

## News from the Home Field.

## DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

**FESTIVAL AND CHRISTMAS TREE AT RIDEAU HALL.**—The children of New Edinburgh, to the number of 400, with the teachers of the Sunday Schools and Common Schools, assembled at Rideau Hall at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Tea was served in the "Tennis Court," and the children were waited upon by His Excellency the Governor-General and suite, with Major De Winton and lady, General Swayth, and a number of other guests, including Mr. and Mrs. R. Stephenson, Lord Grosvenor, and the Rev. Mr. Hannington, besides the teachers of all the schools. Everything was provided in a most lavish manner by Mr. Fest, confectioner, and the little ones were supplied with everything that the heart could wish for.

After the good things had been partaken of, the children and teachers were led by His Excellency into the ball room, where stood a magnificent Christmas tree, laden with presents for every child and teacher. The gifts (after ample time had been allowed for the company to view them) were distributed, and each child was made the happy recipient of some gift from the tree.

The teachers were then called up, and received each a gift, no one being forgotten.

Three cheers were then given by the boys for His Excellency; and 400 happy children took home with them pleasing recollections and tokens of the kindness of His Excellency the Governor-General and suite.

## DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

(From our own Correspondent).

**MONTREAL.**—Sunday, 21st ult. In the Church of St. James the Apostle, the Rev. Dr. Sullivan, of St. George's, preached at morning services. In Christ Church Cathedral, Rev. Canon Baldwin gave his third Advent lecture, subject: "The World to Come." In St. Martin's Church the subject was: "The Moral Effects of the Bible."

At 8 o'clock, Christmas Eve, services were celebrated in several of the Churches—the Churches being suitably decorated for the occasion.

**Christ Church Cathedral.**—On the afternoon of Sunday, 28th inst., the Rev. J. H. Dixon, Rector of Grace Church, preached to the Masonic body assembled, on the subject of "The Symbols of Masonry." A collection was taken up in aid of poor brethren.

**St. Martin's Church.**—On Sunday, 28th, the Lord Bishop preached at morning services.

**COTE, ST. PAUL.**—On Sunday, 21st inst., the Rev. Dr. Norman, of the Church of St. James the Apostle, officiated in the Church of the Redeemer at morning services.

**GLEN SUTTON.**—The Rev. John Ker is holding very successful Advent services in his new Churches.

**COMO.**—The Rev. J. Pyke was the happy recipient of the sum of \$31.50 as a Christmas offering from the people of St. Mary's Church, who assembled at the early Communion on Christmas morning.

**ST. LAMBERT.**—The scholars of the Sunday School here had a great treat in the shape of a Christmas tree on Xmas Eve. The Church is taking a strong hold on the hearts of the people here.

## DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

**STANLEY.**—Rev. W. O. Raymond, the popular Missionary at this place, was ordained to the Priesthood in Christ Church Cathedral on the morning of December 21st.

**WICKLOW.**—The address of the Rev. Joseph E. Flavelling, Missionary of Wicklow, is changed from Centreville to Florenceville, Carleton Co. In St. Barnabas' Church, in this Mission, the services on Christmas Day were of a very hearty character. One child was baptized, and the Holy Communion was administered. Two Communicants drove ten miles, and two more six miles, to be present at the service and partake of the Holy Communion.

**WOODSTOCK.**—Service was held at Christ's Church, Woodstock, on Christmas Eve, at 7 p. m., the Rector, Rev. Thomas Neales, A. M., officiating. On Christmas Day, at 11 a. m., there was also a service at St. Luke's Church,

together with a celebration of the Holy Communion. The service was preceded by a Christmas Carol, "The Song of the Angels," from the late Dr. Dyke, by the children of the Sunday School, which had a very pretty effect.

The discourse was an eloquent and appropriate one, by Rev. A. Hoadley, from the text, St. John's Gospel I. 51, "The Son of Man," and was listened to by a large congregation, with marked attention. The Anthem by H. Smart, was from St. Luke I, 26, 27 and 28, "The Angel Gabriel was sent from God," and was very finely rendered by the choir, under the able leadership of Mr. H. Bourne.

Both churches are beautifully hung with evergreens, and the decorations are more than usually fine, having been done with loving care by the members of the congregation. The altar piece at St. Luke's Church, we may especially mention, as evincing much artistic taste, being the handiwork, we understand, of Dr. Balloch, whose ability in that way is well known to the community.—*Sentinel.*

**SHEDIAC.**—St. Andrew's Christmas Services.—Holy Communion at 8 a. m., and full service with Holy Communion at 11 a. m., by the Rev. O. L. Nownham. The sermon was eloquent and impressive. Mrs. Jas. D. Weldon presided at the organ and displayed her usual good taste. The Kyrie Eleison, responses and amens, were also sung, which added much to the heartiness of the service. The singing generally was good, especially Jackson's Te Deum, which was creditably rendered.

The decorations surpass by far that of previous years, being under the supervision of the Rector, and assisted by the ladies and gentlemen of the congregation. The greening is entirely of cedar, and should be seen to be properly appreciated. We may here say that this Church has undergone great improvements since last Christmas, being painted and grained throughout, and too much praise cannot be bestowed on the indefatigable exertions of the Pastor. It may now be justly styled one of the neatest edifices in the Province. The heating is done by three stoves, and with ease a temperature of 70 can be kept up in the coldest weather.

On Christmas Eve a gentleman from St. John donated twelve books to the Sunday School library, and a prominent lady of the congregation two very handsome stools for the chancel.—*Moncton Times.*

**GRAND FALLS.**—Services were held in the Church at Grand Falls on the evening of Christmas Day. A Christmas tree, laden with presents, the gift of Mrs. F. W. Brown, made the Sunday School children happy.

**DORCHESTER.**—The Christmas service at Dorchester was largely attended. Rev. R. Simonds, Rector, preached the sermon. Sullivan's Anthem: "Come upon the Midnight Clear," was well rendered; Mrs. E. D. Davison taking the solo part. The decoration in the Church exceeded anything attempted in former years.

**EDMUNSTON.**—Christmas Day was clear, but very cold, so that here was not much driving.

Miss Morehouse, organist of St. John's Church, was presented by the congregation with a purse of money as a Christmas gift. The purse, together with a pleasing and complimentary address, was presented by T. M. Richards, Esq., Church Warden, on behalf of the congregation. The room used in which to hold their services, was tastefully decorated, and reflected great credit on the decorative ability of its originators. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. Shannon, who treated his subject in a highly interesting and instructive manner.

**SAINT GEORGE AND PENFIELD.**—The churches in these Parishes were very prettily and tastefully decorated for Christmas. It seems almost useless to describe decorations on paper, as their appearance cannot be well presented to the mind's eye, and they have to be seen to be appreciated. One new feature in our decorations is in having a silver centre to eight stars, one over the apex of each window in the nave, in St. Mark's Church. Loving and willing hands spent much time in beautifying the place of God's sanctuary, and in making the place of His feet glorious. The attendance in both churches was large, the services hearty, the music and singing very good. The sermon was on the text, "The Word was made Flesh,"

Christmas services being the culmination of those of Advent, seem to come home with peculiar power to the hearts of minister and people. A feeling of great gladness, kind sympathy, and good-will seems to animate all the members of the congregation. The joyful season of Christmas generally has its sombre side also in every congregation. The vacant seat in Church, the empty one at table, the blank in the domestic circle, help to chasten our exuberant joy at this festive season. Such was the case here. One of our Church Wardens, Mr. Guy Clinch, entered into his rest about a week before Christmas day. Though often suffering agony, for three weary months, patience had its perfect work, and he became purified in the crucible of affliction; almost his latest act was to partake of the Holy Eucharist, together with his brother and eldest son, and then in about two hours, fell asleep, in quietness and calm assurance in Jesus. The Church Corporation, on the following Monday, passed a resolution of condolence and sympathy with the bereaved family. The deceased was a brother of Robert Clinch, Esq., of Rother-say Parish.

There was a sermon on Christmas Eve for the Sunday School children, who sang the chants, hymns and carols in the service. Miss Jonnie Barry, one of the teachers, presiding at the organ.

**RICHMOND.**—At St. Mary's Church the Christmas services received an additional interest from the fact that the new chancel was occupied for the first time. This large and spacious addition to the church has been brought about mainly through the energy of Rev. J. Nelson Jones, the present rector. His efforts have been laudably backed up by the majority of the parishioners, but the inception of the undertaking and the successful completion of the work are due to his zeal and activity. The church was handsomely decorated, as it always is when the energetic church warden, Dr. Moody, leads his aid. The arrangement of autumn leaves and ferns was something quite new in this church, and is due to the good taste and activity of a lady who would probably be pained at any mention of her name. The services were rendered in a most hearty manner by the minister and people; the choir give their portion of hymns and anthems in the most satisfactory way. Rev. W. B. Armstrong, Rector of Welford, assisted Rev. Mr. Jones, and preached a sermon on "peace and good will," with such earnestness and impressiveness as to attract the most marked attention. A large number remained to communion, in which Mr. Armstrong was celebrant, assisted by the Rector.—*Telegraph.*

**CHATHAM.**—In St. Mary's Chapel very little change has been made from the decorations of last year.

A great improvement has been made in the Church itself during the year, by the addition of the Chancel, which contains a fine organ, purchased also during the year.

In St. Paul's Church, a very general change has been made from the decorations of previous years.

The decorations in both churches are highly creditable to the voluntary efforts of the members of the congregations, by whom, under the superintendence of the Rector, the work has been done. Especial praise is due to Mr. George Lee, by whom, with his well organized band of co-workers, the designs in St. Paul's have been carried out. The lettering done by Mr. John Pallen is much admired.

In St. Mary's Chapel on Christmas day there was Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion at 11 o'clock.

In St. Paul's Church there was evening service at 3 o'clock.

The Services were very enjoyable, and the attendance above the average. The offerings, which amounted to \$22.43 were in aid of the poor.

On Christmas Eve, the Rector of Chatham was the recipient of a handsome testimonial of regard and affection from the children of St. Mary's Sunday School.

**SUSSEX.**—Rev. Canon Medley has received a purse of \$40, collected by one of the congregation.

**WATERFORD.**—Rev. J. Lockward has received a donation from his parishioners in Dutch Valley.

**MIDNIGHT** services were held in the Churches at St. John, Portland, Carleton, Moncton and some other places on New

Year's Eve. Service was also held in St. John's and St. Mary's Churches, St. John, on New Year's Day.

**ST. PATRICK'S.**—On the first Sunday after Christmas, Miss Mary Dyer, on behalf of the congregation of St. Patrick's Church, presented the Rev. J. W. Millage with an envelope containing (21) twenty-one dollars, as a mark of their appreciation of his work among them for the past year.

## DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

**HALIFAX—Trinity.**—We omitted to speak of the decorations in this "Church for the Poor and the Stranger." The Rev. Mr. Ancient has done a noble work since taking charge, and has gathered around him very willing helpers. Trinity is therefore able, in a quiet way, to present a fine appearance at Christmas-tide, as well as at the other festivals of the Church. The decorations this year are remarkably pleasing to the eye, and acceptable to good taste, and while having no elaborate *heredos*, it has yet much to admire, and altogether reflects great credit on both minister and people.

**St. Mark's.**—For the first time in the history of this church there was a "Watch" Meeting on New Year's Eve, to solemnly bid good-bye to the Old Year and to usher in the New. The church was well filled with its own congregation, and with many from St. George's, and the service was most impressive. After the usual prayers, the Minister in charge delivered an appropriate sermon, and a little while before twelve, "Days and Moments Quickly Flying" was sung kneeling. Then at the hour all engaged in silent prayer, followed by a short address from the Minister; and what had proved, we feel sure, a very profitable service, concluded with Jackson's *Te Deum* and the Benediction.

**St. Luke's Cathedral.**—As usual a large congregation attended this church on New Year's Eve, and a very impressive and solemn service was engaged in. Mr. Townsend preached a most striking discourse, and it is to be hoped none went away unimpressed, or without forming good resolutions for the coming year.

**LENEXBERG.**—It is very generally remarked a year ago, that this fine old edifice never looked so well as it did then in its Christmas dress. The *Progress* stated that it had never been so extensively and elaborately decorated. We have it now to say that it is still more extensively and elaborately decorated this year, and is therefore still handsomer than ever before.

Extending all along the north side of the Church, about half way up the wall, is the sentence, "Thou art my God and I will thank Thee;" "Thou art my God and I will praise Thee," in spruce letters on a pure white ground. On the south side is the sentence, similarly arranged, "Behold, I bring glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to you and all people." Over the western arch is the sentence, "Fear not, for unto you is born this day," and below, on the front of the gallery, is the continuation, "A Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

The screens on each side of the chancel are filled in with scarlet, with the words "Jesus our Emmanuel and the Prince of Peace," in silver letters. Below these are the sentences "Unto us a Child is born and 'Unto us a Son is given," in gold letters on a blue ground. The panels are filled in with scarlet and white, nearly covered with green lattice-work. Across the chancel runs a screen of three arches, faced with white. Between the arches are shields, surrounded with green lattice-work. Along the top of the screens, runs the motto "Christ our Anointed" in white letters on a scarlet ground.

On the cobbles beams are red and white banners bearing appropriate mottoes, alternating with circles of spruce. The panels in the Communion Table bear gold devices on a white ground with borders of spruce. On the font is a pretty, bell-shaped device in spruce, trimmed with red berries and everlasting flowers, and surmounted by a cross. The pulpit is heavily wreathed, and the panels are filled in with colored emblems.—*Progress*

**BADDECK, C. B.**—On Tuesday, the ladies of St. John's Church, gave an entertainment at which the children of the Sunday schools, and "their sisters, cousins and aunts" were regaled with the good things of this life. Over 150 sat down

to tea in the Hall, kindly lent by J. Hart Esq. Music by a select choir, who acquitted themselves in admirable style, Dialogues which were well rendered, and a Christmas Tree, all contributed enjoyment to the many who came to be pleased. The night was a perfect winter's night, the tea was admirable, the ladies in their usual good humour, and all went merry as a marriage bell.

On the happy Christmas morning, among the many good and valuable presents by which the people at Baddeck showed their appreciation of their hard-working missionary, was a Box of money containing some \$47, a practical proof of sympathy with him in his endeavour to do the Lord's work in the hardest mission of the diocese. The ladies' hearts are tender and sympathetic, and the many and repeated colds, which the Missionary brings up with him from the Northern portion of his field, called forth their sympathy in this practical manner. Such actions cement the unions betwixt priest and people, help the former in substantial aid, and do much good to the latter, since it is "more blessed to give than to receive."

St. John's Church was filled on Christmas morning, the service being chiefly musical, and an appropriate sermon, from Luke I. 14, being preached by the missionary, after the Sacrament of Love was administered to all such as were religiously and devoutly disposed to receive the same. Christmastide passed, the missionary starts for the rougher and colder part of his Mission, to New Haven where the New Church has been thoroughly finished, only carpet for the chancel, and money to pay off the debt being needed. Who will send something to help the struggling fishermen?

**New Ross.**—Owing to circumstances over which the Missionary had no control, he has not hitherto been able to give an account of the consecration of the church lately completed at New Ross. As your readers are well aware, the exterior of the building was completed by the strenuous and indefatigable efforts of the Rev. J. W. Norwood, now of Seaforth, aided by the exertions of the people, who supplied most of the material. For several years past, while the church was building, services were held mostly at outstations, and the unfinished building utilized during the fine weather. The work of building was brought to a completion last Summer, by means of funds obtained from various sources, partly extraneous aid solicited by the Missionary and others, and partly by funds raised by means of a Tea Meeting in the Parish. His Lordship having been informed of its completion, signified his intention to consecrate it, and was met by the Missionary at the Kentville Station, on Wednesday, September 24th. Owing to a misunderstanding in regard to the mails, the Bishop's letter announcing the date of the consecration did not reach New Ross until the 22nd, too late for the Missionary to extend an invitation to the different clergymen whose presence was desired at the Consecration Services. The Rev. W. H. Groser, of St. Margaret's Bay, who was for the time the guest of the Missionary, took part in the services, acting as Chaplain to the Bishop.

At 10.30 a. m., on Wednesday, the 30th, a day long to be remembered by the Church people of New Ross, the Church having been filled by a large congregation, many of whom had walked miles to attend the service, His Lordship, attended by his Chaplain, was met at the western door by the Missionary, Church Wardens, and Vestry Clerk, John Prat, Esq., the latter of whom read the petition for Consecration. The Bishop having signified his intention to Consecrate the Church, after the usual formula, proceeded to the sanctuary, preceded by the Chaplain, bearing the Pastoral Staff, the Choir singing the 24th Psalm. The Consecration Service having been said, and the Sentence of Consecration having been read by the Missionary, His Lordship proceeded with the Communion Office. Hymn 395, A. & M. was then sung, after which the Bishop, in an Address of great length, to which it would be impossible to do justice, expressed his pleasure at meeting this devoted congregation of loyal Churchmen again, congratulated them on the successful completion of the work of building in which they had been engaged, and gave some doctrinal and practical instruction in his usually impressive manner. The Address, throughout, gave evidence of the most profound thought, and His Lordship's capability of adapting himself to the capacity of his hearers.

The Confirmation was next proceeded