

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

THE Bishop of Fredericton before he left the province for a short visit to England, issued a printed notice to the Clergy of his diocese of the Triennial Visitation to be holden at the Cathedral about the end of August, or beginning of September next. It contains one paragraph which we wish to bring before the notice of our lay-readers. It is as follows, "Should any of your Church-wardens think proper to attend, I beg that you will inform them that their presence would be most acceptable." Now there are many Church-wardens for the country parishes near Fredericton, such as those from Mauderville, Douglas, Kingsclear, Prince William, and Stanley, who might surely attend without inconvenience or expense. Matters of the greatest possible importance to the very continuance, nay existence, of the Church in some country districts must be fairly met before long, and for this reason, that on the first of April last the S. P. G. refused to honor the quarterly bills presented at head quarters by two missionaries of this diocese. Now who should be more interested, who be more deeply anxious about the Church's welfare than those lay-guardians annually appointed by the body of the parishioners to represent them and watch over the Church's manifold concerns? Some of our readers may not be aware that the custom of English Bishops summoning the Church-wardens together with their clergy at Episcopal Visitations is no modern innovation. We hope to see the laity voluntarily coming forward, and fairly represented at the approaching Visitation. The clergy in the meanwhile will doubtless ventilate the subject among their parishioners. —Communicated.

On Saturday, May 6, his lordship the Bishop left Fredericton for St. John, on his way to England. We are sure that all in the province heartily wish him a prosperous voyage, and a speedy return. Among other matters connected with the interests of the Church in New Brunswick, the Bishop hopes to be able to make satisfactory arrangements with the Society for Propagating the Gospel relative to the gradual withdrawal of their grants now made to many of the parochial clergy of this diocese. As his lordship intends to hold his Visitation about the latter end of August, we may hope to welcome him on his return early in that month.

We understand that the Rev. Edward Medley has been nominated and inducted to the Rectory of St. Stephen's, vacant by the death of the late Rev. Dr. Thompson. Mr. Medley has for the last two years been serving as assistant curate of this parish, and it is in no small degree due to his skill and personal self-denial that the newly-erected church presents the noble appearance it does, and may fitly answer as a model for that part of the country. As a numerous signed address from the parishioners was presented to his Excellency the Governor asking that Mr. Medley might be appointed rector, we are glad to be able not only to congratulate him upon his appointment, but the parishioners of St. Stephens upon the fulfilment of their wishes, and to express our earnest hope that the connexion now entered into may prove a blessing both to minister and people.

On Wednesday, May 3, his lordship the Bishop of the diocese consecrated the new Chapel of St. John the Evangelist at Rusiagornis, in the County of Sunbury, but in the

mission of Maryland. The Bishop was accompanied by the Rev. C. Lee, rector of Fredericton, the Rev. T. E. Dowling, rector of Douglas, and the Rev. John Pearson, sub-dean of the Cathedral, in whose mission the new church is. The usual consecration service began at eleven o'clock, and notwithstanding the very wet and disagreeable weather, most of the members of the church in that scattered district were present. The Holy Communion was celebrated by the Bishop, assisted by the clergy present, and nearly all the adult members of the church remained to communicate.

The chapel itself, standing in a small churchyard, which is the gift of Mr. William Whittaker, is a neat building, oblong, with an apsidal termination, and will accommodate about ninety worshippers. The altar is elevated on a platform of three steps from the floor of the nave; and on the first elevation of the platform, on the south side, is placed the reading-desk; on the north side a lectern, which also serves as a pulpit. The font is near the door. However plain and homely the work, (and it is so,) no one entering this church could by any possibility suppose it to be anything but what it is,—a place of worship for the use of the Church of England.

Rather more than twelve months ago, the Rev. Charles Medley, who at that time had charge of the mission, succeeded in erecting a new church at Maryland, and under his direction the members of our communion at Rusiagornis transported so much of the frame of the old church as could be used, and re-erected it. Then the men went to work and cut down trees to make boards and shingles, and re-erected the frame and covered it in and shingled it. Afterwards the churchyard was cleared and fenced, and planted with trees, and the building underpinned. Nearly all the work has been done and the material contributed *gratuitously*; in fact, the whole money expense, as the accounts show, is less than ninety dollars, and of this a great portion has been spent in paying carpenters for the skilled work about the windows, in buying nails, lime, hair, oil, and other necessaries. The small balance of money required to pay for these things was contributed by generous friends in Fredericton, and the result was that the new chapel was presented for consecration, strongly built, neatly finished and furnished, and *entirely free from debt*.

We are glad to record that the communion plate and linen, the books, a velvet covering for the altar, a cushion, texts for the walls, and a surplice and stole, have all been given by different persons, so that there is everything necessary for the reverent celebration of divine service in this little home in the wilderness. We trust this house of prayer may be a blessing to those who enter its walls, and that the praises of God, from thankful hearts, may thence ascend for all generations.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Bishop lately consecrated a new church in the Mission of Brigue; the church consists of a nave and aisles. The inhabitants of the district (nearly all fishermen) with the families made an effort to attend and appeared in their best, but in too many instances sallow faces and sunken cheeks gave unmistakable evidence of pinching poverty, consequent upon the failure of the fisheries. The collection, for the purchase of Communion plate, amounted to £13. In the course of the same tour the Bishop consecrated three other churches.