

no days reading, if any reading will be done, will be of so light and trifling a character as not to contribute one item for the Note Book. Its stock of extracts and ideas should be kept up, as month by month some of them are embodied in sermons. Clippings, from religious and other papers; whole articles even, followed by original remarks: extracts from books borrowed, or not easily accessible; references to pages of books in our own possession. All such as these may swell the *vade mecum*, and make it soon a mine of wealth from which one may enrich his harangues, and smile on his enemies whatever his subject."

EXTEMPORE PREACHING.

In regard to extempore preaching, speaking generally, the opinion of the present writer is that a minister ought to be able to speak without preparation, but not willing. Upon emergencies he will be a much stronger man if he has this power; but its exercise should be the exception and not the rule, as this kind of preaching is so liable to degenerate, when frequently used, into insipid wordiness. Its most fitting mission is to stir up the emotions—a thing which it is most harmful to attempt frequently. For every strongly emotional sermon, at least two should be preached to that congregation containing no or very little appeal of this kind, but coolly and quietly didactic, instructive or explanatory in character. Examples of abuse are all around us. For purposes of instruction, the extempore method is deficient. There is too great a lack of order and precision, and logical connection."

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIocese OF NOVA SCOTIA.

OBITUARY.—On Friday, Dec. 16th, one of the oldest and most respected of the clergy of Nova Scotia, the Rev. R. I. Uniacke, D.D., was suddenly called to his rest. Dr. Uniacke was a native of Halifax, in which city his family has long held a most honorable position, and was educated at St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, where he was a favorite pupil of the celebrated Dr. Whately, afterwards Archbishop of Dublin. In 1835 he was ordained by Dr. John Inglis, Bishop of Nova Scotia, and after being successively curate of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, curate in charge of Aylesford, and Rector of St. James' Newport; he was in 1852 elected Rector of Sydney, C.B. In 1866 he was appointed first Rural Dean of Sydney, and the same year received the degree of D.D. from King's College, University, Windsor. After twenty-five years' faithful service, he surrendered in 1877, the charge of his parish, and removed from Sydney, still remaining rector. Three years later he resigned the office of Rural Dean. His last place of residence was Halifax. Although no longer equal to the duties of a parish, he occasionally assisted in the services and preached in the various churches of that city, and the last few Sunday evenings of his life he conducted the services in the Mission Chapel at the North-West Arm.

On the evening of Thursday, the 15th Dec., he retired to rest apparently in his usual health. Early the next morning he awoke, asked Mrs. Uniacke the time, and then after "one little struggle, one short gasp, with hands clasped over his breast," he yielded up his spirit to the Master whom he had so long and so faithfully served. To those who knew him the manner of his departure seems in harmony with his life, in which were manifested abundantly those graces which St. Paul mentions as the fruit of the spirit: "Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."

SHELburne.—On Septuagesima Sunday the new Church at Sandy Point, "St. Peter's by the Sea," was opened for Divine service. It is a

Gothic structure, with nice chancel, seating some 200, and is free and unappropriated. The windows in nave (9) cost \$9 a piece, and were made by Spence & Sons, of Montreal. So is the East window, with a representation of St. Peter walking on the sea to meet our Blessed Saviour. The cost of the building is some \$2,000 and the people have raised all except some \$200. The S.P.C.K. gave £25, and the set of sacred hooks. The handsome lectern was a present from Mr. Colin King. The altar was given by Mr. Firth. The altar cloths, linen, and set of vessels were presented by the generous Kilburn sisters, in answer to the appeal of the late Vicar Rev. G. T. D. Peters, now of Bathurst. Since the opening of the Church enough money has been collected, in addition to that raised by an autograph quilt to buy an organ at a cost of \$125. Capt. Purney and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gates, and Timothy and Thomas Hemeon, who gave the site between them, deserve great credit for their indefatigable zeal, now so happily crowned with success. All the people have shown an interest, of course, for without their cooperation the leaders could not have accomplished their work. It will now, at the opening of another epoch, be of interest to all to give a brief review of the condition of this parish now and when Rev. Dr. White began his ministry here, fifty-three years ago. Then there was only the old Parish Church, begun 105 years ago by the Loyalists. It was renovated some years since at a cost of \$4,500. It was the first Church in the Diocese to have the surplice, Litany desk, and to adopt the free and open system. At Barrington (now vacant) a Church was built. The parish was subdivided. Here Dr. White began the sowing by preaching in an "omnibus," built chiefly by the congregationalists. At Churchover there is a Church seating 200, free of debt—a lovely sanctuary, where the Dr. began his work in a log school house, and in private dwellings. At Birch Town the meeting house, owned by the Methodist Episcopal Church was bought last year, and it is now free from debt. Services were heretofore held in a school-house, from which for some three years all were excluded. At Sandy Point service was held in a private house, Capt. Purney's. At Lockport, Dr. White held service in a Baptist meeting house and Temperance hall. This is now a separate parish with a nice Church on the Island. At Green Harbour services were also held in private dwellings. To-day there is a handsomely furnished Church. At Jordan Falls a Church was built. It is replaced by the new Church, soon to be opened. And at Jordan Ferry and Lower Ohio we own one-third of two Union meeting houses. That is to say that during his long and eventful ministry, Rev. Dr. White has lived to see the Mother Church become through his work and that of his co-adjutors, the parent of ten more or less worthy structures used exclusively for purposes of Divine worship. This is exclusive of the "stations," of which there are many. Well may the Venerable Rector as he reviews his life's labours say, "What hath God done!" Surely the grain of mustard seed is a fit emblem of the growth of the kingdom.

The Dr. also built two Churches at Antigonishe, where he was the Church's pioneer. He called one St. Mary, because of the deep interest shown by the half-dozen Maries, whose families were the chief representatives of the Church. It is of interest to the people of Antigonishe to know who sowed the first seed whose germ-life has so wondrously developed. A Mrs. Atwater, a widow, from Connecticut, the progenitrix of Rev. Mr. Atwater, late of this Diocese, first gathered all the Protestants in her dwelling, on Sundays, when she acted as lay reader. All were cordially welcomed. When she married a Mr. Rand, a Baptist, he too was won by the good conversation of his wife (Mrs. Atwater) and joined the Church. When Rev. T. H. White was sent to Antigonishe, in 1829, he built upon the foundation so unobtrusively, but

loyally, laid by this devout widow. She was truly a worthy "sister."

Special Missionary services were preached at the Parish Church, in response to Epiphany appeal, giving a history of the work of the Church in the Dioceses of Niger and Japan. The collection was \$16.20, to be divided equally between S. P. G. and C. M. S.

THE BISHOP-ELECT OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The *Church Press* of New York, referring to the election of the Rev. Dr. Courtney, rector of St. Paul's Church, Boston, as Bishop of Nova Scotia, says:

We offer our hearty congratulations to the Bishop-elect, to his Diocese, and to the whole Church.

No more suitable election could have been made. In physical energy, in intellectual gifts, in spiritual grace, Dr. Courtney is evidently fitted for the arduous and responsible position he is called to sustain. He will carry with him the prayers and good wishes of thousands of devoted Churchmen in America; he will enter upon his work with a profound sense of responsibility, and with an earnest desire to be faithful to God and to His Church; and he will, we are persuaded, endeavor to administer the affairs of his large diocese in a manner that will prove acceptable to his clergy and people, and that will conduce to the growth and stability of the Church. The happiest results may, therefore, be anticipated, and these will justify the election which has been made with such a singular and praiseworthy unanimity.

In Bishop Courtney the Church may hope to find one of her model Bishops. These are days when the leaders and rulers of the Church should be men of more than ordinary mark and power. It is no light trust which is committed to them; it is no small work which is expected from them. In personal character, in private life, in public duty, in preaching the word, in ruling the Church, in defending the faith, in influencing the community at large, &c., they are expected to display unusual talent, and to render needed and valuable service. And as a rule our Bishops are worthy of their office, and equal to the demands upon them. There are Bishops in the American and English Churches at the present time who have not been surpassed in devotion, and zeal, and talent, and work since the days of the Apostles. The Church is proud of them; the world is blessed by them. In the election of Dr. Courtney one more is added to the illustrious band. He has within him the elements of a noble Bishop; his career in the Church warrants the expectation of very valuable service to the Church during his Episcopate; and with the most earnest prayers and wishes for his health and comfort and success, we again offer to him personally our warmest congratulations, and to the diocese over which he is called to preside.

IN MEMORIAM.—It is our painful duty to record the untimely death of the late Charles Douglas Rigby, M.D., of Halifax, N.S., who has been cut off suddenly in the meridian of life. His death, which occurred on February 17th, was occasioned by paralysis of the heart, the result of gout—from which he had suffered for years. The deceased held a prominent position among the medical men of his native city; and years ago, when cholera prevailed at Chezzetcook, on the eastern shore of Halifax County, Dr. Rigby volunteered his services as resident physician at the quarantine station, where he caught the epidemic, and for weeks hovered between life and death. Deceased was the only surviving son of the late Isaac Rigby, Esq., of H. M. Ordnance Department, Halifax; he studied medicine under the Hon. Dr. Almon and graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York in 1861; since which time he practised medicine in his native city. Dr. Rigby stood high in his profession, was a