

Lord's Supper: "It is an offence against good taste and piety to ridicule the faith of good men; but the respect due to honest religious convictions cannot be claimed for the sophisms on which these convictions are sometimes rested." We ridicule; we hold in supremest disdain the sophistical delusion that the unity of Christ's Church is secured by an annual exchange of pulpits by the preachers of schismatical, discordant religious bodies. If these men's honest conviction is that Christ no longer has a Church, or if they think His Church is not a body, but a heap of fractured limbs, then we may pity such ignorance of His teaching, such violation of positive Scripture declarations, and pray for its removal. But we cannot respect a sensational, theatrical attempt, (such as is an "exchange of pulpits" by the various so-called Churches,) to convey to the world an impression of their being unity where none exists, save only unity in rebellion against the commands of the Divine Head of the Church for which He died, and for the true organic perpetual unity of which His last prayer was uttered.

No cement will make sects into that Church, those who desire union must abandon self and be received again into the "one Catholic and Apostolic Church," wherein each member feels the life-blood of the body of Christ coursing through his spiritual veins.

Diocesan Intelligence.

NOVA SCOTIA.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

HALIFAX.—One of the most interesting and best attended annual meetings in the history of the Church of England Institute, took place Tuesday evening, 17th ult., in the Institute, Granville Street. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Patron of the Society; the Venerable Archdeacon Gilpin; and Rev. John D. H. Brown, were present, besides a large number of lay members. In the absence of the President, Rev. Dr. Hill, who was confined to his house by illness, the chair was occupied by the 1st Vice-President, Mr. Thos. Brown. The opening prayers were said by the Archdeacon.

The report of the Council for the past year was most encouraging, showing an increase in the membership since the last annual meeting. There are now 243 names enrolled as members of the Institute. The Billiard Room was opened during the past year, giving innocent and healthy recreation and amusement to the younger members. The Gymnasium has proved itself to be a useful appendage to the objects of the Institute, thereby increasing and developing the muscular strength of its members.

The Reading Room has been much more frequented during the past year, and more highly appreciated. Upwards of 350 visitors have been introduced to the rooms at present occupied by the Institute. After some changes in the Constitution and By-laws had been made, and the reasons for so doing fully discussed, officers for the ensuing year were elected.

Resolutions of sympathy with the family of the late lamented Professor James DeMille were passed, and feelingly spoken to by the Lord Bishop, Mr. W. C. Silver, and others. A resolution of thanks to the press of the city for past favours, gratuitous supply of papers and notices of meetings, &c., was passed unanimously.

At 11 o'clock a successful and satisfactory meeting was brought to a close by the Benediction being pronounced by the Bishop.

The annual meeting of the Directors and friends of the Halifax Dispensary was held on the 16th ult. After the usual routine business had been transacted the reports of the Directors, Treasurer, Eye and Ear Physician, and Medical Board were read.

THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

referred to the progress of the Dispensary from its humble and quiet admission among the benevolent and philanthropic societies of Halifax twenty-five years ago until to-day, when its useful and needful benefits place it in a position to claim to be one of the most useful and important among them; to the past financial condition of the institution, and its diminished

revenue in 1870; to the death of Mr. Charles Fletcher, who for 12 years faithfully performed the duties of Secretary; and to the urgent need for funds to carry on and increase the work of the Institution.

His Lordship the Bishop, in moving the adoption of the report, offered some practical remarks upon the great value of the institution, and regretted that in this, as in others of a benevolent character in the city, the interest which should be manifested, when such meetings were held, was so limited. The public, in consequence, were not aware of the utility and benefit of this Dispensary, in particular, was to that large class who would otherwise be overlooked in suffering and affliction. The Dispensary being always accessible, no doubt afforded speedy alleviation and in the early stage of sickness could be taken advantage of, acting, doubtless, beneficially as a preventive, as largely as a curative of disease. The poor, being unable and unwilling to employ a doctor, or obtain medicine, when they had to pay, until too late to be relieved or cured. He commended the suggestions and interesting character of the report, and considered that, in order to prevent misapprehension respecting the publication of the Hospital Sunday collections, it would be well for the Directors to state definitely, whether they were for the reduction of the debt on the building, or for the current expenses of the Dispensary. He also recommended an extension of the private subscription list, and stated that the community owed a debt of gratitude to the medical gentlemen, whose skill and labours were made available, as shown in these reports, to so large a number of the classes requiring their attention.

The Rev. Mr. Townend, Chap. H. M. Forces, has handed to the Mayor the sum of \$88.15, being amount collected at the Garrison Chapel for the Irish Relief Fund. This contribution is independent of the collection now being made amongst the officers and men of the garrison, and is highly creditable to Mr. Townend's congregation.

ANNAPOLIS.—A lecture was given by the Rev. R. Avery, Rector of Aylesford, on "Modern Scepticism," in the hall at Melvern Square, on Saturday evening under the auspices of Enterprize Lodge, I. O. G. T. Although the day was a stormy one, the Hall was filled with a select and appreciative, as was evinced by the frequent and prolonged applause with which the lecturer was greeted.

MONTREAL.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

FRELIGHSBURG.—Trinity Church.—On Sunday Feb. 29, closing services took place in connection with the final departure of the congregation from this time-honoured structure, which in its history is almost identified with the first settlement of this thriving portion of the Province of Quebec. It is entitled to the claim of the Mother Church of the Eastern Townships. The troubles incident to the rebellion and revolution of 1776, drove sympathizers with the old country and her stable form of government to newer lands over which was still extended the aegis of the Royal sceptre and the unquestioned inheritance of the British Constitution. This class of patriots contributed a considerable number to the earliest pioneers in the wilderness of Canada, and quite a few are to be traced as the progenitors of the present inhabitants of St. Armand. The venerable society for the Propagation of the Gospel has ever followed in the wake of political changes and other favourable influences with the standard of the Cross lifted up, that fellow countrymen and fellow creatures might rejoice in a Redeemer's love. This society has had many noble missionaries, and among these will ever shine the record of the Hon. and Right Rev. C. J. Stewart, first missionary at St. Armand, then travelling missionary throughout the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, and finally chief pastor, with still more extended labours.

Among well-informed Canadian churchmen his name will form a household word. The manifest and manifold blessings conferred and acknowledged led to a general attendance of the local community in the house of prayer, with added numbers from adjoining parishes on both sides of the line 45°. The evergreens of Christmas symbolizing the enduring character of the memory of the reverend founder, and the undying nature of his work were suffered to remain, notwithstanding the penitential season of Lent; and the venerable edifice filled in every part by an intelligent and devout audience, presented a scene long to be remembered. The Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by the Rector, the Rev. R. Lindsay and the Rev. J. C. Davidson, conducted the morning service. The musical portions were heartily and appropriately rendered by the choir of the church, strengthened in the considerable variety of musical selections by the superior pipe organ which has already been provided for the new church. The sermon by his Lordship was a most faithful and earnest presentation of Gospel

truth and Gospel privilege, with the momentous consequence of Christian responsibility, based upon the text "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary." His remarks were instructive, touching and penetrating, and appropriately closed the message of the old pulpit which had been resounded from it for 71 years. The Holy Communion was partaken of by a large body of communicants; indicating by the chief pastor administering, and the representative members from other communities, who with the parishioners received, the unity and fellowship of the Church. The appeal by the Bishop on behalf of the suffering in Ireland was most energetic and the response (\$20) in the offertory, in a measure corresponding.

In the evening, and for the last time the old Church was again entirely filled. The service consisted of the Litany and appropriate anthems and hymns. Addresses marked by ability and deep sympathy with the spirit of the occasion, were delivered, after some introductory remarks from the Rector, by the Rev. Dr. Bailey, the venerable Presbyter of Vermont, and the Rev. Messrs. R. Lindsay, H. W. Nye, J. Smith, J. C. Davidson and C. P. Watson, in addition to whom were present the Rev. Messrs. Forneret and Westover. The Bishop, with his usual earnestness, concluded applying the lessons of the occasion to pastor and people. At a late hour these interesting exercises closed, with the confident assurance in many minds that, while the light of man's kindling might cease to burn, and earthly fabrics must crumble and disappear, "The word of the Lord endureth for ever."

DOCTOR LOBLEY.—We congratulate this gentleman on the wisdom of his choice in deciding to remain in quiet Lennoxville, where he is so much esteemed and beloved, and where the theological heavens are not perpetually black and red with the clouds and lightning of party storms. Doctor Lobley has had a narrow escape, and while we rejoice at the fact that he has escaped, we cannot suppress feelings of pity for the honest scholar and gentleman (whoever he may be), upon whom the mantle of Provost Whitaker is doomed to fall.

* MONTREAL.—Mechanics' Bank.—The assignees of this defunct corporation are suing the Rector and Church Wardens of St. Martin's Church, in this city, for a sum of one thousand dollars (or thereabouts) on account of money advanced in connection with the building of the Church, &c. We fancy the assignees will have some little difficulty in proving their case. Above all Churches in the city, St. Martin's is not the one to allow a trifle like a thousand dollars to come into court for settlement if there were not some urgent reasons why it should be settled there.

REV. MR. HEPBURN.—This gentleman, from the Diocese of Quebec, preached at the evening service in St. Luke's Church, Waterloo, on Wednesday last. A dark night and bad roads caused the number of worshippers to be rather smaller than usual.

CANON ELLGOOD.—On Wednesday evening last, Mr. Ellgood lectured in Glen Sutton, on "Reminiscences of a Visit to the Jordan, Dead Sea, Plains of Bethlehem and the Wilderness of Jordan;" there was a large audience, and the reverend gentleman's remarks were heard with great interest. At the close, a vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. Edwin Esty, and seconded by Mr. Alexander Bickford and carried unanimously. On the following evening Mr. Ellgood preached in the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Christ's Church Cathedral.—Canon Baldwin has in progress a very interesting series of special sermons on Biblical history in connection with the discoveries and excavations, in the East.

St. JOHN'S, P. Q.—We understand the assistant minister in this place, Mr. Booth, has decided to go to Trinity Church, Montreal.

Mr. Booth is a great favourite in St. John's, and, as a preacher, it will be exceedingly difficult to find his equal.

CLERICAL UNION.—There is some talk of reviving the old clerical meetings once so common in the Deanery of Bedford. The clergy feel that they do not often enough come together and that the needs of the work really call for some systematic organization, such as the clerical union supplies. These meetings are not intended to adjust the affairs of the Diocese at large, nor to discuss, after the manner of elderly ladies, the "ins and outs" of every scrap of Church gossip that rises amongst us; on the contrary the business of each meeting will be to examine a portion of God's word, and converse as to the best means of extending His Church in the Eastern Townships. We trust Archdeacon Lindsay and Rural Dean Musson will soon see their way clear to formulate their ideas on the subject, or call a meeting to talk the matter over.