

News from the Home Field.

DIocese OF NOVA SCOTIA.

His Lordship the Bishop of Nova Scotia has completed a round of Confirmation Services through the Western part of the Province, with the following gratifying results: males, 310; females, 465; in all, 785. Everywhere large congregations assembled to witness and take part in the solemn services, and the Bishop expresses himself much pleased with the work being done.

AMHERST.—A Harvest Thanksgiving Service was celebrated on Sunday, Oct. 29th, in Christ Church. The beautiful chancel was decked out with sheaves of wheat, fruits and flowers, and all the service was most hearty and cheering. The Rector concluded his discourse in the morning by inviting the whole congregation to stand up and join him in adoring the Lord God for all His mercies in that noble burst of praise the 103rd Psalm, using the first four verses and the last. At the conclusion of the evening service, after the Benediction, the grand old version of the 100th Psalm was heartily sung by choir and congregation, accompanied by the fine organ in that church, which, I must add, was skilfully handled by the young lady performer, who seems to be an accomplished organist. Whether the Rector is justified in anticipating the Government Day of Thanksgiving I do not stop to discuss; at least he appears to have the hearts of the people with him.

BRIDGEWATER.—The Bishop's visit to the Parish of Holy Trinity, Bridgewater, commenced with a service in the Union Church, at the Bank, on La Have River. The building at 3 p. m. on Sunday, October 22nd, was well filled, and the Church people were earnestly told why they should have a House of God for themselves. Already satisfactory progress has been made in this direction, and the Bishop's kind words are already bearing good fruit. The evening service was at Bridgewater, where some six hundred people managed to get into the church, but some had to stand during the whole time. The sacred building had been decorated with beautiful flowers; the service was very hearty throughout, and was to all who were present a very happy and, we trust, profitable time. The service on Monday was at St. James' Church, which is 9 miles from Bridgewater. Here the Bishop was able to tell the congregation that all about the church and the service met with his hearty praise. Since his last visit a beautiful east window has been put in, making the church perfect in every respect. During these services thirty-five persons received the Laying On of Hands, a Rite which dates back to the days of the Patriarch Jacob, and in the Christian Church is surrounded with the glory descending upon us from our Ascended Lord, who from His Throne in Heaven established this Rite in His Church upon earth through His Apostles. The collections taken up amounted to \$13 for the Diocese of Algoma, to aid in giving the Gospel to the Indians of our great North-West Territory.

LUNENBURG.—On Tuesday, October 24th, the Bishop arrived at St. Matthew's Church, on the LaHave River, accompanied by Rev. W. E. Golling, of Bridgewater, and was met there by Rev. George D. Harris, assistant minister. The weather was wet and unpleasant, still a good congregation had assembled, a pleasant service was held, and 19 candidates were confirmed. In the evening St. John's Church was well filled, notwithstanding the rain, and 41 candidates were confirmed. The Rev. H. L. Owen, Rector of the Parish, and the Rev. Mr. Sutherland, of Mahone Bay, were present to take part in the happy, cheerful service, beside the two clergymen who accompanied the Bishop from St. Matthew's. The bright and beautiful church, good music and the spirit-stirring address and sermon of the Bishop made us forget the clouds and gloom outside. No one regretted the effort he had made to be present there. Several candidates from the fishing settlements had left home to take their places in the Confirmation, but rain wetting through their dresses obliged them to return. Altogether

it was a happy day to the parishioners of Lunenburg, and the Confirmation Services of 1882 will not soon be forgotten by them.

SHELburnE.—The Lord Bishop of the Diocese administered the Apostolic Rite of Laying On of Hands in the Parish Church at Shelburne on Sunday, 15th ult. Matins were said at 8 o'clock a.m., Litany, Confirmation Service and Holy Communion at half-past ten o'clock. The congregation assembled to take part in the services was "large and attentive," and the Rev. Dr. White presented thirty-seven candidates for Confirmation. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, banners, etc., for the occasion, and the altar, pulpit and lectern were vested with handsome white frontals—the gift of the late Mrs. Parkinson. The service commenced by singing the processional hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers." The procession of clergy and Bishop entered by the west door, the Rev. E. M. Welsh bearing the Pastoral Staff before his Lordship. After the Litany had been said by the curate and the Preface to the Confirmation read by Rev. Dr. White, his Lordship addressed the congregation. He congratulated them on the appearance of the interior of their church, remarking that it was a good sign when care was taken of God's House. He also addressed them concerning the importance of Sunday School work, and invited the members of the congregation to come forward and give themselves to the work of instructing the young. His Lordship was glad to see so many presenting themselves for the sacred Rite, especially the young men. He had changed the time of his visit in order that those engaged in fishing might have an opportunity of presenting themselves for Confirmation, and he was glad to see that some of them had taken advantage of the change. His Lordship then made some remarks concerning the change of curates which had taken place since his last visit, remarking that no two men were alike. Each had some peculiar gift, and the congregation should endeavour to make the ministry of each new curate profitable to themselves. His Lordship then earnestly addressed the candidates for Confirmation. Hymn No. 346 (Church Hymns) was sung, kneeling, immediately before the Laying On of Hands. The service was brought to a close by a sermon from the Bishop and a celebration of the Holy Communion. Nearly all the newly-confirmed remained to partake of the holy food for the "strengthening and refreshing of their souls." The "Nunc Dimittis" was sung as a recessional.

SACKVILLE.—The Rector of this Parish desires to express the heartfelt gratitude of his people and himself to the Rector and choir of St. George's, Halifax, for the concert so kindly given by them in aid of the Parsonage Fund.

YARMOUTH.—For the first time during his Episcopate of more than thirty years our Diocesan visited Yarmouth on his Confirmation tour in the autumn. All his previous visits were made during the prevalence of spring fogs and muddy roads and chilling winds, very much to his discomfort, but rarely with any disappointment to ourselves, as his Lordship was invariably up to time. The present change from spring to autumn, even in the opinion of an aged conservative who is not fond of a departure from long established usages, has proved a very happy one, as it enabled the Bishop to enjoy his journeyings from parish to parish during a proverbially fine season, as well as to see Yarmouth under most favorable circumstances. The weather was delightful, the fields as green as in June, and the trees still heavy with foliage. We hope and pray (though we hardly look for it) that the present occupants of the Rectory may have the "Bishop's chamber" at least once more occupied in their day. In addition to all this, Yarmouth was unusually cheerful and stirring. The days of trial to our business men have passed over for the present, and the labours of our fishermen and farmers have met with fair remuneration. Now is the time for a general thanksgiving. The whole community, in fact, were looking forward to and making preparation for a great agricultural exhibition, open to Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne. But this I must leave to our local papers, in which it has been fully

described, merely observing that it was honored by the presence of the Lieut. Governor and Lieut. Col. Clarke, the Bishop, the popular and able Dr. Burns, the scientific Professor Lawson, Mr. Harris, the horticulturist, and with hundreds of visitors from the neighbourhood, and was very successful. And now I would direct your attention, Mr. Editor, to the subject, on account of which I took my pen in hand. The Bishop very kindly changed the day of his visit from the 12th to the 11th, thus affording us a comparatively quiet day for our religious duties. Our Presbyterian brethren also enjoyed that same quiet holy day for the ordination and induction of their youthful pastor, to whom we wish God speed, though he followed not us. *Homo sum, hic alienum puto.* We of the Church of England really were glad to have our Bishop with us again after the lapse of more than three years. It is really too long to wait. It will be well for our churches when the Dioceses are smaller and the visits of our Bishops more frequent. We cannot but feel a shade of disappointment pass over us when we have to forego a Sunday visit, but it must happen so sometimes, and in our case we were only too thankful to find our church so completely filled at half-past seven o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, the 12th. I saw at a glance that it cheered the Bishop as much as it did the Rector and Curate. The prayers were read by Rev. R. Shreve, the lesson by the Rev. H. Sterns, and after singing hymn 170, and the reading of the Preface to the Confirmation Service by the Rector, the Bishop addressed the congregation on the state of the Church, lamenting the want of men and money in order to enable him duly to administer the spiritual concerns of the Diocese, and urging most strongly the need of increasing our contributions to the funds of the Home Mission Board, allowing at the same time that Yarmouth had always done well. After this introduction, which was pretty long, the Bishop addressed the candidates for confirmation, and after the manner of the Apostles and early Bishops of the Church, through a series of years to the present day, laid hands on the heads of twenty-eight persons of various ages, who have during many weeks (in addition to a very faithful Sunday School teaching gone through such a course of careful preparation by the Curate as leads us to hope that they may daily increase in God's Holy Spirit more and more until they come to His everlasting kingdom. At the close of the Apostolic Rite, the Bishop preached one of his excellent sermons, and at rather a late hour dismissed the large congregation with the Benediction. Thus ended the eleventh Confirmation by Bishop Binney in this Parish during the incumbency of the present Rector. For this and many other mercies, temporal and spiritual, vouchsafed to him and to many others very dear to him during the long ministry of fifty-five years, he desires to offer most humble and hearty thanks to the Merciful Giver of all good gifts, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

DIocese OF FREDERICTON.

DEANERY OF KINGSTON.—The Chapter met at Hampton on Wednesday and Thursday, November 8th and 9th. After the Scripture reading and discussion of critical and practical papers upon the Chapter, and the transaction of other general business, a paper on preaching was read and followed by a lively discussion upon the various modes recognized and pursued. The services were as follows: Evensong on Wednesday, with two addresses, one on "Apostolic Succession in the Church of England," and the other on "The Instruction of the Young"; and celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30 on Thursday morning, with an address upon the Eucharist. Eleven members of the Deanery were present and assisted in the discussions and work. Amongst other things, a memorial was drawn up advocating some plan for a wider country representation upon the Board of Home Missions; The next meeting is appointed to be held at Upham on the last of January and first of February, 1883.

We have been asked to draw attention to a misprint in the New Brunswick D. C. S. Report which has recently been issued. In the sermon at