

NOVA SCOTIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WEYMOUTH. —Easter Monday, the 22nd ult., the usual Vestry Meeting of the parish of Weymouth, was held in St. Peter's Church, at 3 p.m. The Rev. P. J. Filleul, Rector, in the chair. After prayer the accounts for last year were submitted by Mr. C. D. Jones, V. C., and approved. Notwithstanding the acknowledged scarcity of money, caused by the general depression in trade, the financial condition of the parish was satisfactory, a slight increase in the receipts being reported.

Mr. Douglas Campbell, and Mr. W. H. Moore, were appointed Wardens for the ensuing year. The Vestrymen remained as in 1877. St. Clair Jones, Esq., and the Hon. Alfred G. Jones, were elected delegates to the Diocesan Synod, to be held in Halifax in May, with W. B. Vail, Esq., as substitute.

The parishioners next proceeded to the consideration of the projected new Parish Church. The plans of Messrs. Zapernich and R. W. Ambrose, for a building 45 feet by 27 feet, with a chancel of proportionate dimensions, were, after requisite explanations from those gentlemen, unanimously adopted; it was then resolved to have the old church taken down without delay, in order to the erection of a new one on the same eligible site. Also, that the work should be by contract, subject, from time to time, to the inspection of competent judges. The meeting was much indebted to the Hon. Colin Campbell for several valuable suggestions. The following gentlemen were appointed as a building committee: Messrs. C. D. Jones, V. C. Douglas Campbell, Warden; Chas. H. Jones, W. W. Jones and George Taylor.

The Rector was requested by the meeting to discharge the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. A subscription was at once opened and over \$1,900 were promised on the spot; the Hon. Colin Campbell, Messrs. St. Clair Jones, Alphens Jones, Cerenio P. Jones, Douglas Campbell, and others putting down their names for liberal amounts. The friends of Miss Frances W. Jones intimated that that lady purposed contributing \$100; and the Rector had much pleasure in saying that the Hon. A. G. Jones had authorized him to say that he would give \$500, towards the erection of a new church in his native parish. Mr. Filleul also announced a donation of £30 sterling, from Miss Anna M. Maingay, of Guernsey, G. B. Church objects in Weymouth have, on more than one previous occasion, received valuable assistance from that lady; from the late Miss Mary Carey, Miss Sophia Carey, Miss Dobree, Mrs. Gore, the late Madam Pison and other Christian friends in the Channel Islands.

A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to the lady organist and to the other members of the choir, for the effective aid they render in an important part of public worship.

This account would be incomplete did we fail to say that the proceedings of this parochial meeting were conspicuous for the cordiality and unanimity which prevailed throughout, and that but one feeling prevailed as to pushing on the work of church building with promptness and vigor.

AMHERST.—Owing to the illness of the Rev. Canon Townshend, brought on chiefly, no doubt, by overwork, the Easter services were not held in Christ Church until the 28th of April, the octave of Easter. In addition to the extra pastoral work of the lenten season, the instruction of six adults for baptism and the preparation of candidates for confirmation, and more especially the unusually severe weather of the earlier part of April, proved too much for the willing but unaided hands of the Canon, and for two weeks—except for a fine day or two—he was not able to be out. The great anxiety and sympathy felt and expressed by the people for their pastor were by him acknowledged in a very fitting and touching manner.

The interior of the church at this place, so much improved last year by the new chancel and the fine organ, was at Christmas further beautified by a handsome Reredos composed of an elegant design in straw on a crimson ground. It consists of three gothic panels, with the sacred monogram in the centre, and in the other two, A and O respectively; and for the Holy season, Mrs. Stewart

—the donor as well as maker—added the words, Holy, Holy, Holy, separated, and on either side supported by a Maltese cross, the whole elegantly done in straw, and surmounting the first design. The floral decorations of the day were also a noticeable feature. Upon the altar and on each side of the chancel steps were placed masses of blooming plants bedded in banks of beautiful moss, while hanging at the foot of the cross in the sacred monogram was a wreath of white roses. The Font, though less care had been bestowed upon it, was not overlooked.

The services of the day were begun by the choir singing 134 of Hymns Ancient and Modern, as a processional. Instead of the *Venite* were rendered the Easter sentences "Christ our Passover &c." and the beautiful chant for the *Te Deum* was a quadruple by Oakley, now much used in England. A beautiful Anthem taken from the 26th Psalm, 6, 7, 8, and parts of 11 and 12, was finely rendered after the third collect. The solos were especially good, and the organ accompaniment was played with great feeling and expression. Hymns 135 and 131 (A. & M.) respectively preceded and followed the sermon by the Rev. E. H. Ball, of Spring Hill; and Hymn 318 was sung during the Offertory. A very large number of the congregation remained to partake at the Easter celebration, and among them the newly confirmed. Evening service was at 7 o'clock, when Canon Townshend was assisted by the Rev. Donald Bliss, of Westmorland. The musical part of the service was nearly the same as during the morning, the chief exception being, that instead of the Sacramental Hymn, there was feelingly sung the beautiful, peace-breathing hymn, "Saviour, again to Thy dear Name." In both the hymns and the Anthem there was at evening more heartiness displayed than in the morning. The choir sang well under the training of the new organist *pro tem*, Miss Townshend, of London, England, who devotes herself lovingly and zealously to the work.

DIGBY.—Feeling the vast importance of Public Catechising in the presence of the congregation, and yet being unable to overtake that duty every Sunday, owing to the necessity of holding a Sunday afternoon service thrice a month in St. Paul's Chapel, Marshalltown, the Rector of this parish determined on establishing a children's service in Digby, in the afternoon of the first Sunday in every month. The order of this service is as follows:—

Sentence, Exhortation, Absolution, &c., and 1 Psalm, 1 Lesson, Hymn, Short Catechetical Sermon on the teaching of the Sunday, in the course of the Christian year.

As no church can prosper which neglects one-half of its commission, viz., the preaching of the gospel to the heathen, the Rector, with a view to the right training of his juvenile church in this duty, takes up, at every children's service, a collection for the Shingwauk Home, Sault Ste. Marie, in the diocese of Algoma. To this object the children promised \$10 a year, and will easily make up that sum.

At these services, the choir is composed entirely of children. Three little boys collect and bring to the Rector, at the altar rail, the alms of the faithful, for the Shingwauk Home, to be presented to the Lord, on His holy table—the duty and great privilege of offering the fruits of our savings and self-denial having first been explained to the youthful congregation. A hymn is then sung, and the service is closed with a collect and the apostolic benediction.

Many of the seniors attend these services, and express themselves much pleased with them. The singing is sweetly and correctly rendered, as is also the chanting of the canticles; and the responses are good, and still improving.

Nothing but a sound system of public catechising can prevent or remedy the defects, and supply the shortcomings of the ordinary system of Sunday School instruction, tinctured as it often is with Calvinism, or some other 'ism. A congregation trained in the doctrines of the Prayer Book are not in after years, so ready as others, soured by negations, to form themselves into uncatholic, unchurchly, and uncharitable cliques and cabals.

The Reverend E. F. Wilson, the good mission-

ary who has the care of the Indian children at Sault Ste. Marie on his hands, is yet so self-denying as to respond to the late appeal published in the DOMINION CHURCHMAN, for the proposed new church in Digby, by a donation—accompanying his subscription with approval of the Rector's desire if possible to avoid leaving his parish for the purpose of collecting funds. He says: "Tell the Church what you want, and it is the Church's business, and ought to be its pleasure, to contribute." Now, with what was collected by the Rector and banked, some years ago, and what has been and can be raised in the parish, \$2,000 will still be required for the proposed free church. It is hoped, therefore, that the Church outside of the parish may lend a helping hand in the hour of need.

Four little girls—one the daughter of Dr. P. W. Smith, High Sheriff of the County, and the others children of the Rector—named respectively Eliza Smith, and Charlotte, Helen and Edith Ambrose, have just held a successful sale of useful and fancy articles and refreshments, realizing the sum of \$23, which will be sent to the Wawanosh Home, Algoma.

The climate of Digby, according to the reports of the Government Meteorological Statistics, is the most equable in the Dominion of Canada, making it a most pleasant summer resort. Situated on a hill sloping down to the Annapolis Basin, the town enjoys a perfect system of drainage. The "Gut Draft" from the Bay of Fundy, and the fresh air from St. Mary's Bay, both close at hand, keep the town clear of fog, and render the air most healthful and invigorating, even in the heat of summer. The scenery around the Basin, and among the rivers, lakes and hills in the back country, is the finest in Nova Scotia. Sea-bathing, boating and fishing are here found in perfection. Amateur geologists and conchologists can enrich their cabinets from the trap formation of the hills, and the sandy and gravelly bottoms of the Basin and the neighboring bays. The town itself, as well as the surrounding country, is famous for cherries, in their season. Digby is, therefore, already well known as a delightful and yet inexpensive place of resort for invalids, as well as others. It has daily communication with Halifax, by means of the Western Counties and Windsor & Annapolis Railways, and the steamboat *Empress* runs thrice a week between Annapolis and St. John, N.B., touching at Digby. There is also daily communication with Yarmouth, by means of comfortable coaches. The fare from Digby to Halifax or Yarmouth is four dollars—to St. John, \$1.50.

Church people will find the comfort of a Daily Service and fortnightly Communion, with an occasional early celebration, in the parish church.

The old parish church is now being removed to the north side of the church yard, to make room for the new building to be erected and finished outside in the course of the summer. A child's coffin, with the inscription (in brass tacks), "E. E. Harper, Aged 8 mos. 6 days," was found yesterday under the floor of the south side of the chancel, where it had been deposited many years ago. A grave was immediately dug, in which it was carefully interred. The child was the infant of Capt. Harper, of H.M.S. *Wye*, and had been temporarily deposited under the chancel, awaiting an opportunity of being sent to England for final interment.

WEYMOUTH.—At the Easter Monday meeting, plans by Messrs. Zapernick & Ambrose for a new church were approved and adopted, and \$1,935 were immediately subscribed towards the building. The old parish church is to be immediately taken down, and the new edifice to be finished if possible within this year. It will be a very handsome building, in the early pointed style, with nave, chancel, porch, tower and spire,—will seat about 160, and when finished and furnished will probably cost about \$2,500.

HALIFAX, May 1.—Dr. L. Jones is to be consecrated to-day (St. Philip and James) Bishop of Newfoundland. There is a special celebration appointed at 8 a. m. at the bishop's chapel here with prayers on behalf of the newly appointed bishop, which (allowing for difference in time)