland"—and disperse.

JOHN RUSKIN ON CHURCH DEBTS.—The following letter, written by Mr. Ruskin in reply to a circular asking him to subscribe to pay off the debt on a chapel at Richmond, S.W., though expressed in more vigorous language than a Church newspaper would be justified in using, embodies several very wholesome doctrines, and is worthy of reproduction:—

BRANTWOOD, Coniston, Lancashire, }
May 19, 1886. }

SIR,—I am scornfully amused at your appeal to me of all people in the world the precisely least likely to give you a farthing! My first word to all men and boys who care to hear me is "Don't get into debt. Starve and go to heaven—but don't borrow. Try first begging—I don't mind if it's really needful—stealing. But don't buy things you can't pay for!" And of all manner of debtors, pious people building churches they can't pay for are the most detestable nonsense to me. Can't you preach and pray behind the hedges—or in a sandpit—or a coalhole—first? And of all manner of churches thus idiotically built, iron churches are the damnablest to me. And of all the sects of believers in any ruling spirit—Hindoos, Turks, Feather Idolaters, and Mumbo Jumbo, Log and Fire Worshipers—who want churches, your modern English Evangelist sect is the most absurd, and entirely objectionable and unendurable to me! All which they might very easily have found out from my books—any other sort of sect would—before bothering me to write to them.—Ever, nevertheless, and in all this saying, your faithful servant,
JOHN RUSKIN.

THE CAUSES OF THE NEGLECT OF DIVINE WORSHIP IN THE PAST of a large and important section of society are ably summarized by the Rev. Dr. Dix in a recent sermon:—

Why, said the preacher, do the men of this day neglect divine worship? Because the office of the preacher has been so long permitted to eclipse that of the priest, that men have forgotten that the priest exists. They have gone wild about preaching; they have acted as though the sum and end of going to church was to hear sermons; they have lost the idea of simply and sincerely worshipping God. Then they have gained in knowledge till they have become wiser than their teachers, who, compelled to be constantly writing sermons, yet having no time to study, fall behind their own flocks, until the pulpit having lost its force, they have tried to regain their vanished influence by divers sensational acts, of which, together with their platitudes and nonsense, men grow sick and leave them.

If possible, attend both services of the Lord's day.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this Paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE BISHOP of Nova Scotia left Halifax on the 15th ultimo, having made the following appointments:—

July 16, Musquodoboit Harbor; 17, Jeddore, Oyster Ponds; 18, Ship Harbor, Tangier; 19, Spry Bay; 20, Salmon River; 21, Ecum Secum, Marie Joseph; 22, Liscombe Harbor; 23, Sherbrooke; 24, County Harbor; 25, Guysboro', Half-way Cove; 26, Canso; 27, Arichat, C.B.; 29 and 30 Louisbourg, Main-a-dieu, &c. August 1 and 2, Cow Bay and Glace Bay; 4 and 5, Sydney and Weymouth; 8, North Sydney and Sydney Mines; 10 to 15, Baddeck and stations of the travelling Missionary; 17, Milford; 18, Bayfield; 19, Antigonish.

The Bishop will probably be in Halifax from August 21st to September 6th, when he will leave for Montreal to attend the Provincial Synod.

HALIFAX.—*St. Augustine's Mission.*—A garden party in aid of this Mission was given last week at Fernwood. About two hundred or more attended and showed their appreciation of the efforts put forth by the committee to give good and wholesome amusement. The gardens, with their beautiful flower beds and well laid out walks, the conservatories, with choice tropical plants, soft light from Chinese lanterns, were all greatly enjoyed by the promenaders while they listened to a choice programme of music by the P. L. Fusiliers' band. Pine Cottage was brilliantly lighted and cleared for those who desired to dance, and there were a good many who enjoyed themselves in that way. The refreshment room, presided over by experienced and obliging waiters, was liberally patronized.

St. Matthias' Mission.—A sale in aid of the Mission was held last week, and realized nearly \$70. The people of the Mission deserve credit for their attachment to this struggling child of the Church, and if well nourished St. Matthias' must of necessity become one of the most important Church centres in Halifax.

SPRING HILL.—On the evening before the departure of the Rev. C. E. Mackenzie, Rector of All Saints' Church, a very sociable meeting was held by the members of his congregation, who presented him with a purse and an address expressive of the highest esteem and affection, and regret at parting from him.

TANGIER.—On the evening of Sunday, July 18th, confirmation was administered in Holy Trinity Church, Tangier; Rev. E. H. Ball, Rector. The candidates were 19 males and 14 females. The Bishop's address and sermon lost none of the usual weight with which they are generally given, though the over-crowding congregation and insufficient ventilation on a warm evening made the service a very trying one to his Lordship, and in fact to all present. The church was, as people say, "full inside and outside," and the fact of one man outside trying to make a hole in the window that he might hear, led the Bishop to suggest a comparison with those in Scripture who uncovered the tiling to come to Christ.

On the afternoon of Monday the Bishop privately confirmed a sick candidate, in whose house classes had been held in the hope that when the time came he might be able to go to the church.

In the evening, at St. James' Church, Spry Bay, the apostolic rite was administered to 14 males and 15 females, making in all 63, with the unusual mark of more males than females. The Bishop's sermon on "We preach Christ

crucified," &c., was a setting forth in a striking manner of the Saviour as the central Light in all Church ministrations.

This visit of the Chief Shepherd of the Diocese has much cheered and strengthened pastor and people.

The two offertory collections, \$18.44, are to be appropriated to a fund to painting the exterior of the Rectory, upon the interior of which \$100 has been lately spent.

AMHERST DEANERY.—The next meeting of this Chapter is postponed to September 22nd, and will be held at Parrsboro'. The first service will be Evensong on the Feast of St. Matthew. The appointed preacher before the Chapter is the Rev. J. A. Kaulbach, M.A., Vicar of Truro.

ALBION MINES.—A church festival is to be held here on August 19th. The proceeds will be devoted to the improvement of the nave of the church, which sadly needs renovation, especially as to windows, seats and ceiling. There will be a table for the sale of fancy goods, in addition to other attractions, contributions to which will be gladly received at the Rectory, or by any of the ladies of the parish. Messrs. Willis, of Notre Dame street, have given a valuable sewing machine to be disposed of for the good of the undertaking.

LOCKEPORT.—During the Synod week, the incumbent of this Mission received \$25 from the Lord Bishop of the Diocese for the church being built at Jordan Falls, \$1 from Fitzgerald Uniacke, Esq., and a collection of \$12.34 from the Garrison Chapel, per J. S. Edwardes, chaplain. W. B. Reynolds, Esq., presented the church with two door-locks. It is proposed to place a memorial window in the chancel in memory of Bishop Field, late of Newfoundland.

During the absence of the incumbent, Mr. S. H. Shreve, Lay Reader, held service at Jordan Falls and Lockeport.

On Friday evening the incumbent gave a resume of Synod proceedings to the congregation at Holy Cross Church, Lockeport.

The Rural Deanery meeting has been appointed to be held at Lockeport on the 10th of August.

WINDSOR.—*King's College.*—The President of the College, since the Encenia, has visited several places in Nova Scotia in the interests of the King's College Restoration Fund, and in all the appeal in behalf of this fund has been liberally responded to. The Committee of the Restoration Fund are preparing a full statement of receipts and expenditure, which will appear in the next Calendar, and be separately circulated also. It is, therefore, very desirable that all persons intending to contribute to this fund, or holding collecting cards, should send their contributions or collections in at once to the Secretary, C. Wilson, Esq., Windsor, that they may appear in the first report of the fund, which will be made up about the middle of August.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. S. Gibbons has been appointed Rural Dean of the Shelburne Deanery, in succession to the Rev. Dr. White. Mr. Gibbons fully deserves the honor bestowed upon him, and has already proved himself to be one of the most popular orators and hardest mission worker in the diocese.

Rev. H. How, Rector of Newport, has been elected Vicar of Shelburne, and it is said that the reverend gentleman will accept the position and begin his duties this month.

Rev. Dr. Hole, the new Rector of St. Paul's, Halifax, is at once gaining the affection and esteem of his congregation. Last week a reception was accorded to him in Argyle Hall. About six hundred members of the congregation were present. After the pastor had been