

The Lenten season has been one of much activity in this parish. There have been seven services during each week performed by the Rector. Four of these have been held during the week days and at each there has been a stirring Lenten address. The congregations have been large at every service. Good Friday services were especially solemn and the earnest words addressed to each of the congregations, we trust, will have a lasting effect. Easter day came in bright and mild. There were two celebrations of the Holy Communion, at which there were thirty-eight present. The services in the Parish Church were choral both morning and evening.

There are one hundred and twenty-five communicants in the parish altogether, but as many of these live in the distance at outstations, all could not communicate on Easter day. The Easter meeting was well attended, and parish matters were shown to be in a very satisfactory condition.

AMHERST.—The Easter day services were truly appropriate to the day, being exceedingly bright and hearty, and were attended throughout by large congregations. There were three celebrations of Holy Communion, at 7, 9 and 11 o'clock, the number of communicants being very large. The floral decorations were very beautiful, the altar receiving the most attention. At the entrance to the chancel were a number of calla lilies in bloom together with other choice plants.

At the annual parish meeting on Easter Monday the following were elected wardens for the ensuing year:—Barry D. Bent (re-elected) and Amos B. Ether, J. Medly Townshend, retiring.

SYDNEY MINES.—The regular Easter meeting was held in this parish on Monday, the 11th, at 3 p.m. The accounts were presented by R. H. Brown, Churchwarden, and showed a balance of \$106 in favor of the church. Messrs. R. H. Brown and Sydney Bridge were re-elected Churchwardens.

Just before Lent a very successful concert was given for the benefit of the Sunday-school. Through the zealous efforts of Miss L. Johnstone a small organ has been placed in the Sunday-school.

NORTH SYDNEY.—At the regular Easter meeting in this parish the accounts as rendered by the Vestry clerk, showed a small balance in favor of the church. This was hardly expected, as during the year a number of unusual expenses have been incurred, including the enlarging of the Church. The amount guaranteed towards the Rector's salary had been over-subscribed, and the Secretary was directed to pay the surplus to the Rector. Messrs. J. Peppett and L. W. Hoyt were elected Churchwardens, and L. W. Wilson, Vestry clerk. The old Vestry was re-elected with the substitution of Mr. D. J. McKenzie's name for that of J. Peppett.

A motion was passed directing the Churchwardens to take some steps towards securing a graveyard. Mr. J. Peppett, seconded by Mr. D. A. Smith, made the following important motion which passed unanimously:—"That in future a special collection be taken up in every quarter, beginning first Sunday in July, for the formation of a Rector's superannuation fund, such money to be banked and accumulated at compound interest, and to be placed in trust of the Churchwardens to be used for the purpose named and no other." The object of this motion is to secure some pecuniary provision for a clergyman who while laboring in the parish should become incapacitated through age or illness. After passing a vote of thanks to the Rector, the meeting adjourned.

SHELBOURNE.—During Lent a course of ser-

mons on "The Deadly Sins" and "The Ministry of St. John the Baptist" was delivered in the parish church at the morning and evening services. Bible-classes upon the Book of Joshua and Holy Communion were held on Wednesday and Friday evenings. During Holy Week after Evensong the Story of the Cross was sung and a special sermon preached. Besides Mattins, a Good Friday devotion of the "Three Hours" was again preached, and in the evening a sermon on "His descent into Hell."

On the great Sabbath the Rector baptised four children in the afternoon in the presence of a good congregation, and a preparatory service for communicants was held in the evening.

The services on Easter day were very bright and hearty. Mrs. F. W. Taylor deserves great praise for the excellent manner in which the musical portions of the service were rendered. The anthem was grand. The floral decorations, arranged by the ladies, were magnificent, and a profusion of callas and flowers in pots were about the prayer-desk, pulpit, lectern and fold-stool. The altar, etc., were all vested in white, and besides the cross and vases of flowers there was above the reredos the text, "Our Risen Lord" in white letters on moss. Our joy was increased by the presence of our revered Rector, who delivered a most appropriate and touching sermon. A large number of communicants greeted their risen Lord, and the collection of a very unusual sum they had not come empty.

At the Easter meeting Messrs. R. A. Bruce and Jonathan Holden were elected wardens. The necessary business was transacted satisfactorily, and the increase of the Vicar's salary by \$100 testified to the helpfulness of the parishioners.

At the outstations special services were held during Lent, and we trust that the seed sown will be shown to have fallen in many an instance on good ground. The collection on Good Friday, \$5.54, was devoted to conversion of the Jews. Ten new communicants have been added to our list.

HALIFAX.—*Easter Meetings.*—The various financial statements show the churches to be in a flourishing condition, although many of old debts on some of the churches still remain (and do not appear as liabilities in some of the reports). The debts of town churches should receive immediate and pressing attention, and we are glad to hear that this fact is being recognised in some, if not all the churches. A plain statement of the actual indebtedness and the amount drawn on current expenses for interest will often arouse a congregation to persistent effort in clearing off the debts. On the whole the financial statements are very satisfactory. We learn that the following officers have been elected in the under mentioned churches:—

St. Luke's.—Maynard Bowman, C. M. Creed, Wardens; W. C. Silver, John T. Wylde, delegates to the Synod.

St. George's.—G. A. Woodill, C. W. Rennels, Wardens.

DARTMOUTH.—J. W. Allison, James Simmonds, Wardens.

CHURCH ARMY ENROLMENT.—The enrolment service of the Church Army, held in St. Paul's Church last week was a most interesting service, and an undoubted evidence of the great work being done in our midst by Capt. Winfield and Lieut. Lloyd. There were thirty men and thirty-three women enrolled. The Rev. Dr. Hole presented each member, led forward by Capt. Winfield, with a red cord "as a solemn badge of enrolment in the Church Army," to be worn in the button-hole. After all had been enrolled, Dr. Hole, at the request of those in command in the Old Country, presented Capt. Winfield with his commission as a Staff Captain

(the highest rank in the Army), and Lieut. Lloyd was also raised to the rank of Captain, after which some twelve lady members of St. Paul's congregation were invested with the red cord as associates members of the Army.

WELCOME.—The members of St. Paul's congregation held a meeting in Argyle hall last week for the purpose of welcoming the Rev. N. LeMoine, M.A., the new Curate for St. Paul's, lately from Harbor Grace Nfld., and the Rev. M. Poole, the now curate in charge of Trinity Church, just from London University. The reverend gentlemen were introduced to all present by the Rector, Rev. Dr. Hole.

TRURO.—The energetic churchwardens, Dr. D. H. Muir and W. H. Tremaine, in their financial report show how the Church has progressed during the past six years. Many improvements have been made, and an increase in the Vicar's stipend is recommended. The sum of \$3,049.85 was paid in last year. Truro is one of the banner parishes of the diocese. The following Sunday collections will show the satisfactory condition:—Sunday average in 1881-82, \$18.48; in 1882-83, \$19.35; in 1883-84, \$22.15; in 1884-85, \$25.31; in 1885-86, \$26.01; in 1886-87, \$26.10.

CAPE BRETON.

SYDNEY MINES.—*Deanery Meeting.*—The regular meeting of the Sydney Rural Deanery was held in the parishes of Sydney Mines and North Sydney on Wednesday, March 16th. Mattins was said in St. John's Church, North Sydney at 11 o'clock, followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion. Rev. W. J. Lockyer was the preacher. The Chapter met at the Rectory, Sydney Mines at 3 o'clock p.m. After prayers a portion of 2nd Timothy was read in Greek and considered at length. Then followed routine business, after which the Rural Dean read a communication from the Amherst Rural Deanery regarding the name of the Church of England in Canada, requesting an expression of opinion as to whether it should be changed to "The Church of Canada." After some discussion a resolution was passed to the effect "that the members of this Deanery, while recognizing the prosperity of the title 'Church of Canada' as applied to a branch of the Catholic Church having a federal organization co-terminous with the Dominion, yet inasmuch as no such body at present exists, consider the proposed change premature." At 7:30 Evensong was said at Trinity Church, Sydney Mines, and a sermon preached by the Rural Dean.

NORTH SYDNEY.—On Thursday, March 17th, a large meeting was held in the Sunday-school at North Sydney, for the purpose of forming a "Church Workers' Association" in the Deanery. The chair was taken by the Rural Dean, Rev. D. Smith, who brought the matter before the meeting in a neat and suggestive address. Rev. R. D. Bambrick made a short speech explaining the nature of the Society it was desired to form. Speech were also made by Messrs. Peppett, Earle, Smith, Lewis and other, expressing approval of the plan. The meeting then proceeded to arrange a constitution, elect officers, and appoint committees. The Rural Dean was made president; the clergymen of the different parishes and F. C. Kimber, vice-presidents; L. W. Wilson, secretary, and Miss J. Bown, treasurer.

The object of the Association is to bring the Church workers of the Deanery together for mutual consultation and encouragement. It will consist of those in the different parishes who are interested in Church work. Such became members upon being accepted by the committee and the payment of a small entrance fee. It will hold its meetings in the different parishes according to arrangement. At these meetings papers upon various departments of Church work will be read and discussed.