

## NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this paper by Our Own Correspondents.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are much pleased to receive weekly from all parts of the Dominion items of interest for this Department, and return thanks to the many kind contributors thereof. We must, however, remind all that these items should be sent in promptly to be of general interest and secure insertion, and that they should also be *short and concise*. Our space is so limited that at times we cannot get room for all the news sent in without encroaching on other departments, which we are unwilling to do. We would also remind correspondents that to secure insertion in the GUARDIAN of the week following, communications must be to hand here on *Friday*.

## DIOCESE-OF NOVA SCOTIA.

RAWDON.—The Rector of this parish received, on the evening of 1st January, another substantial token of the good-will of his people, by means of a presentation to him of a purse containing \$26.82. The presentation was made at the residence of Henry Canavan, Esq., of Hillsdale, to which the Rector, with Mrs. and Miss Ancient, had been invited to meet a number of the congregation resident in that section. The Rector made a suitable reply to the remarks of Mr. Geo. Creed, who made the presentation on behalf of the people. Besides the purse, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Ancient also received useful articles to the value of \$5.25.

SPRINGHILL.—On January 9th, a tea for the children of the Sunday-School was held in the new rectory. There was a large attendance, and the young folk did full justice to the good things provided through the generous labors of Mrs. J. A. Byers and others.

HALIFAX.—*St. Mark's*.—We regret to learn that the rector of St. Mark's is still confined to his house with a painful attack of inflammation. On Sunday the 18th., the Ven., the Archdeacon of Nova Scotia, took the services. Last week the children of the Sunday-school had a very successful festival. All present regretted the absence of the rector; but the teachers and members of the congregation worked hard to make the affair successful.

*St. George's*.—The Rev. W. E. Wilson, of Falmouth, preached in St. George's on Sunday morning the 18th inst.

The young men of the parish are making arrangements for the formation of a Young Men's Institution for the parish, and for the North End of the city. The need for some such association has been felt for some time past, and now an active and intelligent committee are at work on the subject.

The Rev. Dr. Partridge was notified by a clergyman in England, that three girls belonging to the "Girls Friendly Society" were on their way to Halifax and anxious to secure situations. A notice in the papers brought in a host of applications, and the girls were met on their arrival and at once taken to homes. It seems a pity that more girls do not at once come out. They could be placed immediately on their arrival in first rate places.

*St. Luke's*.—At a meeting of some members of the congregation; it was determined that a Fancy Sale be held next December by St. Luke's, for the purpose of raising funds for the building of a new church on the present site. A committee was appointed to make the necessary preparations.

There is quite a stir in Halifax over church buildings; St. George's is anxious to build a new Sunday-school building in order to give better accommodation for the growing needs of the school. It is also rumoured that His Lordship, the Bishop, with his wonted generosity, is making arrangements for securing a branch house for the "Girls' Friendly

Society," and which will be a central house for the deaconesses.

St. Mark's expects to have an enlargement during the coming summer; but some are in favour of making an effort to build a new church instead of enlarging the present one. At St. Matthias Mission all the energy of the congregation is to be taxed to the endeavour to secure the completion of the present building before another winter sets in, and in order to secure this, a monster bazaar is to be held early next Autumn. Then there is talk of new buildings for St. Paul's. We are glad to notice these signs of life in the church in Halifax; but would be still more pleased to chronicle the fact, that a strong movement was on foot for the purpose of erecting that which the diocese ought to have had long ago, namely A CATHEDRAL. It is certainly time that the oldest Diocese in British North America had a building worthy of its name and prestige. Halifax too, is itself too important a position to remain any longer without such a building. Let the movement be started, and we are convinced help will flow in from all sides.

HALIFAX.—*St. John's (3 Mile Church) Sunday-school*.—The annual distribution of prizes took place on Jan. 2nd., when the Rev. Mr. Crisp very kindly came to the school and presented the prizes to the scholars, and addressed a few kind words to each.

Owing to the dilapidated condition of the school-room, the teachers have decided to close the school for the winter months as it is totally unfit for the children to sit in even for a short time each Sunday. Many repairs and improvements have been made to the Church and churchyard during the past year, and there seems to be no reason why the Sunday-school should not at once receive the consideration which the importance of that branch of the work deserves.

BADDECK, C. B.—The Rev. S. Gibbons, who has been labouring in this county for the past eight years, has removed to Lockport, N. S. The church was crowded to hear his farewell sermon, the service on that occasion being deeply interesting both to pastor and people. We feel certain we express the feelings of a very large number of people in the country when we say that they will miss the genial countenance of the man who, though travelling three thousand miles per month, over the worst roads on the continent, was always as cheerful and jolly as though life had neither labours nor burdens. An address most flattering in its terms and expressing the great regret of the people in parting with him, and their fervent good-wishes for his future was presented to Mr. Gibbons. We regret that we have not space to publish it in full as requested.

## DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

The annual service of Fredericton Deanery Choral Union is to be held this year at Mangerville on the second of February, (D.V.) at 7 p.m. The Most Reverend the Metropolitan will be the preacher.

ST. JOHN N. B.—The Missionary Meeting in Trinity school house was largely attended considering the state of the weather. After the singing of the hymn, "Hail thou source of every blessing," prayer was offered up by Rev. Canon Brigstocke.

The rev. gentleman then delivered a very interesting address on mission work done in connection with Trinity church and school. The collections during the past year for mission work have been much larger than in former years. He also gave an account of the mission work in Algoma. During the Bishop's recent trip to England he had been able to procure a steam yacht to be used for the furtherance of the work in Algoma. It is anticipated that the Bishop of Algoma will visit St. John at a future date.

Rev. C. Brigstocke was introduced and stated that after the great fire in 1877 his congregation at Homburg made a collection and sent it to the sufferers. He referred at some length to the mis-

sion work among the French-Canadians, giving an account of how it had spread, and implored his hearers to work faithfully in that direction.

Hymn 292, "Lord thy watch," was sung, after which Rev. J. Waters read a very interesting paper on missionary work in the Magdalen Islands. He referred to the murder of Bishop Patterson and stated that he (Rev. Mr. W.) was three years engaged at work in those islands. Very little was known of them in England. They are eight in number, and the speaker gave a historical sketch of them and an account of the inhabitants. In 1866 he was ordained in Montreal by the Metropolitan and he commenced his missionary work in the Magdalen islands. To get there he took passage by schooner from Gaspe. During his residence there two churches were erected through his instrumentality. In the first place he had to use the jail to hold service in. The rev. gentleman read some interesting extracts from his diary, in which he kept a daily record of all his work. Some of the entries showed that the work was far from pleasant. As he had studied medicine for twelve months in England he was enabled to act as a doctor when he was called upon by the inhabitants. He went to the islands in the summer of 1866, and it was not until June, 1867, that he received any communication from the old world, and then he received word that his mother had died on the 5th of December, 1866. He narrated in a graphic manner some sad cases of shipwrecks which had taken place there. As evidence of the progress that had been made since he went there, he stated, among other things, the islands were now connected with the mainland by telegraph; that lighthouses had been erected and steamers ran at stated intervals.

After the singing of the hymn, "From all that dwell below the skies," the meeting adjourned. J. A. Coster presided at the organ.

CAMBRIDGE.—We are glad to learn that the Rev. C. H. Hathaway, Incumbent of this large parish, has recovered from his serious illness. Mr. H. is to have a rest for three months, during which time Rev. N. A. Raven, of Halifax, N. S. will supply his place.

MONCTON.—Mr. A. J. Reid, St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, who is to assist the Rector of Moncton is expected to arrive from England early next month.

A Church of England mission hall has been recently erected in Vulcan street, Moncton, and is doing a good work in that part of the town.

On Tuesday evening, the 30th ult., the first Christmas festival of this new mission was kept, when about fifty Sunday and night school scholars assembled in the hall. After grace had been heartily sung the children sat down to a bountiful tea of meats, pies, cakes, etc., on tables covered with white cloths and running the whole length of the room. After they had finished, the older people who attended the services also sat down and enjoyed a good meal. The room looked very pretty indeed, the dark fir decorations standing out in charming contrast to the white walls, and the huge Christmas tree on the middle of the platform, with its branches bending gracefully beneath its weight of all kinds of good things, was a very beautiful sight.

Some of the children seemed lost in admiration. One girl, particularly, took up her position by the tree and there stood for at least half an hour gazing in perfect amazement. It was a study that Mil-lais would like to have given on canvass, or Kingsley have written about. After tea the things were given away, and when all the things were taken off the tree hearty cheers were given for the ladies who had so kindly provided the good things for the table, for Bishop Kingdon, who has taken so warm an interest in this work and has been such a noble benefactor to Moncton, for Mr. Wran, who has sympathised so warmly in this cause, and for the faithful and energetic Rector, Mr. Hoadley.

We earnestly trust that this work, which has begun so well, may continue to bear good fruit and that God's abundant blessing may rest upon it.