

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this Paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.—St. Paul's.—There has been quite a lively time lately with entertainments, and these extra parochial burdens are becoming more and more a matter of serious concern to those chiefly concerned. The object for which this was given was a worthy one. The proceeds went to the St. Paul's Industrial School. A very long programme was prepared and carried out quite artistically by the children of the Sunday-school, under the superintendence of Mr. Godfrey Smith. A handsome sum was realized.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE.—The third lecture of the Institute course was given by Professor Roberts, of King's College, Windsor, his subject being "Some Aspects of American Poetry." The hall was fairly filled, and the lecturer enthusiastically received. The subject was handled in a critical manner. The chief characteristics of the leading American poets were pointed out in language more chaste and musical than vigorous and original. The lecturer paid special attention to Lanier and Miller, and gave interesting descriptions of their lives, with a penetrating analysis of their most musical and characteristic efforts. At the close the lecturer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks from the Institute and the audience. The next lecture of the course will be given by Rev. David Neish, Curate of St. Paul's. Subject, "The Church of England in the 18th Century."

ST. MARK'S.—A congregational tea and fancy sale was held in Gerrish Hall by the ladies of St. Mark's congregation, for the purpose of clearing off a small debt on the church, the result of the exceptionally hard times and increased improvements in the church. Between our and five hundred people were present, and thoroughly enjoyed the bounteous repast provided for them. The tables were tastefully laid out and variegated with choice plants. After tea, readings, songs and "old folks" entertainment was listened to.

DARTMOUTH.—Christ Church.—A pleasant entertainment was also given here last week in aid of the funds for a new infant school. The little members who took part did their work with great acceptance to the delighted audience, and the proceeds were worth the effort.

ST. GEORGE'S BENEFIT SOCIETY.—The first annual meeting was held lately, and a long list of officers elected. The report shows the Society to be in a flourishing condition, and a great help to those who seek its benefits, or rather we should say, who take this mode of making provision for benefiting themselves.

HALIFAX.—Personal.—Rev. F. R. Murray has been lecturing in the Reform Club Hall on "The Five Senses." It is superfluous to say that the lecture was first-rate in every respect, and a genuine surprise to his many friends.

Rev. W. Morris is reported to be about to assume the charge of Clementsport, where the Rev. Clarence McCully did good work in times past. This change will leave the curacy of Sackville open.

ST. GEORGE'S BENEFIT SOCIETY.—The members of this Society had a march out on the eve of St. Patrick. The procession was headed by a band, many flags flying, gilded wands of office with streaming ribbons attached, and the members wearing ornamented blue sashes. A special service was held in St. George's, and the Rev. Dr. Partridge, President of the So-

ciety, preached a sermon from the text, "Bear ye one another's burdens. In consequence of the violent snow-storm, locomotion was impeded, and the procession soon returned to the school-room. Here in the evening a repast was enjoyed by the members of the Society.

LENTEN SERVICES.—Notwithstanding the more than usual amount of detracting amusements and round of gaiety in town this Lent, the churches are doing their best to draw the people to a serious consideration of this special time of spiritual effort. Extra services are being held, and special courses of sermons have been published. At the Cathedral there is a daily mid-day service for busy men.

PLEASANT RIVER.—On Ash-Wednesday service was held for the first time in the new Church at Pleasant River on the 10th ult. The attendance for a week day in a country-place, was remarkably good, and from the earnest attention paid to the teaching suitable for the day, we trust much good may result. An account of the consecration of the Church and the Confirmations held by the Bishop of the Diocese in May and June last was sent soon after the above events transpired for insertion in the *GUARDIAN*, but owing to the manuscript having been mislaid, during the absence of the editor, it did not appear in its columns. The building is a neat edifice in the Gothic style, twenty-three feet wide and thirty-seven feet long, with a chancel thirteen feet by twenty, fitted with choir-stalls and reading desk, leading immediately into the vestry, the whole being elevated three steps above the main body of the Church. The altar-table, a present from the Messrs. Beardsley's, the contractors, to whom great credit is due for the faithful performance of the work, is of native oak, solid and handsome. As yet, there is no pulpit, the preacher officiating from a neat and moveable Lectern. The east window is of stained glass, and the west gable has an Oriel, or wheel window filled with the same material, together with the arches of the six windows on the sides. One peculiarity in the building is, that it is built entirely of wood, there being no sign of plaster, nor paint. The roof is entirely open and the interior is finished with different kinds of wood in narrow sheathing, grooved and tongued, oiled and varnished. It is capable of seating from two hundred to two hundred and fifty persons, and is pleasantly situated on the bank of the river running through a large and thriving settlement. Its cost was a thousand and fifty dollars, towards which the venerable, the S.P.C.K., with its accustomed liberality, donated the sum of forty pounds sterling. The congregations are increasing, as the claims of the Church, are being better understood, and the recent opening of rich and extensive gold mines in the immediate vicinity tend to make this the nucleus of a centre for Church operations, well worth the cultivation in the near future. Six years ago, when the "Liverpool Road Mission" was opened, the prospects of success-seemed small indeed. The number of Communicants was seven, and the whole Church population, in an area of 2,500 miles did not exceed 120. Many had become alienated from lack of ministrations, owing to the want of means to send laborers into the vineyard, and the few who remained faithful, through all changes and vicissitudes, were those who could discover no better Church to which to cling. Now these two Churches, one of which, however, had been built before, and ten stations extending into three counties, the extremes being nearly sixty miles apart; twenty-eight communicants, and according to the last census the Church population has increased to 710; four Bible classes and Sunday catechisings, in addition to the regular services, are well kept up and sustained; while the claims of Home and Foreign Missions are becoming increasingly dear to the hearts of the people as evinced by

their ever increasing contributions to the much required funds.

Would all the members of our Communion rise to the necessity of supplying more generous means for the purposes of opening up new work, or reclaiming old, the taint so often thrown out, that our Church was making but slow progress would be removed. The hearts of the faithful would rejoice, "the waste places would be made glad, and the wilderness be made to blossom as the rose."

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

CARLETON, St. John.—On Friday, March 12, the Rector of St. George's Church, Rev. LeB. W. Fowler, baptized thirteen adult candidates, eight men and five women, and publicly received three others, one man and two women, into the Church. Of these sixteen, thirteen were married persons. A large congregation was present. Rev. J. C. Titcomb, of Fairville, assisted at the service.

His Lordship the Bishop Coadjutor spent Sunday, the 14th inst., in the parish, celebrating the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., confirming thirteen candidates, four men and nine women, at 11 a.m., baptizing four infants at 3 p.m., and preaching in the evening. Rev. R. Mathers kindly assisted at 11 a.m. The church at that service was crowded, and well filled in the evening.

MONCTON.—Special Lenten services are being held on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 4 p.m., with a devotional reading. On Tuesdays, at 7 p.m., a special course of sermons on "The Seven Deadly Sins" are being delivered by the Rev. F. W. Vroom; and on Friday evenings the Rev. A. J. Reid preaches on the 22nd Psalm.

ST. JOHN.—A Deanery meeting was held in St. Paul's (Valley) Church on the 16th instant, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Dobbs, curate of St. John's Church. Holy Communion was administered, the Revs. Canon De Veber and Schofield officiating.

ST. JOHN.—St. Stephen's.—An excellent Scotch concert was held lately under the auspices of the Young Men's Association. It consisted entirely of Scottish music and readings, and elicited the hearty commendation of the crowded audience.

PORTLAND.—St. John Mission Church.—Lenten services are being held as follows:—On all Sundays, at 8 a.m., Holy Communion, (choral on Refreshment Sunday, 4th April), daily in Holy Week (except Good Friday), and on all Thursdays, at 7:30 a.m. Other services on Sundays at 11 a.m., 4 p.m. (children), and 7:30 p.m. Daily, 9 a.m., Matins and litany; 5:30 p.m., evensong; evensong and sermon on Wednesdays, 8 p.m. A course of sermons is being delivered by the priest in charge, the subjects on Sundays, at 11 a.m., being: Types from the Jewish Tabernacle, Heb. ix. 1-10. 1. The tables of the covenant. 2. The pot of manna. 3. The cherubim over the mercy seat. 4. The oracle—Urim and Thummim. 5. The daily sacrifice. 6. The veil. And on Sundays, at 7:30 p.m., Christ's Messages to the Churches, Rev. ii. and iii. 1. To the churches of Ephesus and Pergamos—Repent. 2. To the church of Smyrna—Fear not. 3. To the church of Thyatira—Hold fast. 4. To the church of Sardis—Be watchful. 5. To the church of Philadelphia—I will keep thee. 6. To the church of Laodicea—Be zealous. Short lessons on the spiritual life will be given at the daily evensong, at 5:30 p.m.

The Wednesday evening sermons take up some point in the Gospel for the week.

During Holy Week, evensong will be at 8 p.m., with considerations on the events of the day.