

reading of the service. One of the most valued and useful part of the book is the marriage service. He mentioned a case in which he had solemnized a marriage, and after the service a lady who had never heard it before had come to him and asked where that service was from. He told her and she made the comment, "I would never dare to be married by such a service as that. I never could take such solemn promises on me without feeling I should be bound by them the whole of my life." The Bishop said if this service could only be heard in every family in our land it would do more than anything else to counteract the loose secular idea that marriage is a mere civil contract and to cure the mortal cancer that is eating into moral and social life in many parts of the country. The Bishop also alluded to the noble burial office, and gave an instance in which a person, hearing it for the first time, inquired where he could get the book, and, having been furnished with one and taken it home, afterwards procured fifty copies at his own expense and gathered a little congregation, which has since built a church.

NOTEWORTHY TESTIMONY FROM METHODIST SOURCES.—It appears from the returns of the attendance at places of worship in London on a Sunday lately that the Wesleyan Methodist chapels were half empty. Whereupon the *Methodist Times* comments:—"The return so far does not give us a single Methodist chapel in any part of London that is so much as half full. It is only too evident that London cannot be evangelised on the principles which succeeded a hundred years ago, and which succeed now in villages and small country towns. These returns distress us beyond expression. We feel each return like a stab in the heart. But what a justification this melancholy revelation is of the *London Mission*! How entirely it confirms the strongest things that have been said! However painful the disclosures, it will at any rate prevent us from living in a fool's paradise any longer. At present Methodism is a failure in Inner London. No; we are mistaken. We ought not to say Methodism. What has failed is Methodism tied and bound, and handcuffed and fettered. Let Methodism loose. Let Methodism have a chance, and we shall flourish in London as we flourish—under different circumstances—in Newcastle and in Southport." [The italics are ours.—Ed.]

APOSTOLICAL SUCCESSION.—Bishop Littlejohn, of Long Island, says, "I can, if challenged to do so, show my authority traced back CLEARLY and HONESTLY and without a break to the very time of the Apostles' receiving that authority from the Saviour."

KEEP FOR REFERENCE.—The *Methodist Recorder* lately made the following statement:—

We, ourselves, after very close consideration, are prepared to admit that the Church of England, in the number of its more or less detached adherents, exceeds the sum total of all other denominations, the Roman Catholics included. We are neither ABLE or disposed to deny that during the last twenty years its growth and advance have been very wonderful, and GREATER on an average in respect of practical aggressiveness and voluntary organic development, than the growth and advancement of Nonconformity on a whole.

KANSAS' ASSISTANT-BISHOP.—The Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, who for some years past has ministered as the associate of Dr. Morgan, with the greatest acceptance, at St. Thomas' Church, New York, has been elected Assistant-Bishop in the Diocese of Kansas.

The Church of England has nine mission stations along the Panama Canal.

UNPLEASANTLY TRUE.—Bishop H. C. Potter

said lately that childhood, almost any and everywhere among us, is indeed a smarter and pertier thing than of old; but the swift and unquestioning obedience, the docile and cheerful acquiescence, the compliance without murmur, and the assent without retort—these are becoming characteristics of youth so rare as to be almost surprising, and so little looked for, apparently, as to be unnecessary.

DIOCESE OF NEW YORK.—In this Diocese, small in square miles, about the size of Connecticut, there are 331 clergy, 200 churches, 42 candidates for orders and 60 lay readers. During the past year 3,895 persons were confirmed, 6,840 baptized, of whom 758 were adults; number of communicants, 44,728; marriages, 1,777; funerals, 3,201; Sunday-school teachers, 3,517; scholars, 39,173; contributions, \$2,721,964, of which about \$100,000 were contributed to missions, domestic and foreign. These are large figures; but these contributions can only be a small portion of what is contributed privately, for New York church people are giving, and continually giving.

TRINITY PARISH, N. Y.—The work of Trinity Church lies mainly in the lower part of the city, from which all the churches have fled, leaving to Trinity almost the sole honor of working among the poor. Some of its statistics read more like the work of a diocese than that of a church with chapels:—Baptisms during the year, 1,207 (of whom 60 were adults); confirmed, 463; marriages, 270; funerals, 389; communicants, 5,676; catechists and teachers, 307; catechumens and Sunday-school scholars, 4,123; parish day schools—teachers 18, boys, 526, girls 198; parish night schools—teachers 9, scholars 314; industrial schools—teachers 142, scholars 1,863; contributions from the churches \$50,382; from the vestry, \$130,122. For all the good Trinity Church is enabled to do by its clergy and people and large endowments thanks be to God.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE PROPOSED CATHEDRAL.—The *Halifax Mail* has the following:—"At a meeting of the Cathedral Committee it was decided that the price of the Cathedral would be between £40,000 and £50,000. A committee consisting of the local rectors with power to add to their number, was appointed to procure a site and if possible sell the present site owned by the church on Robie street. Arrangements were also made to send a deputation to England to collect funds for the erection of the building; which is to be in commemoration of the centennial of the first colonial episcopate."

On this subject a respected correspondent from Nova Scotia writes as follows:—"A move has been made and it is to be hoped that everything will go along smoothly. Before the site is definitely settled upon, it would perhaps be advisable to take the opinion of say the other Rectors of the Diocese and parochial representatives, for the Cathedral must be diocesan, not local. The present squabble re the Dalhousie College site should be a caution. The deputation to England is timely and should be sent at once. If His Lordship the Bishop could go its success would be assured. Perhaps committees should at once be appointed to canvass Canada and the United States. The principal churches in every principal town on this continent should be appealed to. The time is short and the opportunity a grand one. Last, though not least, a committee should be appointed to call upon every church member in the diocese for a self-denying subscription, and Halifax at once should head the list. As a rule it is useless to beg till strangers can see that those most interested have shown their interest in dollars and cents. Another hint, not every eloquent

man, or man of standing is a good beggar; often just the reverse. Fiscal genius is required, for successful money-making. In this mission as in others look ye out men of activity among you. An eloquent and telling speaker linked to a first class beggar will form a good team. The clergy will materially help the movement by at once keeping the idea in the eyes of the public through the local papers. However much some may attempt to discredit the influence of the press, the wise man of today knows that it is one of the mightiest forces for weal or for woe in the community, let us take hold and use it for weal; let the people know and talk all about it. Many of us are waiting expectantly for full printed particulars from the committee which might be utilized for this purpose. Let us all pull together to prepare with all our might for the House of our God and each one be willing to consecrate his or her service in order to make that house 'exceeding magnificent,' then in the words of David, 'Fear not nor be dismayed; for the Lord even my God will be with thee, He will not fail thee, nor forsake thee until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the House of the Lord.' —Com.

COLLEGE CONSOLIDATION.—Quite an exciting breeze has been stirred in Halifax over the proposal to re-build the New Dalhousie College on four acres of ground. Many men in Halifax having an eye to future consolidation protest against it. Among them the Rev. Dr. Partridge, lecturer on Apologetics at King's College, writes:—

"The scheme of university consolidation has for the present received a check. But it is the opinion of many clear-headed men that it is only a question of time. If the future university of the Maritime Provinces is to find its home in Halifax it can only do so by having a suitable location. It would seem therefore a suicidal policy for Dalhousie College, the probable centre of the higher education in the provinces, to erect its new buildings on a site where the addition of the buildings of other institutions would be an impossibility. Any other suitable site being obtainable, I, as a citizen of Halifax, should strongly deprecate the erection of Dalhousie College on four acres of ground."

ST. PAUL'S SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—An interesting distribution of prizes took place last week, Dr. Hole, the Rector, presiding, when a very large number of children received handsome presents. Godfrey Smith, Esq., has worked up quite an enthusiasm in the school.

ALBION MINES.—Christ Church has been cleared of its "pews" and has now open benches of a pattern easy to the occupants, and so arranged as to afford a middle alley between them direct from the western door to the Chancel steps.

All perceive a great improvement in this matter as well as in the disappearance of stoves and stove pipes through the introduction of hot air furnaces.

PICTOR.—St. James'.—The Advent services in this parish have been remarkably well attended. The Rector delivered a course of sermons on the special teaching of the season. The Bible class held at the rectory on Tuesday evenings is also well attended and highly appreciated.

CAPE BRETON.

COW BAY.—Parish of St. Paul's.—In reviewing the work done in this Parish during the Church year which has just closed; there is much to cheer and encourage us as church people. The new organizations which became ours with the formation of the Parish at Easter have been taken advantage of and much good has been the result.

The majority of those confirmed a few