

WOODSTOCK.—AN INTERESTING INCIDENT.—When the memorable fire which took place in this town in the autumn of 1881 destroyed the churches and the Rector's residence, amongst the losses was that of the communion vessels. On the morning, however, the cup portion of the chalice was found, blackened and otherwise damaged, resting in a pile of hot coals in the midst of the ruins of the rectory, from which it was eagerly rescued, as almost the only memento saved from the fire. Through the kindness of His Lordship the Metropolitan, who has borne the whole expense, the chalice has been most skillfully restored by the addition of a new base and pedestal of silver, and on Sunday, January 11th, in the parish church, was presented as an offering to God's glory, and for the purposes of His holy worship, and used again at the celebration of the Holy Communion. The inscription on the chalice was uninjured, and conveys its own lesson, appropriate not only to its use in the Holy Eucharist, but also to its interesting history, "*Quid Domino tribuam pro omnibus quæ mihi dedit.*" Psalm cxvi. 11.

The Ruridecanal Chapter of Chatham, N. B., will meet (D. V.) in the parish of Derby on Tuesday, 3rd February prox, in connection with which there will be held the following special services, viz.

Morning, 9 o'clock.

Tuesday.—Holy Communion with sermon by Rev. Wm. H. Street.

Evening, 7 o'clock.

Monday.—Evening Prayer with sermon by Rev. E. P. Flewelling, on Sin.

Tuesday.—Evening Prayer with sermon by Rev. Wm. J. Wilkinson, on Self-examination.

Wednesday.—Union Choral Service to be participated in by the choirs of the Deanery, with sermon by Rev. H. Halloway, on Faith.

Thursday.—Evening Prayer with sermon by Rev. F. H. Almon, on Repentance.

Friday.—Evening Prayer with sermon by Rev. David Forsyth, on Conversion.

Saturday.—Evening Prayer with sermon by Rev. J. H. S. Sweet, on Forgiveness.

PORTLAND.—St. Paul's (Valley) Church.—During last season the long winter evenings were enlivened by some excellent entertainments given by the ladies and gentlemen of this church and it was with great satisfaction the announcement was received that they would be resumed this year. A large audience assembled in the school-house at the opening meeting, and an excellent programme was gone through well to the satisfaction of all present. Two tableaux were given during the evening—one, "news from the War," in which Miss Smith, Miss Alice DeVeber and J. T. Hart took part. The two pathetic scenes were well played by the silent actors—the grace and charming appearance of the ladies winning high praise.

The second tableau of Cinderella concluded the evening's amusement, and the artistic "get up" of Miss Mabel Smith, Miss M. Snider and Murray Botsford afforded unbounded satisfaction and called forth loud applause.

T. Barclay Robinson presided and announced that during the winter several other entertainments of a like character would be given.

The children of the Sabbath school in connection with St. Paul's (Valley) church had their usual Epiphany Festival. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Rev. Canon DeVeber, the rector. The choir sang several hymns and also the carols Three Kings of Orient, Good King Wenceslas, and Carol, carol Christians. The scholars were afterwards provided with refreshments in the Sunday-school, where their wants were attended to by an efficient committee of ladies.

NEWCASTLE.—The Young Women's Guild of St. Andrew, in this parish held their annual meeting for the transaction of business, on Thursday, Jan. 8th., the rector (Rev. J. H. S. Sweet) presiding. The opening prayers having been said by the rector, a full and satisfactory report of the last year's

work was read by the secretary, Mrs. Sweet. The amount of work done was in excess of previous years, and the attendance at the weekly meetings much larger. The annual sale held for two days (by the kind permission of the proprietors) in the Miramichi Skating Rink, was well patronized and the result very gratifying and encouraging. The treasurer (Mrs. J. Davidson) submitted her report, which showed receipts (including \$15.85 balance from last year) of \$394.29, and expenditures \$84.29.

The above report speaks for itself, and shows what good and faithful work is being done by a few zealous and willing workers in this comparatively small parish. For a long time the parish has been struggling to pay off a large debt upon the Sunday-school house, and the efforts of the Guild have been directed towards this object. By God's blessing they have not laboured in vain, as by the time this appears in print the last "note payable" on the school house will have been settled, and the church buildings in the parish entirely freed from debt. In addition to the greater help afforded by the Guild, this happy result has been considerably forwarded by monthly contributions collected by means of a "Mite" Society. Now this debt has been settled it is the intention of the Guild to raise funds to re-build the fences around the church and school house plots, as well as to erect a wood shed, the need of which is at present much felt.

After the members present had signed the rules of the Guild, according to the constitution, the following were elected the officers for the current year. President, Mrs. Harley, re-elected; Vice-President, Mrs. Freeman; Secretary, Mrs. Sweet, re-elected; Treasurer, Miss Maltby. It is encouraging to know that several new members have joined the Guild since the year commenced.

As an item of news we may mention that the annual Sunday-school entertainment took place on Thursday evening, Jan. 15th. As usual with such affairs it was a great success, and passed off very much to the satisfaction of the young folks. After enjoying the good things provided by the ladies for the tea tables, a Christmas Tree was unveiled, brilliantly lit with candles, and laden with pretty and useful articles. These were distributed to the children by Mr. E. Lee Street. Towards the close of the evening the rector spoke a few words in reference to the Sunday-school and presented the prizes to the successful candidates. The school was never more largely attended than at the present time, and we hope for still better things in the future. At the rector's invitation Mr. Kethro, a former Superintendent, addressed a few words to the children, and called for three cheers in behalf of those whose kindly exertions had given them so much pleasure.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH BAND OF HOPE AND MERCY.—One of the many organizations connected with St. Matthew's Church is the Band of Hope and Mercy, the anniversary of which was held last Tuesday evening, in the school-room. This organization was started two years ago by Miss Bond, through whose energetic efforts and able management it has reached its present success; indeed her untiring zeal is deserving of all praise and worthy of imitation. One hundred and forty children are now enrolled as members, whose presence on the occasion was conspicuously displayed by the pretty badges of the order. An excellent programme was provided, consisting of songs, duets, dialogues, recitations, etc., etc. Master Arthur Corneil presided at the piano. Short addresses were delivered by the Rector of St. Matthews, the Rev. C. Hamilton, and Rev. J. Ridley, of the Cathedral, after which the numerous gifts from the Xmas tree were distributed, one of the most pleasing features being the presentation of a very pretty sofa quilt from the Band of Hope to the Rector. The Rev. Mr. Ridley, in a few pleasant remarks, made the presentation on behalf of the children, the latter being vociferous in their applause, calling forth a very happy impromptu

acknowledgment from the esteemed Rector. After singing the National Anthem, the proceedings terminated.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—The first meeting of the General Committee of this most important addition to Diocesan work, was held in St. George's School House on Tuesday evening the 20th inst. The President, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, in the chair. There were also present Dr. Davidson, Rural Deans Lindsay, and Mussen, Vice-Presidents, the Very Rev. the Dean of Montreal, Canon Henderson, Revs. J. A. Newham, H. L. Evans, and Rogers, the Secretary and representatives from the Sunday Schools of the Cathedral, St. George's, St. Stephens, St. Jude's, Grace Church, Trinity, St. Luke's, and St. Thomas' Churches. The meeting was opened by Prayer, after which the Bishop in a few earnest words expressed his strong conviction that the Sunday School Association would become one of the most useful institutions of the Diocese, and urged those present to be in earnest in carrying on the work entered upon, and to stir up those who were negligent. The Secretary reported that several of the City Schools had not as yet sent in the names of representatives and that few replies had been received from the country. In answer, however to an enquiry of Mr. Mussen, Rural Dean of Bedford it appears that the circulars requesting action on the part of the various Sunday Schools had only been forwarded to the Rural Deans, not to the Clergyman of each parish: and it was resolved that the circular should be forthwith sent to each Clergyman in the diocese with a request that he would bring the same before his Sunday School with a view of its accepting the Constitution and becoming a member of the Association.

Much discussion followed as to the places of meeting for the next three months, and the subjects to be taken up. It was finally decided to hold meetings as follows.

Inaugural meeting—Cathedral Sunday School, 3rd Monday in February. Inaugural address by the President to be followed by a paper by the Dean of Montreal, Subject, "Senior Scholars how to retain them"—and discussion thereon.

2nd meeting.—St. George's School Room, 3rd Monday in March, Rev. Principal Henderson to give a "Training Lesson": the subject being "the Burial and Resurrection of our Lord," from the 2nd lesson for the Sunday following.

3rd meeting.—Trinity Church School Room, 3rd Monday in April, subject: Sunday School Hymnology, Dr. Davidson being appointed to prepare and read the paper.

All these meetings, though principally intended for Sunday School Teachers and workers, will be open to the public; and we doubt not will prove most interesting and instructive. It is hoped that not only will the attendance be large but also that a general discussion of the subjects introduced by the appointed writers may be had. It is also very desirable that no delay should occur in bringing the Constitution of the Association before every Sunday School in the Diocese; and it is hoped that every such school will accept the same and promptly send in to the Secretary, the declaration of its assent and the names of its representatives. An examination of the Constitution will show the necessity of this action.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH ASSOCIATION, MONTREAL.—The following have been elected officers of St. Stephen's Church Association for the ensuing year: President, the Ven. Archdeacon Evans; hon. vice-president, Mr. W. C. Clarke; 1st. vice-president, Mr. C. E. Cook; 2nd vice-president, Mr. T. Brophy; 3rd vice-president, Mr. A. C. Walpole; recording secretary, Mr. Parkes; corresponding secretary, Mr. George Carson; librarian, Mr. George Sloan; treasurer, Mr. F. Upton; general committee, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Croston, Miss Gross and Miss Henshaw, Mr. Brown, Mr. Croston, Mr. Horsfall and Mr. Walsh.