

## News from the Home Field.

### Diocese of Fredericton.

#### SUSSEX AND STUDIOLM.

The festival of the Nativity of our Lord was observed as usual with care and devotion by the church people in these parishes.

On Sunday, Dec. 24th, there was a special celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the little Mountain Church of St. Agnes, Mount Middleton, and there were celebrations on Christmas morning at the churches of the Ascension and Holy Trinity. The music consisted of carols and well-known hymns, and were heartily joined in by the good congregations which assembled notwithstanding the uncomfortable state of the roads. Over sixty communicants presented themselves at the two services. The churches were tastefully adorned by the Guild of Willing Workers at Sussex, and the Guild of the Ascension at Studholm. The handsome chancel screen at Holy Trinity was a new and very effective feature of "greening." The children of the parish with their friends and the teachers of the Sunday-school with members of the choir, met for a social evening at the Rectory, on the invitation of Mrs. Little, on Thursday in Christmas week. The party was a large one, and after a choice repast in the parish room, the guests were pleasantly entertained with games, recitations, music, etc. During the evening, the Rector, Rev. Henry W. Little, and family were presented with the following address, read by George H. Wallace, Esq., J.P.

To the Rev. Henry W. Little, Rector of Holy Trinity, Sussex, N.B.:

*Reverend and esteemed sir,*—We, a few of your many friends in this parish, take this opportunity of showing our appreciation of your untiring efforts in connection with our Church and services, by presenting you with a small token of our respect, and hope you will not measure our feelings by this slight mark of our esteem, which we assure you is accompanied by the best wishes of the community; but we trust you may be long spared to minister to our spiritual wants. Extending our kindest regards to Mrs. Little, and wishing both of you a very prosperous New Year.

We have great pleasure in signing ourselves,  
YOUR FRIENDS.

A handsome purse of money accompanied the address, subscribed by all classes of the community. The Rector, who was taken by surprise in the matter, made a brief but warm and appreciative reply to the expressions of good will which had been tendered to himself and family, and for the various reasonable gifts which had been sent to the Rectory, from donors known and unknown, during the festival. A handsome prayer desk in oak was presented to Holy Trinity as a thank-offering by ex-churchwarden Wallace on Christmas morning.

### Diocese of Montreal.

#### SYNOD MEETING.

The 35th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal, met according to notice on the morning of 16th January inst., in Christ Church Cathedral, at 10.30. a. m. where a choral celebration of Holy Communion took place, and the Lord Bishop of the Diocese delivered his annual charge.

His Lordship, himself, was celebrant and he was assisted in the service by the Venerable Archdeacons Lindsay and Evans; the Rev.

Canon Norton, D. D. Rural Deans, W. Ross, Brown and Naylor, and the Rev. G. O. Troop, M. A. There was a very good attendance of delegates, a large attendance of clergy, through the lay representation was not as good. The Clergy entered in procession, followed by the Bishop, and his Lordship during the deliverance of his charge stood at the entrance to the choir. In opening, he referred to the severe illness from which he had recovered, and gratefully acknowledged God's goodness in this behalf, and the affectionate prayers of his people throughout the Diocese.

He referred to the necessity of greater spirituality, in both Clergy and Laity. He noted the formation of the General Synod of Canada, and remarked upon several points in the Pastoral, issued by the united Bench of Bishops, specially referring to their deliverance upon the question of Education, Organic Unity and Missionary work.

The Bishop also, in the course of his charge referred to the decease during the past year, of the Rev. Canon Robinson, and the Rev. I. Constantine, both of whom have done long and valuable service in the Church. Since the Synod of January 1893, there have been confirmed, 392 persons, (189 males, and 212 females); 7 persons admitted to the Diaconate, and 6 Deacons advanced to the Priesthood.

The musical part of the service was beautifully rendered by a large surpliced choir, assisted by ladies, the only fault to be found with it, being that the choice made for the Kyrie, Sanctus, Gloria in Excelsis and such parts of the Office as are intended to be joined in by the congregation, were unfamiliar and too high in pitch for ordinary voices. It seems to us that in a service such as this, where a large number of Clergy and Laity are assembled, it is desirable that though choral, the music should be of such character as would allow somewhat of congregational worship. After the Prayer of Consecration, whilst the Bishop was communicating the Priests present, the Hymn, "I am not worthy gracious Lord" was sung kneeling. The service was beautiful and reverent throughout, and reflected credit upon the organist and choir.

The business Sessions of the Synod opened in the Synod Hall at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, his Lordship the Bishop presiding. There was a fair attendance of members, Clerical and Lay. The Rev. Canon Simpson, was re-elected Clerical Secretary, Charles Garth, Treasurer, Mr. Richard White, Lay Secretary, and Messrs Walter Drake and E. P. Hannator Auditors.

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting, the Church Advocate, Dr. Davidson, referred to the affectionate prayers offered up last summer for the recovery of one whom they had learned to love from knowledge of him. He was sure also that there was struggling in every breast a feeling of joy to see Bishop Bond again presiding over the Synod, and it seemed to him that they should put this on record. He therefore moved, seconded by the Very Rev. Dean of Montreal:

That the Synod now in session assembled take the earliest opportunity possible before entering on the business of the session to express its devout thankfulness to Almighty God for having graciously heard and answered the prayers of the Church for the restoration to health of its beloved Chief Pastor, and also would express to His Lordship the Bishop their joy at finding him still able to preside over the deliberations of this Synod, and the hope that he may long be spared to fulfill the duties of his high and holy office.

Very Rev. Dean Carmichael said that there were times and seasons when description of one's joy and gratitude was beyond one's power of expression, and truly they had such a season at that very time. When they remembered the sad hours of expectancy last summer, when hun-

dreds of hearts dreaded receipt of evil tidings; and when they now saw His Lordship at the head of his diocese every man's heart must go up to God in thankfulness for the mercies poured out to them.

The Synod then arose and sang "Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow" with considerable feeling.

#### HIS LORDSHIP'S RESPONSE.

His Lordship, who was deeply affected, said that he found it quite impossible to express his gratitude to them for their kindness, and to God for being spared to continue his duties. He could only say that he was deeply grateful, and that he asked for the continuance of their prayers.

A FURTHER MUNIFICENT GIFT has been made to the Montreal Theological College (according to a late number of *The Evangelical Churchman*) by Mr. A. F. Gault: to wit, the sum of \$100,000. He also gave the building in which the College is, valued at some \$25,000, and has been in fact the main stay and back bone of the institution financially ever since its foundation.

### Diocese of Ontario.

#### KEMPTVILLE.

The "St. James' Ladies Aid" held their annual meeting on Thursday last to transact business and elect officers. Mrs. Emery, the president, read an admirable statement showing what had been accomplished and what remained still to be done. She stated that \$245.13 had been raised during the year, which, with a balance of \$143.40 remaining over from the preceding year, made altogether \$388.53, the greater part of which sum was spent in cleaning and tinting the church, placing kneelers and choir desks, and matting it throughout, and placing sixty new chairs in the parish hall. She also referred to two stalls for the Priest's desks being made and shortly to be placed. The ladies resolved to improve St. James' Hall. The President read a letter from a former parishioner now residing in Hortney, N.W., asking for help towards building a church. They voted \$10 towards this object. The same officers were re-elected for the current year.

### Diocese of Toronto.

#### PETERBOROUGH.

They seem to possess a real live man in the Rector of St. John's church here, the Rev. J. C. Davidson, who seldom misses an opportunity of arousing interesting in Church work, and of interesting outsiders. The latest instance was the securing *en route* to Ottawa, to attend the Brotherhood of St. Andrew Convention, of the Right Rev. Dr. Tuttle, Bishop of Missouri, in order to deliver an address on the 17th January in the Opera House here, under the auspices of the Chapter of St. John's church.

Most complete arrangements were made for the meeting, which proved to be highly successful and extremely profitable. The Opera House floor was packed with men, whilst the gallery, reserved exclusively for ladies, was filled. The combined choirs of St. John's, St. Luke's, the Mission Church, and members of the Brotherhood, occupied the platform, and, with an orchestra of 17 pieces, magnificently led the singing, the heartiness of which was a striking feature. The Rev. C. B. Kenrick had charge of the musical arrangements. Above the stage were hung the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes, out of respect of the distinguished Pro-late of the Sister Church in the United States,