

## NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this paper by Our Own Correspondents.

## DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The *Mail* says:—Rev. Dr. Hill has leased his house on South street to Judge Rigby, on a five years lease, and has rented the house on Argyle street now occupied by G. W. Dupe as a saloon. Dr. Hill will thus be near to his church. The house he will occupy was built by the late Hezekiah Cogswell, well known in church circles, for his son, the late William Cogswell. His widow (nee Belcher) is the widow of the late Major Burmester.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. K. H. Hind and Rev. E. A. Harris, deacons, will be advanced to the order of priesthood next Sunday, March 1st, in St. Luke's Church. Both gentlemen are doing acceptable work in their respective charges.

Rev. G. W. Hodgson's modern course of lectures on "Christian Evidences" is attracting much attention in Charlottetown. It seems a pity that the course is not being delivered in a more central and populous place. The Church in Nova Scotia, in fact in Canada, can ill afford to have such a man and such a course bound up in the ice-girt isle of Prince Edward.

The Rev. G. R. Martell, of Maitland, delivered lately at Stewiacke a lecture on "Louisburg." The reverend gentleman's lecture was intensely entertaining and filled with peculiar characteristics of place and people.

The Rev. Dr. Partridge delivered the second lecture of the St. George's course. His subject was "A forgotten page of History." The lecture was highly appreciated. On Tuesday the Doctor delivered a lecture before the Y. M. C. A. on "Between two Worlds." The papers contain long accounts of the same. It was a remarkable study of the riches unearthed from the ruins of Babylon and Nineveh which bore a Biblical corroboration. The lecture was illustrated with drawings of inscriptions and a veritable brick "book" found in the ruins. At the close of the lecture an invitation was at once extended to the Doctor to give another lecture on the subject in the same place.

ST. GEORGE'S JUNIOR TEMPERANCE GUILD.—The members of the guild, assisted by Mrs. Pickford, Mrs. Trider and Miss West, gave last week a sumptuous dinner of goose, roast beef, pudding, pies, etc., to the poorer members of the congregation. After dinner some of the guild children entertained their guests with songs, recitations and a short play. The people were very much pleased with this little act of attention.

B. D.'s.—It is said that there will be several applicants for the new degree of B. D. at King's College this year.

HALIFAX.—Lent came in with a formidable list of services in at least two of the churches in town, and with special Lenten services in all the others. There are ominous whispers among the grumblers that the late enormous multiplications of parochial machinery in the way of services at all hours of the day, societies and guilds at every hour of the night, entertainments, etc., are drawing a little too heavily on the energies of the clergy, and that perhaps more lasting good would accrue to the Church in general and Churches in particular if there was a return to the old fashioned concentration of force into the ordinary services of Sunday. Grumblers say that although classes have been multiplied a hundred-fold, celebrations have become more frequent, and personal activity unparalleled, yet it would seem as if the clergyman's place in the library was too often vacant, and the effect of this felt on Sundays when the greatest number are collected together to praise God and be instructed in

the Word. More power is demanded from the pulpit. Evidently the grumblers have been reading the articles in the *Church Times* on "Clerical Studies," which say:—"It is no excuse whatever to allege, as some clergymen, especially in large town parishes, do, that the calls on their time are so many and incessant as to leave them no time for study. For it is their teaching office which the Church puts before them as their first and principal duty, to which all others, however important, are secondary and subordinate. And we have our Lord's own words to the effect that "every scribe instructed unto the kingdom of heaven . . . bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." This saying cannot mean less than that every religious teacher is bound not merely to study whatever in the past may be useful to his pupils, but keep himself abreast of the fresh stores of knowledge being constantly added to the sum of learning. If this cannot be done without giving up some other kinds of activity, then those other kinds must go, that is all." An improvement might be made in this respect if a systematic interchange of pulpits could be made in the city. The Methodists know that not more than one good sermon can be expected weekly from their preachers, and so they have this interchange. On the other hand it is not an unusual thing for many of our own men to prepare and preach three sermons a week in addition to the classes, etc. There can be only one result when this is the case. The true and ultimate test of work is not multiplication of extra Church machinery and distribution of force, but is whether the general membership of the Church is now larger than it was, say ten years ago? And is the communicant list larger than it was ten years ago?

In spite of what the grumblers say the Church in Halifax counts among its clergy some of the hardest workers in Canada.

HALIFAX—Lecture.—Last week the Rev. Dr. Hill drew the largest audience of the Dalhousie season at the Academy of Music, when he delivered an able and most interesting lecture under the curiosity-arousing title of "Jabal, Jubal and Tubal-Cain." Nearly all the members of the Legislature were among the audience. Jabal was described as an agriculturist, Jubal as a machinist, while Tubal devoted himself to fine arts. The sub-division of labor thus made in the beginning was the fundamental principle of political economy as well as civilization. The doctor dwelt at length on the magnificent future of Nova Scotia and all of Canada, from an agricultural and mechanical point of view. The lecture was very practical and patriotic and frequently greeted with hearty applause.

DARTMOUTH.—An entertainment was recently given in Dartmouth Reform Hall in aid of the debt on Christ Church. The entertainment was a great success. Several people from Halifax took part, among whom we noticed Rev. Dr. Partridge, Rev. K. H. Hind, and the Misses Pickford, of the St. George's choir. The other performers were from Christ Church congregation, and were Messrs. R. Cutler, McLeod, Smith, and Skimmings; the ladies were Misses Duchemin, McLea, Ouselay, and Smith. The life of the piece was concentrated in the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Foster, who deserve great praise for the trouble they have taken to lessen the debt on the building.

ST. LUKE'S.—A meeting was called last week to consider ways and means for raising a fund for the erection of a new church. Thomas Brown, Esq., thought that St. Luke's should rise above parochialism and should confer with the Bishop, in order to see if a Cathedral could not be built. Mr. Brown moved a resolution embodying his suggestion, which was seconded by Professor Fraser. The Rector said the Parish of St. Luke's had no right to consider the building of a Cathedral, that was a matter for the Diocese. A Cathedral on the present site would mean the wiping out of St. Luke's Parish, Rector, Churchwardens, and Vestry. The Rector then laid before the meeting a scheme for

raising funds for the new church. Mr. F. C. Sumichrast moved an amendment to Mr. Brown's motion that the building committee be augmented. Mr. Gossip and Mr. Bullock thought that the meeting was not regular and the resolutions could not be passed. To be legal such a meeting had to be called with the consent of Rector, Vestry, and Wardens. The Rector said that he meant no discourtesy to the Vestry and Wardens, by not calling them together before summoning the meeting; he merely thought it was unnecessary. The end of the meeting was that a committee altogether apart from the building committee was recommended for the purpose of providing funds for the building of a parish church, the naming of the committee was left to the Rector, Vestry and Wardens.

SPRING HILL.—At a meeting of the Parishioners held here on 16th February, Rev. C. E. MacKenzie, the present Incumbent, was unanimously elected Rector of the Parish of all Saints, Spring Hill, newly constituted by the Bishop of Nova Scotia.

A branch of the C. E. T. Society, Total Abstinence Section, has lately been started in connection with All Saints' Church, and several very successful meetings have been held by it.

COW BAY, C. B.—The ladies of the "Sewing Circle," in connection with Christ Church, South Head, held their annual sale of work and a tea meeting in the house of Miss Jane Spencer, on the 10th ult. In spite of the threatening storm it was well attended, and resulted in a very satisfactory manner to all concerned. The committee in charge displayed their usual zeal for the cause in hand, and are deservingly encouraged. The proceeds (\$70) go to assist in paying off the Parsonage debt, for which every part of the Mission is working.

## DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

## NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF ST. JOHN.

At the regular annual meeting of the Church of England Institute, held in their rooms (Feb. 12th), Rev. Canon Brigstocke, president, in the chair, the Secretary read the report of the Council, from which the following extracts are made:—

In presenting their report of the Church of England Institute for the past year, the Council have pleasure in stating that the various departments of its work have, for the most part, been duly maintained, and that some of them have been carried on with increased vigor and interest. Its finances, which have been a matter of grave anxiety, are, we are glad to say, in a sound condition.

For these satisfactory results, the particulars of which we will presently set forth, we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the indefatigable exertions of the Ladies' Association. Throughout the year that association has worked most incessantly, sparing no effort, and losing no opportunity that presented itself, of making the Institute more generally known, and promoting in every possible manner its growth and prosperity.

Membership.—The membership consists of 9 *ex-officio*, 95 ordinary, 188 associate, and 1 honorary members, making a total of 293.

Religious Instruction.—The scheme of religious instruction, of which mention is made in the last annual report, was carried out with due regularity and considerable success.

Reading Room and Library.—As heretofore, the reading-room and Library have been the chief sources of attraction to the Institute. The library now numbers 689 volumes in the circulating, and 21 volumes in the reference department. One hundred and five volumes have been added through the year, and one volume has been kindly presented.