

from its proper application to doctrine, and to apply it to mere miscellaneous collections of all sorts and conditions of men, believing and unbelieving alike.—*From Scottish Guardian.*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE decision arrived at by the Art Association of the City of Montreal to reject the offer of Ten Thousand Dollars as a gift to the institution, provided it was kept open on Sunday afternoon, is one which we think will give general satisfaction, and for which we are extremely thankful. The offer was a tempting one, and in view of the fact that a number of the subscribers were known to be in favor of the opening of such institutions, we feared that the result might be different; especially as the advocates of such movement had in their favor the fact that the institution was under careful control, and that the opening was asked in behalf of what in itself might be regarded as, if not strictly conducive to morality, yet not opposed thereto. Doubtless, the result is in great part attributable to the plain and outspoken position of the Hon. Justice Mackay, who well enforced the imperative nature of the command "Keep Holy the Sabbath Day," and pertinently remarked that it was prefaced by the word, "REMEMBER," as if anticipating the objections and the plausible excuses which would be advanced in later days. Admitting that there may be nothing particularly objectionable in itself in the employment of certain hours of the Lord's Day in contemplating works of art, whether in books or paintings, it can hardly, nevertheless, be contended that such occupation fulfils the Divine Command to "Keep Holy the Sabbath Day." This would seem to imply something more than mere unobjectionable use of its hours.

Again those who advocate the opening of Libraries and Art Galleries to the public on Sunday lose sight of the fact that the mere opening of what are and what do not pretend to be other than mere secular institutions subserving no direct religious purpose, is in itself a breach of the spirit of the Fourth Commandment; and if permitted in regard to these less objectionable cases, it would not be long ere a demand would be made for a like privilege in behalf of others of a more unfavorable nature.

The question of what is harmless entertainment has to be viewed relatively to the different classes of society: and if provision be made for those of more elevated tastes in the opening of Art Galleries, why should not their brethren whose tastes differ and who require a lower and more ignoble class of entertainments be likewise regarded; we should then have the Comic Theatre or Opera in full play on the Sunday afternoon on the plea that it alone met the tastes and afforded entertainment to a certain class who it would be contended might better be there than perhaps otherwise more objectionably engaged. As we have already said however, the Command cuts deeper than the more unobjectionable employment of the Lord's Day, and seems to imply that whatever be the occupation or employment, there will be running through and forming part of all a spirit of Prayer and Praise and of thankfulness to Him who is "The Lord and Giver of life" and to whom all are responsible for the

use made of the time and the powers granted unto them and who has made provision for the recuperation of these powers by providing that one-seventh of the time shall be kept as a Day of *Holy Rest*; Holy, unto the Lord.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ELECTION OF BISHOP.—At the Special adjourned meeting of the Synod held on the first of February inst. for the Election of a Bishop of the See, the name of the Reverend Frederick Courtney, S.T.D., Rector of St. Paul's Church, Boston, Mass., was unanimously submitted and accepted, no other nomination being made. We have not yet learned whether Dr. Courtney has accepted the election or not, but certainly, not alone the Diocese of Nova Scotia but the whole Church in Canada, is to be congratulated upon this result. Dr. Courtney is well known as an able preacher, as a learned Divine and a man of great piety and holiness of life. He took part in the first Canadian Church Congress which was held in Hamilton in the Diocese of Niagara, and was the selected preacher on that occasion; all who heard him either as preacher or in his address delivered during the progress of the Congress, and especially in the concluding one on Personal Holiness, were struck as well by the ability as by the reverent and deeply religious tone manifested therein. It is most sincerely to be wished in the interest of the Church at large that Dr. Courtney may be able to regard this as a direct call to a higher and more responsible work than that which he is now fulfilling in even as prominent a position as St. Paul's Church, Boston.

Since writing the above the local papers have come to hand, and from them we learn that Dr. Courtney has accepted, and is now Bishop-elect of Nova Scotia. The *Halifax Chronicle* says that Dr. Courtney is about 50 years of age; he is a graduate of the University of Glasgow. He was ordained Deacon in 1864, and Priest in 1865, by the Archbishop of Canterbury; he was formerly Curate of Hadlow, Kent; perpetual Curate or Vicar of Charles St. Church, Plymouth, Eng. from 1865 to 1871. He came to the United States 17 years ago, but has never been naturalized. Doubtless his consecration will take place at the earliest moment possible as the Diocese has been too long without its chief Pastor. Request was made, we believe, that the consecration should take place in the pro-Cathedral, at Halifax.

The Synod of this Diocese met on the 1st of February, for the purpose of making another attempt to elect a Bishop. Forty-four clergy were in attendance, and forty-one of the lay representatives.

Archdeacon Gilpin read the correspondence and telegrams which had passed between him and the Archbishop of Canterbury, in regard to the appointment by the latter and the Archbishop of York, and Bishop of London, of a successor to Bishop Binney, and announced that the correspondence had not ceased as a further letter was expected from His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A formal motion was then made rescinding the former resolution referring the choice of a successor to Bishop Binney to the above named Prelates, after which Judge Townshend nominated the Reverend Dr. Courtney, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Boston, for election as Bishop of the Diocese. This nomination was seconded by the Rev. F. R. Murray, and was received with applause; and the Synod adjourned for half-an-hour. On re-assembling there being no other nomination, a ballot was taken, not a single vote was cast against Dr. Courtney (though there were three blank votes). Dr. Courtney was therefore elected unanimously.

A telegram was sent immediately to Dr.

Courtney and the Synod adjourned till eight o'clock in the evening. On re-assembling there were 48 Clerical and 56 Lay Delegates present as well as a large number of the General Public. The Chairman read the following telegram which was received with applause:

BOSTON, February 1, 1888.

The Venerable Archdeacon Gilpin:

Please convey to the synod my deep appreciation of the honor conferred upon me by my election as Bishop of Nova Scotia, and of their confidence in my character shown in their unanimity. With diffidence and self distrust, but relying upon the help of God and the hearty co-operation of the clergy and laity of the diocese, I accept the trust committed to me.

F. COURTNEY.

The Official certificate of the Election was then read and Archdeacon Gilpin stated that it would be signed by him as Administrator of the Diocese and by the Clerical and Lay secretaries and forwarded to the Metropolitan of Canada. During the evening the Rev. Canon Brock, at the request of the Chairman, read a letter which he had received from the Rev. W. J. Harris, D.D., assistant of St. Paul's Church, Boston, addressed to him in answer to an inquiry as to whether Dr. Courtney would likely accept the Bishopric or not, and expressing the conviction that if elected he would. Mr. Harris added:

I have a pretty wide acquaintance with the clergy in the American church, from Main to Dakota at least, and I can honestly say that I don't know one who seems to be so thoroughly fitted for the work of a Bishop in the church of God, or whom I would think to be under greater obligation to accept the work of a Bishop, if in the providence of God it were offered to him, on account of his peculiar fitness for it. He could not probably be chosen a Bishop in the American church because he is an Englishman, but is not he just Anglo-American enough for a Canadian Bishop? As to his churchmanship, while it is strong and decided it is thoroughly tolerant and evangelical. I happen to know that he was lately urged to undertake a certain work distinctly upon the ground that he was one of the very few men whom all schools in the church would trust. Having known him for several years, I have found him to be one of the most straightforward, square trustworthy men whom I have ever known. As a Bishop he would be thoroughly kind and just to his Clergy and laity alike. I have written entirely without Dr. Courtney's knowledge; very likely he wouldn't approve if he had the least suspicion that I was doing anything of the sort. But the few words which we exchanged on the subject have led me to think it would be a great pity if a diocese like that of Nova Scotia should fail to get one of the very best of Bishops simply through a hardly well founded persuasion that he could not possibly be had.

Mutual congratulations followed from different members of the Synod upon the happy result which had been arrived at after which the Archdeacon having vacated the chair, the Reverend Rural Dean Moore moved seconded by the Hon. A. G. Jones that the thanks of the synod be presented to Very Rev. Archdeacon Gilpin for his efficient efforts as administrator of the diocese and as presiding officer at the deliberations of the synod. This was unanimously carried by a standing vote of the assemblage, and conveyed by Canon Maynard.

Archdeacon Gilpin responded, thanking the Synod. He said he heartily agreed with the selection of the Synod, and congratulated the diocese on the election of Dr. Courtney.

The request of the Synod was conveyed to the Metropolitan that the consecration should be held in St. Luke's Cathedral.

Hon. Mr. Jones called attention to the necessity of the assessment of the \$2,000 on the various parishes to make up the \$6,000 required for the Bishop elect's salary, being