

1st, and confirmed a class of 154. The Confirmation service only was given, in order that the time which would have been occupied by morning prayer might be devoted to the consecration of a Deaconess. The confirmees numbered 154, and at the close of the service the Bishop preached from Acts iv. 17: "They took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." The sermon was susceptible of a two-fold application, bearing equally on the duties and privileges of the newly confirmed, who had consecrated their ordinary life to the service of God; and those of the sister in Christ (long an earnest and devoted worker in St. George's and other parishes), who was immediately to be set apart from ordinary in obedience to the call of her Master. In the second portion of the sermon, Bishop Potter spoke of the need of the restoration of the "lost order" in the Church, and of the efficiency of the service women can render to their Lord and the Church in many cases where their finer instincts and tender sympathies are required to supplement the labors of the clergy. At the close of the sermon, the candidate, supported by the Rev. W. S. Rainsford, D.D., and Rev. Henry Wilson, D.D., knelt before the Bishop, who addressed (according to the form of service provided) first the congregation, explaining the occasion, and then exhorted the candidate, afterwards asking the questions set forth:

Will you conform to the laws and discipline of this Church, rendering willing obedience to those who are set over you, especially to the direction and authority of the Bishop, thus seeking to promote the welfare of the whole Body of Christ, preserving it in peace and harmony?

Ans.—I will strive so to do.

Will you diligently perform the duties which may be required of you, with a cheerful spirit seeking to serve the Lord in all good works, and keeping yourself unspotted from the world?

Ans.—I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my Helper.

Know this, beloved, that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: Except the Lord keep the City, the watchman waketh in vain; Will you then labor only in the Lord, seeking your strength in Him? Will you watch always in the Lord, looking to Him for deliverance to keep your feet from falling? Will you by constant prayer seek ever to be guided in your goings and directed in your duties, as it shall please the Lord?

Ans.—I will do so by the help of God.

Three collects having been said, the Bishop taking the candidate by the hand, said: "For the service of the Lord we receive thee, henceforth to be called and known by the name and title of a Deaconess in the Church of God." The Lord's Prayer and a Collect, with three special prayers from the prepared service, followed; and the congregation was dismissed with the Episcopal benediction.

The church was full to overflowing long before the hour of commencing service, and the consecration of the first Deaconess in the Diocese, was observed with deed and reverent interest by the immense congregation.

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

The Church Helper, the Diocesan organ of Western Michigan, commenting on the astounding facts referred to in our Ecclesiastical Notes, has the following remarks of general application:—

As a part of the Catholic Church, this diocese has no other justification for its existence than that it is doing effectively the work which the Holy Catholic Church was commissioned to do: that is, to occupy, to grow, to enlarge her borders, extend her ministrations, and fill the land with fair fruits of grace. This is the business of the diocese, because this is the one ob-

ject for which the Church exists in the world. But there are especial considerations which should move us to do our utmost to extend the influence of Church principles.

As Churchmen, our chief duty is to do our utmost to make the Church a blessing to our fellow-citizens. Only as we do this with all the means we have, will the Church be the blessing to ourselves, but a trust for others. In so far as the Christianity of any community is sectarian instead of churchly, there is somewhat lacking to the religious prosperity of that people. Let distinctive church principles be practically and faithfully exhibited in any town, and all the existing denominations are compelled in self-defense to act more or less on these same principles, and the whole religious tone is deepened and extended. It is given the diocese, not to do the whole work of evangelisation, but to demonstrate a "better way," to act as leaven, till the Christendom of which we are a part shall come to see what a sin sectarian churches are, and, arising in its might, shall abolish the whole lot.

The Southern Churchman, under the heading Filial Respect, says:—

If filial respect and obedience is the ground of national permanence, as is plainly declared in the word of God, parents can see how important—first, to deserve the respect of their children, and then to require it. Children are to obey their parents, says the commandment, that their days may be long in the land—meaning not so much long life to them as long life to the country. When the Jews were to be cast out of their land the rebuke of the prophet was, they had not walked in the old paths and had not respected the voice of their fathers, as the sons of Jonadab had done. When, in the time of Christ, they were to be cast out again, one great sin of which they were convicted was, they had set aside the fifth commandment to keep their miserable traditions. As the Old Testament canon was completed, one benefit of the new covenant was, the hearts of parents should be turned to their children, and the hearts of children to their parents. Every nation that has a history bears witness to this truth. Rome maintained her influence in part to its patria potestas. China has owed her long existence to the simple way she has uniformly acknowledged the authority of fathers. Not for the sake of our children only, nor for our own sake, but for the sake of our country, should children be brought up to honor their father and mother. If we have made a mistake in this respect, it may not be too late to remedy it: in love and tenderness showing there is no happiness for them or us and no permanence for the country unless due respect and obedience be paid their parents."

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

SPECIAL SYNOD.—A meeting of the Synod of this Diocese has been called for the 6th July now next, for the election of a Bishop in succession to Dr. Binney.

BISHOP BINNEY AT REST.

A sudden stroke of paralysis of the larynx came and in three minutes the beloved Bishop was numbered with the blest. The hopes buoyed up by the Bishop's visit to New York for superior medical advice were shattered by the news of the dreadful blow that our beloved chief had died in a strange land, died working and planning to the last, worn out with worry and work. The body was at once forwarded to the diocese, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Binney; but a wash-out on the Maine Central necessitated the circuitous route via Quebec,

and made delay. The Vicar of Amherst, V. E. Harris, met the remains at Amherst, at the boundary of the diocese; the bell of Christ Church tolled, and some prominent churchmen were at the station to pay the sad last tokens of respect. The body reached Halifax at 5.30 o'clock and was met at the station by the following clergymen: The Archdeacon, Rev. F. R. Murray, Rector of the Cathedral, and Revs. Messrs. Moore, Nichols, Stamer, Winterbourne, Partridge, Neish, Edwardes, Gwilym, McCully, Wilson, Greator, Hudgell, Raven, LeMoine, V. E. Harris, Lancaster, Harris, Snyder, Hole and Bent, beside a large number of prominent laymen. The body was placed in the library of the late Bishop and, after prayers by the Archdeacon, it was surrounded with the many floral crosses and wreaths which had been sent by societies, parishes and private friends. A *prie-dieu* stood at the head of the coffin and on it was placed a brass cross and two candles. The Archdeacon, Rev. V. E. Harris, and Rev. Mr. Lancaster watched through the night hours, and at 5 o'clock a.m. a private celebration was held near the remains by the watchers and participated in by the Bishop's household. At 6 o'clock a.m. the clergy met at the Bishop's residence and carried the remains to the hearse, which conducted them to the cathedral into which they were carried again by the clergy. The Cathedral was hung with purple, white and crape, and near the Bishop's throne were the words "Jesu, Mercy." When placed upon the bier and surrounded by beautiful flowers the coffin was opened and there lay the Bishop, head reclining to the left, as if in peaceful happy sleep with an expression gentle and attracting which made us long to look again and again on his face.

The body was encased in a handsome oaken coffin with heavy silver handles, and large oaken cross on the top from head to foot, and the coffin as well as the space surrounding the remains were literally covered with floral decorations—among others a floral mitre, crozier and cross sent by the Church Women's Missionary Society; a magnificent lot of flowers from St. Luke's congregation; a crown of flowers from the Rev. Mr. Winterbourne of St. Mark's; a cross from St. George's Church Vestry; a cross from Christ Church, Amherst; and one from Truro; a handsome offering from Springhill Church; a cross from the Girls' Friendly Society; and another from Rev. Mr. Edwards, Garrison Chaplain; a cross of St. George from St. George's Society; a floral cross from the choir of St. Stephen, besides a very large number of floral offerings from loving friends.

The Bishop was robed in full Episcopal vestments and a rich white stole was placed around his neck. The inscription on the coffin bore the following:—

HIBBERT BINNEY,

Bishop of Nova Scotia,

Entered into rest April 30, 1887,

In the 68th year of his age,

and

the 37th of his consecration.

"So He giveth His beloved sleep."

From seven o'clock in the morning people began to visit the Cathedral to take a last look at the earthly remains of one whom they so highly respected in life. The stream of people increased as the day wore on, until at times the building was packed, several thousands of persons viewing the peaceful remains.

At 7.30 o'clock Holy Communion was celebrated by Rev. Dr. Nicholls, Rector of Liverpool now, as well as when Dr. Binney came here as Bishop, assisted by Revs. Messrs. E. A. Harris, H. Stamer, and F. R. Murray. There was a large number of communicants present who partook of the Sacrament. At 11 o'clock