

church with systematic regularity; not when it is fine, or when it is not hot, nor cold, nor damp, nor stormy, nor threatening, nor anything that can be found to furnish an excuse for stopping at home; but attending Church as though it was at once the highest duty, the greatest privilege the family can avail themselves of (might I add with as much certainty as nine families out of ten will go to the next circus that comes to this town). And in the afternoon, father and mother dividing, as to them seems advisable, the blessed, God-given privilege of teaching their precious charges the Word of God. Oh! the loss you parents sustain who send your children off to Sunday school, and have never gathered your little ones around you and taught them the stories about Jesus—the Christ of God—and His marvelous lovely childhood here on earth! Taught them yourself—exercised your own high and holy privilege—put the ideas you wish to convey to them in their own familiar words, and with a tone of voice they know, understand and love. Watched their innocent wondrous look as you revealed to them, little by little, the deepest mystery that our finite minds can grasp, a something that angels desired to look into and stand abashed, and in solemn awe, so dreadful is it to them. How that the Lord God, the Son of the Father, emptied Himself of all His glory, and condescended to such a depth of humility as to be born a helpless baby in a manger, just as one of ourselves, and going through all the varied scenes of babyhood, boyhood, childhood, gradually grew like the little ones around you to be a man! To tell them of the perfectness of His childhood. How He never sinned in thought or word, or deed, and having gone through it all, having experienced everything they can experience, is able to sympathize to the full with them in all their childhood's troubles. Insignificant, unworthy of notice to us perhaps, but sufficient to them to cause the little bosom to heave and the tears to flow quickly down the cheek. And He, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Alpha, the Omega, He to whom all power is given in heaven and in earth, their Shepherd, and the only One who can feel for their every sorrow, and sympathize for them in their every little trouble! Do not neglect your responsibilities any longer. Do as God has bidden you, and as he intended you should do. Let your children look back in after years and call to remembrance the teaching of things essential to their salvation that they received at your hands, and not at the hands of a stranger. What can ever efface the memory of the prayer said at the mother's knee, or the mother having taught the infant lips to lisp the name that is above every name. How grand, how real does it sound to read of the patriarchs of old speaking of the God of their fathers—"The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk." Here is something tangible, something akin to reality. My mother's God is what many a man has turned his thoughts to after years of sin and folly. As a quaint old servant of God once said, "God gives us a blank cheque signed with His name, and only asks us to exercise faith and fill it up." When the Angel of the Lord passed over the land of Egypt, when he saw the blood upon the lintel and two side posts, he did not smite that household. What had the children done? The head of the house had exercised faith in God, had done as God had commanded by His servant Moses, and the child was saved in each case by the act of the father. Take God at His word. He is faithful, and His word is "Come thou and all thy house into the ark," and our ark to-day, our shelter from the storm, our only hope of salvation, is the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us and our children enter into it and find safety.

## Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

FREDERICK COURTNEY, D.D., BISHOP, HALIFAX.

HALIFAX.—Mr. F. Gatward, the organist and choir master of the cathedral church, who has supplied the weekly list of appropriate hymns in these columns for some time, is a strong advocate of Church music of the solid English cathedral type. This gentleman is a licentiate and examiner of the London College of Music, a vice president of the Guild of Organists, London, a founder of the American Guild of Organists, New York. He is also Hon. Rep. of the Royal Academy of Music, London. His four years' work in St. Luke's Cathedral is a witness to his untiring energy and devotion in the cause of Church music. During this time he has only been absent from his post one Sunday, and at St. Berkhampstead, Eng., only one Sunday in eleven years, when on the following Sunday the whole of the offertory was handed to him in recognition of his long and valuable services. Strange to say, his

absence on both occasions was caused by attacks of influenza.

WINDSOR.—In February last His Excellency the Governor-General intimated to the authorities at Edgehill his intention to offer for competition annually during the remainder of his term of office a bronze medal. We are now able to state that the trustees and directors, at a joint meeting held some time since, not only gratefully accepted this tangible mark of the interest taken by His Excellency in the progress of education in Nova Scotia, but after careful consideration decided the conditions of competition for the distinction proffered by His Excellency, which are as follows:—The Governor-General's medal for general proficiency in the subjects taught in the school.

I. Competitors must have been at least three years in attendance at the school when the medal is awarded at the annual closing.

II. The medal will be awarded to the competitor who secures the highest aggregate of marks in the written and oral examinations at the close of the school year, together with the marks awarded for progress and proficiency in the music or art departments, or in both.

The present academical year at Edgehill has been the most successful in point of numbers since the establishment of the institution, seven years ago. The average number of boarders is seven greater than last year, and ten more than the average of the preceding five years. The total number in residence during the Lent term was 76, and out of this large number there will be a good many who have been at Edgehill for the prescribed period of three years, which is one of the qualifications for candidates for the medal. The time limit appears to be necessary, for Edgehill is an institution expressly founded for the benefit of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the large outlay for buildings, grounds and equipment has been subscribed almost altogether by the patriotic people of the Maritime Provinces. It is largely supported by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and we understand that out of the 85 boarders who have been in residence for the whole or part of the academical year which closes in June, not less than 63 have come from the Maritime Provinces. The motto of the school is *Fideliter*, and it may truly be said that, with such a showing as the figures above presented display, the patrons of the school in the Maritime Provinces have been faithful to their trust. The medal of the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, open to candidates in a large public institution, is a prize well worth contending for, and may at any time be a most advantageous testimonial to the successful competitor. We are glad to be able to state that the distinction secured by nine of the Edgehill pupils last year in the examinations in musical knowledge at Trinity College, London, England, has had a very stimulating and beneficial effect. The number of candidates this year has more than doubled, there being not less than 23 names sent to the secretary in London for competition this year from Edgehill.

### QUEBEC.

ANDREW H. DUNN, D.D., BISHOP, QUEBEC.

LENNOXVILLE.—*University and School of Bishop's College.*—The April meeting of the corporation was held in the Synod Hall, Montreal, on April 7th, under the presidency of Canon Adams, D.C.L., Principal, the Bishops of Quebec and Montreal being unavoidably absent. A suitable resolution was passed in memory of the late Bursar A.D. Nicolls, Esq., M.A., son of the first Principal, and grandson of the founder, Bishop Mountain. It was announced that the late Mr. Nicolls had bequeathed to the College the sum of \$3,000 to found scholarships in memory of his father, Dr. Jasper Nicolls. The bequest was suitably acknowledged in a letter to the Rev. G. G. Nicolls. A report was given of the Lectures on the Art of Teaching given in the College by Dr. Robins, the Principal of the Normal School in Montreal. Dr. Robins' kindness in giving this course free of charge was suitably acknowledged. Students at Lennoxville are enabled by this means to attain the Academy Diploma on the same terms as the students of the Normal School. There was reported a small favourable balance for the working of 1896 sufficient to extinguish an old standing debt balance. On May 7th, the corporation met in Quebec at the Church Hall under the presidency of the Bishop of Quebec. Mr. F. W. Frith, B.A., one of the assistant masters at Port Hope, and a former master in Bishop's College School, was elected to the joint offices of bursar, registrar and secretary. Mr. Frith is an honour graduate of Cambridge, England, as well as of King's College, Windsor. His father, the late H. W. Frith, Esq., of St. John, N.B., was for many years a member of the Provincial Synod. It was resolved to erect as soon as possible a dwelling house for the Head Master of the school. Tenders are

now being asked for the completion of the interior woodwork of the chapel, and it is expected that the work will be proceeded with shortly. The Rev. G. A. Dumbell, D.D., Hartford, rector of Sherbrooke, will be the university preacher at the approaching Convocation on June 24th, when all alumni and friends are welcomed in Lennoxville.

### MONTREAL.

WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—The closing exercises of the Sabrevois College were held on last Friday evening. The large halls of the institution were filled with friends, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. The lord bishop presided. The clergy were represented by the Venerable Archdeacon Evans, the Revs. Canons Dixon, R. F. Renaud, T. J. James, H. O. Loiselle, F. Charters, Dr. Ker and T. Roy. The old pupils of the college present were the Rev. Principal Lariviere, B.A., the Rev. F. W. M. Barnes, Principal Tucker, B.A., Dr. Richer and Prof. G. H. Gagnon. The Rev. Mr. Renaud opened the proceedings with prayer. The programme consisted of hymns, songs and recitations. His lordship made some very appropriate remarks, recommending the work very strongly and emphasizing the fact that some of the ablest clergymen in the Church of England in Canada, were pupils of Sabrevois. Mr. Geo. Hagne also made some suitable observations. The Rev. Mr. Barnes read the results of the written examinations and the principal read the following report:—

*My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

We bring to a happy close to-night the sixtieth session of the Sabrevois Schools, during eighteen years of which your lordship has held the position of president, having been for many years previous to that its most devoted friend and ardent supporter, and this is the twelfth report which I have had the honour of presenting to you as principal of the college. I had indulged a wish to see this jubilee celebrated in a manner befitting the importance, necessity and magnitude of the work we are engaged in, but I shall have to content myself with nursing the fond hope that it will be a real jubilee, not the mere expression of nice sentiments couched in elegant phraseology, but a year of restitution, a year in which our mission will receive due recognition and assistance from the whole Church at large and be placed on a high pinnacle beyond the reach of poverty and want. In taking a rapid survey of this great work I beg to say that it had its small beginning sixty years ago in an upheaval of religious thought in Sabrevois, followed by a demand for a missionary teacher and a mission school. At its inception the work had for its nurse the Rev. Mr. Gavin of sacred memory, and under his fostering care and wise administration it grew in size and increased in strength until suitable buildings were erected on the scene of the work. Altered circumstances and ever increasing difficulty in providing funds furnished a sufficient reason for removing the work to its present site in Montreal. The circumstances which called these schools into existence sixty years ago have not disappeared with the rapid growth and expansion of national life. The needs are more urgently felt to-day than ever. While much has been done for higher education in large and wealthy centres, little—very little—has been done for elementary education in districts almost entirely French. Indeed, the education is utterly insufficient to equip any young person for the battle of life, while no provision is made for his religious growth and development. Our work has been very wisely conceived, but insufficiently supported. We have supplied a sore need, we have been the means of starting out thousands on the way of life, we have put within their reach the means of honest livelihood and Christian life. To many we have opened up the book of books, which otherwise would have been a closed volume, and have at the same time performed the functions of missionaries of the gospel. Is it a small work to break the first sod and sow the first seed? Is there a more noble, a more useful, or a more worthy work than to train the needy, the deserving, for useful and enlightened citizenship, and bring them to the light of the gospel? The sight of the confirmation class in the church and that of these smiling faces and thankful hearts must constitute to every fair minded Christian a more than sufficient argument for the necessity of our work and its more active prosecution. Our missionary effort has been a gigantic success looked at from any and every point of view. No money has ever been more profitably invested or yielded a better return. Our work has been carried on by the generous contributions of the few, and if, with the small means at our disposal, we have accomplished so great results, what would and could not be done with the generosity of the many? So solid have been the results of our work that I have looked around in vain to find one single Sabrevois