

Indeed, he thought that these efforts had done more to alarm and unsettle Church-people than to convince Presbyterians of the necessity of reunion.

The papers of the Rev. J. Beale on the duties of the Church to her scattered members in rural parts, and of the Rev. R. Ellis on her duties to the masses of the population in the large towns, were thoughtful and practical contributions to the solution of some of her most difficult and pressing problems. The discussion on these subjects, which, with Mr. Spens' paper, occupied the attention of the Conference during the afternoon, brought out some interesting facts from the Rev. J. S. Gammell and others, which increased our regret that the time available for general discussion was not longer.

One remarkable feature in most of the contributions to this debate, was the heartiness with which the speakers welcomed the idea of lay help in reaching the lapsed or scattered members of the Church. A question that was not directly faced, was, whether these laymen should have the right to preach; but the work which was assigned to them by several of the speakers appeared to assume that they should, under proper supervision, have some such power. If this idea is at all general, the next revision of the Canons should witness a considerable extension of the powers of the lay reader beyond his present privilege of reading another man's sermons. For ourselves, we can see no valid objection to this. We are willing to take our stand with Moses, and say, "Would to God that all the Lord's people were prophets." If the laity are to take the part that is desired in the work of the Church, it would be the height of folly to muzzle them. The Bishop's license would, of course, be required, but beyond that it does not appear wise or needful to multiply restrictions.

The foundations of this large extension of the powers, and hence of the duties, of the laity were laid broad and deep by the powerful paper of Canon Body, with which the Conference opened. His position was strong and simple. All priestly power resides in Christ: wherever there is a member of Christ, there is a part of His priestly character. In the case of the laity this character is sealed by the laying-on of hands, an ordaining act, in confirmation. This priesthood of the laity by no means excludes a higher and ampler priesthood in the official ministry of the Church, but it does supply a substratum of power on which to rest the Church's action in summoning the laity to strengthen the hands of the clergy, by lawful ministration in spiritual things.

Mr. Speir followed up the thoughts suggested by Canon Body with an admirable paper on the priesthood of the laity in its practical aspects; and Pr. f. Steggall, Dundee, contributed some valuable suggestions.

The paper read by Dr. Danson, on the promotion of greater unity of feeling and action among members of congregations, was brilliant and full of point and power. Mr. Stephen's address was worthy of the appreciative reception which it received; and an interesting feature was added to the Conference by the earnest part taken by several promising young laymen; as, e.g., Mr. Burrows, Assistant-Professor of Greek in the Glasgow University.

Altogether the Conference fully justifies the wisdom of its promoters, alike in the selection of speakers and of subjects. May it be fruitful in good.—*The Scottish Guardian.*

Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

NOVA SCOTIA.

SPRINGHILL MINES.—Bishop Courtney visited the parish on Oct. 28th, and confirmed fifty-three persons in the parish hall. The words of the Bishop will long be remembered by those who were privileged to hear them. The Cottage Hospital is now nearly completed, and when the furniture for the same has been obtained, it will be opened. An appeal is being made for the necessary amount to fully equip and start the work. The Bishop during his visit was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Byers.

The Bishop of the Diocese has just visited the parishes in the Deanery of Amherst. Besides administering Confirmation to an unusually large number of persons, the Bishop has consecrated seven new churches at the following places respectively: Tidnish, Fort Lawrence, River Philip, Halfway River, Colbec, Shubenacadie, and Northfield. One of these churches (Colbec) was built by and almost entirely at the expense of one man, John Handley, a farmer of small means. And three others were built in missions of the parish of Amherst, under the direction of the vicar, the Rev. V. E. Harris, R.D. Three other churches in the same deanery will be ready for consecration next year, viz., at Londonderry, Springhill, and Joggins.

QUEBEC.

QUEBEC.—*St. Matthew's Church.*—All Saints' Day, 1892, was a red letter day in the history of St. Matthew's Parish, and will long be remembered by the congregation, as their church was on that day duly consecrated by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. At 7 a. m. Matins was said, and at 7.30 a. m. there was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, attended by the Lay-helpers' Association in a body. The service of consecration began at 10.30 a. m., and long before that hour the sacred edifice was crowded. The ceremony opened by the Bishop, clergy of the city and district, choir, churchwardens and registrar walking in procession around the church, singing the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation." When his lordship reached the west door, John Hamilton, Esq., rector's warden, read the petition asking his lordship to consecrate the church, and E. Pope, Esq., people's warden, the registrar's certificate, showing that the church and grounds were free from any legal encumbrance. His lordship having accepted the petition, the procession marched towards the chancel, the Bishop and choir singing alternate verses of the twenty-fourth Psalm. The Bishop, sitting in the chancel, then had the title deed read and presented by the registrar, after which his lordship repaired to the altar and invoked the Divine blessing. Having returned to his seat, the registrar read the act of consecration, which the Bishop signed on a small table placed there by two of the choristers. He then handed it back and ordered it to be recorded in the registry of the diocese. The hymn, "O Thou who sittest enthroned above all worlds," was sung as an Introit. The celebration of the Holy Eucharist followed, his lordship being celebrant, Archdeacon Roe epistoller, and Dean Norman gospeller. The whole ceremony was grand and imposing, and undoubtedly one of the most impressive in the history of the Anglo-Catholic Church in this diocese. The singing was very hearty and devotional, and the Creed, Sanctus, *Agnus Dei* and Gloria of the Eucharistic office were especially well rendered. The floral decorations of the altar and church were much admired; gorgeous and stately plants of all descriptions were there in profusion. The sermon, a most eloquent one, was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Roe, the oldest living ex-rector, and being of such a historical character, relating the many struggles and drawbacks with which the saintly founder of the parish, Bishop George Mountain, had to contend, that we feel it will be of such interest to Churchmen generally in Canada, that we will reproduce it in extenso in another issue. After the sermon the Holy Eucharist was administered, the congregation remaining, and we are pleased to say that henceforth in this church at the mid-day celebrations, the congregation and choir are to remain through the whole service. There was full choral evensong at 8 p. m., when the church was again crowded, and most of the city clergy were present. The preacher was the Lord Bishop, whose sermon was as usual very able and eloquent, and full of good points and sound advice. After the presentation of Alms, a solemn *Te Deum* was sung as an act of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the many blessings vouchsafed to the parish, the Bishop, clergy and choir being grouped around the altar. All the offerings of the day are for church improvements, of which several important ones are in contemplation. LAUS DEO.

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—*St. Matthias.*—Rev. and Mrs. E. Bushell gave about three hundred invitations to their "At Home," which was recently held in the W. A. A. Hall. The room was tastefully decorated. Vocal and instrumental music was interspersed with a good deal of genial "clickety-clack." It was a large family party, and every one seemed to be happy. Mr. Albert Holden kindly showed his microscope, and a young gentleman recently from the west of England displayed a good collection of photos. The supper room was filled to overflowing, so that some of the young and the fair refreshingly adorned the stair-case, for the moment, when ice-cream, &c., were on the tapis.

Appointments.—The Rev. Messrs. Elliott and Walker, of the M. D. T. C., have been appointed to the missions of Mille Isles, in the St. Andrew's Deanery, and to the new Chapel of Ease, in the parish of St. James the Apostle.

Girls' Friendly Society.—The St. Jude's branch of the Girls' Friendly Society held a successful soiree in the rooms of the church on the 28th ult., under the care of the president, Sister Edith. The rector, the Rev. J. H. Dixon, presided, and there were also present the Rev. Messrs. Bareham, Tucker, Troop, Renaud, Capel and other supporters. Among the lady delegates from sister branches were Mrs. Redpath, Mrs. Mussen, Mrs. Grier, Mrs. Capel and Miss Capel. The guests were received by the rector,

Mrs. Dixon and Miss Dixon, and refreshments were served by Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Forgrave, Miss Rafferty, Messrs. George Elliott, H. Elliott, Moore, Reilly, E. Wight and N. Wight; while Messrs. Forgrave, Moore, E. Wight and N. Wight attended to the general arrangements. A musical programme was provided, in which Mrs. Parratt, some pupils of Mr. Charles Geddes and others took part. The rooms were handsomely decorated, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

ONTARIO.

OTTAWA.—The annual Quiet Day for the Churchwomen of Ottawa was held in Christ Church, on Friday, October 21st. The conductor was Rev. J. C. Roper, of St. Thomas', Toronto, who gave a brief meditation at the early communion and three addresses during the day. The order of the preceding years was followed without variation. The attendance was good at all the services and many were present throughout the day. The three addresses were on the Incarnation, the Passion and the Resurrection, as furnishing examples, motives, encouragement and grace for a life of consecrated service. In the evening a general mission service was held and was well attended. The sermon was a solemn one on a solemn text, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." Nothing could have been more in keeping with the intention of the day than were all the addresses, and all who were privileged to be present are deeply grateful to Mr. Roper for his message and for his kindness in coming so far and working so hard for their edification.

GOSPORT.—*Deanery of Lennox and Addington.*—*Church opening.*—Gosport is a locality which, surrounded by water on all sides, but the one leading to Napanee, is not easy of access, and consequently has not received much of the Church's attention. At the beginning of the century the indefatigable pioneer missionary, Rev. John Langhorn, who travelled over all the ground between Kingston and Napanee, used to hold services in the house of Capt. Parks, U. E. Loyalist, on the north side of Hay Bay. After him no Church clergyman visited the section till a few years ago, when it began to receive fortnightly services from Adolphustown—indeed we may say from Belleville, for Rev. Albert L. Geen has come from there every second week to take duty or enable it to be taken at Gosport or Parks' school house. The Church people, a small band, seem to have appreciated these efforts, for when a movement was made in spring to erect a church among them, they responded heartily and liberally. Mr. Frank Bogart, whose wife is an attached Churchwoman, gave the building site. The Churchmen of the parish of Adolphustown and Fredericksburg subscribed over \$200 towards the church. John Soby, Esq., of Picton, gave and collected for it the sum of \$71. The Rev. A. L. Geen, by giving all the glass used in the building, and in many other ways, has warmly and materially furthered the undertaking. While the builder, Alfred Rendell, of Napanee, as if catching the spirit which was abroad, put his whole heart and energies into the work, and in the short space of two months ran up a church which for workmanship, design and cheapness does the utmost credit to his taste, skill and honesty. It is a small building, 32 feet by 18 feet, but well proportioned and church-like, with "pointed" triangular-headed windows and doors. Inside everything looks neat and well finished. The wainscoting and the ceiling are of ash boarding, oiled and varnished. The altar stands on an elevated dais, and the wall above and on each side of it is panelled to form a reredos. The centre panel over the altar contains the word *Jesus* inscribed in gilt letters over a cross. The side panels contain the sacred monograms *Alpha* and *Omega*. The windows are glazed with coloured glass; in the margins are enamelled centre lights. Two vases filled with flowers occupied the shelf over the altar. All looked bright and comfortable. The opening services were held on St. Simon and St. Jude's festival, Oct. 28th. The clergy present to assist in the services were the Rev. Rural Dean Baker, Rev. Gavin Burke, Rev. Arthur Jarvis, Rev. Albert L. Geen and Rev. R. Forneri. The chief service of the day, the communion service, was taken by the Rural Dean, who in the proper place read a formal declaration of the opening of the church for public worship, naming it St. Jude's Church. The Rural Dean also preached a telling discourse from the text, "I was glad when they said unto me, we will go up unto the house of the Lord." After service the clergy adjourned to the residence of John Soby, junr., where an excellent repast awaited them. At 7 o'clock evensong was said, and an admirable sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Burke on the Uses of the Church. At this service two infants were baptized, the one a girl belonging to Mrs. Sherman, and the other a boy, the first-born of Mrs. Thos. Tierney. The singing by the Adolphustown choir was excellent and the