

News from the Home Field.

Gathered specially for this paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.—The Rev. A. J. Townend may well be called a useful as well as a busy man. On Monday week he lectured at Truro on behalf of St. John's Church, and his brother-in-law, the Vicar, has a handsome sum for parochial purposes from the proceeds. On Thursday Mr. Townend charmed a very large audience in the Academy of Music, Halifax, when he delivered an entirely new lecture, and one of his very best efforts, on "What I know about the Dutch," and thereby added over one hundred dollars to Mr. Sampson's Trinity Church Fund. And the following Monday the lecturer is in Pictou, delighting a large audience on the subject of "American Humorists," and enabling St. James' Church to place to the credit of its funds the valuable proceeds. We cannot bear to think of losing so willing a worker and so able a man as Mr. Townend from our midst, and we sincerely hope that in some way he may be induced to remain with us.

St. Luke's.—The Rev. F. R. Murray being obliged, by reason of a serious lung trouble, to take a trip to a warmer climate, has not only been granted permission by his parishioners and his salary continued, but has also been the recipient of a handsome gift of money from the Vestry, and a still larger purse from his people, to whom he has greatly endeared himself. Mr. Murray left in the Bermuda steamer on Monday for Jamaica, and will be away until June.

The Bishop of Newfoundland preached in the Bishop's Chapel on Sunday morning, and at St. Luke's Cathedral in the evening. His Lordship is on his way to Bermuda.

St. George's.—We regret to learn of the indisposition of the hard-working Rector of this Parish, and hope he will soon be able to take his duties again.

RAWDON.—The Church in this Parish was beautifully decorated for the Christmas festival. The nave was neatly festooned with evergreen. Between the windows hung white banners bearing designs and texts in blue and gold. The holy table and re-table were draped in white, relieved by crimson and gold, cross, etc. The Service was hearty and well rendered. The Rector desires to acknowledge, with thanks, a Christmas gift of \$10 for his children, from Mr. Jas. Casey, and a valuable comfortable for Mrs. Ancient, from Mrs. Casey.

SEAFORTH.—Rev. James A. Richey, Rector of Seaforth, took his appointments last Sunday, under exceptional circumstances, viz., walked two miles and skated five to reach Christ Church, East Chezzetcook, for Morning Service, which was then duly performed. Refreshments here, by kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Conrod, who always most hospitably entertain the clergy; then a mile's skating and 3 miles walk to appointment at unfinished Church at Head Chezzetcook, reached a little late, owing to an unavoidable detention on the road to baptize a sick child; a moment's refreshment here, generously offered by Mr. and Mrs. Braden, staunch Presbyterians; then rapidly conveyed six miles down the Bay by special kindness of Donald MacLarren, Esq., a devout Roman Catholic; short walk home to the Rectory; Evening Service and preaching at Parish Church; Church so full, some said that there could not have been more in it at the time of his Lordship the Bishop's visit, the real difference being, that at that time doors were all open, porch and steps packed, and what might be called a second congregation altogether outside. Mr. Jacob Nieforth, a splendid fellow, indeed, accompanied the Rector

all day, and some youths of the Seaforth congregation went as far as to the Morning Service at East Chezzetcook. Mr. Richey says that he could not, with comfort or safety, have continuously used for the duty of the day either waggon, sleigh, or saddle. Such, then, is a sample of the trials and encouragements of the work.

GRANVILLE.—The Rector of this Parish received a visit from his friends at Granville Ferry, on the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 30th, who presented him with the sum of \$41 as a donation. The stipend is always paid regularly and promptly every quarter at the Ferry, so that this gift is especially gratifying, being a proof of kindly feeling and good will on the part of those to whom he is called to minister.

PEGGY'S COVE.—The Rector of St. Margaret's Bay begs to acknowledge, with thanks, from Mr. Edward Owen, of Lunenburg, \$1; from Mr. James Whitford, Chester, 50 cents; and from Mr. David Whitford, 50 cents.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

CRAPAUD.—Christmas-tide and the New Year were duly observed in this Parish. Good congregations, bright, hearty Services, kindly feelings, and substantial tokens of good-will from the parishioners to their clergyman, give evidence of hearty sympathy and co-operation in the parish work. During Xmas week, an entertainment was given to the Victoria Sunday School, and all the children, about 70, of all classes residing in that place, were invited. After a hearty tea, children's games were indulged in, after which the Rector addressed the scholars and their parents and friends who were present, and presented the rewards that were earned by attendance and behaviour.

A few evenings after, a number of ladies and gentlemen gave a musical and literary entertainment, the proceeds to go towards the Mission Chapel at Victoria.

On the 23rd ult., Mr. Percy Palmer, accompanied by a number of Mr. Johnston's friends, waited on him, and presented him, on behalf of his parishioners, with a handsome black fur coat and valuable Persian lamb cap.

The winter Bible classes in the different sections of the Mission are particularly well attended.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

ST. JOHN.—In St. John the Baptist Mission Chapel, on Sunday evening, the Rev. Mr. Davenport delivered a very timely and powerful discourse, on Divorce. Your correspondent says "timely," because, while but few divorces have yet been allowed, there is a growing laxity on the question of marriage, and the recent law permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister, is looked upon by many as the beginning of troubles of the kind. Certain it is, that in the United States it has been thought so by many.

This is one of the few places where the Church Missionary Society is fully organized and where regular meetings in its behalf take place. This is due to the very warm interest the Rev. Geo. M. Armstrong takes in the Society, and the great influence which he personally exercises in St. John. The annual meeting was held on Tuesday evening in the Sunday School Room of St. John's Church, and although the audience was not large much interest was evinced and the proceedings were of a very interesting kind.

FREDERICTON.—The Bishop-Coadjutor is expected home in the "Sarnia" which is due in Portland about Wednesday next. We hope to have his Lordship with us on Sunday week. The pleasant news comes to us that Bishop Kingdon brings with him several clerical workers to fill up the ranks of the clergy. The Coadjutor Bishop has made full use of his time while away and the

Province as well as the Diocese will reap much benefit from his trip.

DALHOUSIE.—I have for a long time intended to write you of a circumstance that probably has but few parallels in the history of our Church in New Brunswick. On the 15th Sunday after Trinity in the past year, there was present at the service in St. Mary's Church, Dalhousie, "an old disciple" indeed. Mr. Francis Roberts than in his 104th year, drove eight miles to town. Leaving his horse at a stable a goodly distance away, he walked to the Church for Morning Prayer. At the time of the celebration of Holy Communion, this aged disciple walked to the sanctuary rail without assistance and without his staff, and kneeling, received the "Holy Mysteries." After the service, he walked a long distance before taking his waggon for his homeward journey. The winter thus far has been unusually cold. Much of the time the thermometer has noted from 15 to 30 degrees below zero. But fortunately with this severe weather we have not had so many violent winds, and drifting storms as is usual here. The winter, however, has not yet past. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, and the long distance between the two towns, the journey is 16 miles, the services have been held each Sunday both at Dalhousie and Campbell town. Human nature, however, oftentimes rebels against the exposure that is unavoidable in carrying on the work of a Mission such as this. The special services of the Advent season at both Churches were well attended; as were also the services on Christmas Day. Throughout the winter thus far, the congregations have not been much below the average. The cold weather has not "sifted" out very many. We suffer much because we have not yet a bell for our little church in Campbellton. We cannot provide ourselves with this much needed piece of Church furniture because of financial burdens already upon us. Will not some of our large hearted and more wealthy fellow Churchmen in other parishes kindly supply this pressing need? By doing so, they would confer a lasting benefit upon the Mission, and would receive our most sincere thanks. We think our work throughout the Mission progressive. Amid much that is discouraging, there are many hopeful signs of greater spiritual life. Many times throughout the past year, I have had cause for much thankfulness, because of special kindnesses by my people, to me and my family. At Christmastide there were added to the already long list of valuable presents, many articles most useful and profitable in the household. And these have been sent us from all parts of the mission, from Jacquet River to Metapedia. And still they come; for on Monday last I received a valuable and most comfortable fur coat, the gift of friends in Campbellton and Dalhousie. And one especially pleasing feature in connection with the gift is this:—On the list of contributors to the purchase fund I find the names of several who are not my parishioners. Most thankfully I acknowledge these many acts of kindness. God grant that I may be as zealous in providing for them spiritual comfort, as my people and my other friends have shown themselves in administering to my comfort in things temporal.

ST. STEPHEN.—The new Rector, the Rev. T. E. Dowling, was inducted into the rectorate of Christ Church, St. Stephen, on Sunday last. On Friday, the 8th, he was tendered a reception in the school room of the Church, and not only his own parishioners, but a large number of others gathered to welcome him to St. Stephen. Rev. Mr. Mathers is to fill the pulpit in St. George's Church, Carleton, until the appointment is made of a Rector.

St. Paul's.—The ladies of St. Paul's (Valley) Church have presented Rev. Canon DeVeber with a very handsome overcoat with fur collar; also fur gloves and fur cap. Rev. Mr. Sill, who has been Canon DeVeber's curate for several years past, and who has accepted the Rectorship of St. John's Church, Cohoes, New York, deliver-