

twenty-four dioceses until they have become self-supporting; and now Australia and New Zealand are sending missions of their own to Melanesia, and New South Wales is organizing also a mission to New Guinea. And it is largely owing to the action of this society that the Church in India is becoming more and more every year what we must earnestly desire it to be, a Church whose pastors and people are natives of India. Out of 640 clergymen in India 270 are born Indians, and next Sunday Bishop Caldwell will ordain twelve natives of India to the Diaconate, as in December of last year he ordained fifteen. Meanwhile, apart from the difficult task of adequately supporting missions for which the society is already responsible, there is the duty of responding to new invitations, the duty of lifting up our eyes and looking on the "fields that are white already unto harvest." Japan is welcoming with increasing cordiality the religion which once she persecuted so bitterly; and Bishop Bickersteth is making ready to resign some portion of his vast charge to an episcopal colleague, while other lands claim our attention with even more pressing importunity. On January 1 in last year the world learnt that Burmah, a territory larger far than that of the United Kingdom, had been annexed to the Empire of the Queen. But such an annexation surely implies new and vastly increased responsibilities for English Christians, which this society is most anxious, but is as yet from lack of means too little able, to discharge.

It is not often, my brethren, that we ask you to contribute to any cause whatever at the close of the regular Sunday service in St. Paul's. It has been felt that one great object of a Church maintained on such a scale as this is that, as a rule, it should offer to the people of London the opportunities of Christian worship and Christian teaching "without money and without price." If to-day is an exception to this rule, it is because in our judgment there is an exceptional necessity; and you will not, as we hope, be wanting to an effort which must command the sympathy of every man and woman who sincerely believes that through our Lord Jesus Christ alone is there real approach to the Father of Spirits.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIocese OF NOVA SCOTIA.

TRURO.—St. John's Church presented a most beautiful and tastefully decorated appearance on Christmas morning, reflecting credit on the few ladies and gentleman of the congregation, who so worthily gave their time and labour in beautifying their Church for the usual Christmas services. The decorations, while not elaborate were yet exceedingly pleasing, and the *tout ensemble* presented a most striking and artistic effect.

RAWDON.—On Dec. 22nd., the Rector and family moved into the new Rectory, which has been built during the past Summer and Autumn. It is a plain but substantial building, 36 feet by 30, with 20 feet posts, and reflects great credit upon the people of the parish, who are neither numerous nor wealthy.

The old house was built by the late Dr. King, the first rector of the parish, about 90 years ago, with an addition by Dr. Bowman, now rector of Parsborough; and had become very much dilapidated, in fact almost unfit for human habitation, consequently the comforts of the new one are highly appreciated by its occupants.

FALMOUTH.—*New Ross Road*—Christmas Day was in reality a red letter day for this Mission. The Church had been seated in time for Christmas services. Through the kindness of the administrator of the Diocese, the grant of £50 sterling from that generous Society the S. P. C.

K., had been received, and our burdened building committee thus relieved of much anxiety and responsibility. The incumbent of the parish was also the bearer of a magnificently worked altar cloth, frontal, &c., the gift of the Kilburn Sisters. A fine large stove was also used for the first time, the gift of Clarence Dimmock, Esq., of the Windsor Foundry Co.

For such evidences of warm interest in this poor Mission, Incumbent and people are very grateful.

A very hearty service was held on Christmas morning and an appropriate sermon preached from the words "and on Earth peace."

HANTSPOET.—Contributions to the new Church building fund come in very slowly. An earnest appeal has been issued by the incumbent, countersigned by the administrator of the Diocese and Rural Dean. At present only one response has been received, and that from Robt. Hamilton, Esq., of Quebec, who has kindly promised \$20 when building operations are commenced.

Will not others at this holy season make our zealous members happy, and encourage them to go forward in the good work by following this example?

ANTIGONISHE.—The happy Christmas tide has been again joyfully welcomed among us. As usual St. Paul's (Antigonishe), evinced much taste in the decorations, which though not elaborate are pronounced very neat and pretty indeed, reflecting much credit upon the few ladies, and *very few* gentlemen who gave their time and assistance to the work.

The services, Morning and Evening, were largely attended, and the musical selections exceptionally good and well rendered. The Annual Christmas Sunday School festival was held at the hospitable residence of E. Milledge, Esq., C. E., where a bountiful repast was prepared by interested friends.

After singing a selection of carols and a few recitations given, the Tree which was very prettily arranged, was dismantled, and the little ones made happy receiving toys, ornaments, and books.

Miss Fannie Brine, organist, St. Paul's (Antigonishe), desires to express very sincere thanks to the kind friends who contributed to the golden contents of the envelope presented from the Christmas tree, typical of the fact that generosity makes life's capabilities blossom, and in the scattering of good services, very pleasing remembrances are entertained.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. A. C. Jones, lately rector of Milton Parish, arrived at Bermuda on the 11th inst., to take charge of Hamilton and Smiths parishes in that Island, and was duly inducted on the 17th inst. The Bishop of Newfoundland is in Bermuda, and was present at the induction service.

MILTON, P.E.I.—On Christmas Eve the Rev. W. H. Sampson, rector of Milton, was waited upon by the Churchwarden, Mr. Arthur Holroyd, who, in behalf of the parishioners, presented him with a purse of money sufficient to purchase a driving sleigh. Mr. Sampson accepted the gift with many thanks, as a sign of interest in the work of the church. On the same evening Miss Thomas, who has taken a very active interest in the musical part of the services at Milton, was presented with a purse of money.

GUYSBORO.—A new church was opened on Wednesday, Dec. 21st, at Ecum Secum, Guysboro, the chief promoter and guarantor being Wm. Romrey. Morning and evening services were held and the Lord's supper administered to about eighty persons. Rev. Richmond Smith was the preacher for the morning, and the minister in charge for the afternoon. The structure is gothic in style, with small tower and

spire, surmounted by compass points and a gilded fish and weather vane. The plans were drawn by Robert Stephenson, St. Stephen's, N.B. The interior has a pleasing appearance, the angles of the roof being relieved by arc brackets of timber. The altar cloth and hangings of desk and pulpit, are the gift of Miss F. French, Dublin. The seating capacity is about 300. The building of the church was precipitated by an attack upon the Mission by Baptists as well as by the desire that it should be built in the year of the Queen's Jubilee and centennial of the colonial episcopate. Among the subscribers we notice the widow of the late Archbishop French, Miss P. French, the late Canon Lipton Oxford, and A. B. Wiswell, Halifax.

SPRINGHILL.—The Church was fittingly decorated for Christmas with an abundance of fir. There was a neat chancel screen surmounted by cross and star. Many banners with ecclesiastical designs and texts arranged throughout the edifice, and long texts were worked for each wall of the building. Many people worked enthusiastically at the decorations. On Monday last the Sunday-school children had their annual Christmas tea and tree. Mr. Shenton acted as Santa Claus, assisted by Messrs. Dawson, McNaughton, Facey and Kitchell. A presentation of a volume was made to our faithful churchwarden, Mr. Payne, from the Sunday-school, for his diligent attendance to the comfort of the children. While the tree was being stripped, proceedings were stopped by the arrival of a large surprise party with a big bundle for the Rector. Mr. Howard, on behalf of the congregation, read a very flattering address to the Rector and his wife and presented him with a valuable fur coat and cap. The gift was acknowledged in fitting terms and the men asked to lend all their energies to the erection of a church worthy of the Master. There is an enthusiastic unanimous body of churchpeople here determined by God's help to make the old Church of England a power for God in their place.

WEST LA HAVE FERRY.—The Christmas decorations in St. Peter's Church, reflect great credit on the decorators. The chancel was festooned with spruce wreathing and hung with banners and texts.

The principal feature was the screen which consists of three lofty arches in white ground latticed with spruce, across the top of the screen was a motto in silver letters on a red ground. At each side of the screen was placed a large bouquet of autumn leaves, ferns, and everlastings encircled with the words "Child and Jesus," in red letters. The pulpit, reading desk, and lectern were also appropriately decorated.

The nave was festooned with spruce wreathing and around the sides ran the text, "Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." At the west end in a semi-circle in red letters were the words "Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace good-will toward men."

Service was held on Sunday evening, and a very interesting sermon was delivered by the Rev. Chas. P. Mellor, Deacon in charge.

On Monday evening, a service of Sacred Song entitled "The Child Jesus," was held in the Church, the connective readings being taken by Rev. Chas. P. Mellor. An earnest address was delivered by Rev. W. E. Gelling, of Bridgewater. Very great credit is due to the choir and children for the able manner in which they sang the various sacred songs. The collection amounted to \$9.20.

St. James' Church was also nicely decorated with texts and spruce wreathing and festoons. The pulpit, reading desk, and chandeliers were also decorated with spruce; the whole presenting a pretty appearance.

MAITLAND.—The picturesque little Church