

DERBY MISSION.—A ten days mission has been held at Derby, the first since that in 1873. Following the example set by Bishop Selwyn, of whose diocese the town then formed part, the Bishop of Southwell took a leading part in the work. His Lordship was in Derby the whole time, and his labors were incessant. In the opinion of competent judges, the exertions of the missionaries have produced a great and salutary effect upon the town.

A FALLACY EXPLODED.—Professor Monier Williams has been showing the fallacy of the popular notion that Buddhism is the religion of the majority of mankind. "Having died out in India, proper, the place of its origin, it is rapidly dying out in other Asiatic countries." He thinks it has not more than one hundred millions of adherents altogether.

A NEW DESCRIPTION.—The *English Churchman*, referring to the appointment of the Rev. A. B. Carpenter, Vicar of St. James, Hull, and brother of the Bishop of Ripon, to the important Rectory of St. George's, Bloomsbury, about to be vacated by the Rev. F. F. Goe, Bishop-Nominate of Melbourne, describes him as a *moderately Broad Churchman*!!

TWO NOTABLE INCIDENTS.—The first was in Watertown, Conn., when the Congregational minister, the Rev. Mr. Peterson, gave notice in his morning service lately "that in view of the recent declaration on the subject of Christian Reunion by the Bishops of the Episcopal Church, and of the cordial responses thereto, by the Congregational conference recently in session at Hartford, it seemed right and proper to omit their evening meeting that all might have an opportunity to attend the (Confirmation) service at the Episcopal Church." Christ Church was consequently crowded in the evening, and Bishop Williams preached. The other incident occurred in Brooklyn, during a "mission" lately held in Christ Church, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Satterlee, of New York City, when a Roman Catholic priest in the neighborhood gave notice of the "mission" at Low Mass, urging the people to attend, and saying it would do them no hurt, and might do them much good. Accordingly several Roman Catholics were in attendance.

BISHOPS HARD TO GET.—Another Bishopric has been declined. This time it is the Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, the very efficient assistant minister of St. Thomas' Church, New York City, who declines an election to be the Assistant-Bishop of Kansas.

WISE COUNSEL.—The *Parish Guide*, of Trinity parish, Toledo, says:—

"We cannot afford to be *strangers* to our own work and progress, or to be ignorant of the great themes discussed by the thinking men of the day. But choose a *paper* for yourself and children, that is *free from bitter controversy* and paltry witticisms aimed at those who go on steadily loving the Church of their fathers, and who are busy in striving to attend to the weightier matters of the law.

"We need in these days a Christianity *intensely practical, and terribly in earnest*; and Church people need to form their characters by the *aid* of a literature that is *reverent in controversy*, that speaks of holy things with awe, that broadens the sympathies, sweetens life, fills the heart more full of love for God and love for man.

"To gain a man for a party, or to overcome his prejudice against a bit of ritual, is, at best, a trifling advantage to the Church; to make him a law unto himself, so that his habit is God-fearing, his obedience to the commands of Christ untrifling and sincere, his convictions and impulses conformed to the catholicity of the apostolic age, this is to strengthen the Church by every soul trained in it, and the

literature that aims at this, is the literature we commend to you."

A HINT TO CHURCHMEN.—The Methodist Episcopal Body of the United States has now \$1,750,000 invested in her publishing interests. The *Western Christian Advocate* says:—"A very intelligent gentleman, who is not a Methodist, said to us not long since, that he believed the success of Methodism is to be accounted for, in no small degree, by the use it made of the press. And he emphasized the fact that the fathers did not leave the circulation of literature to the voluntary activity of persons who might take up this branch of business, but organized an official and authoritative method for the publication and sale of books and periodicals. The result of this denominational and concentrated plan of work is a very rapid increase of intelligence and numbers; an increase so rapid as to be the modern marvel of religious progress." This testimony from an intelligent and disinterested witness is *worthy of consideration*, and should impress some of our own people who are not fully awake to the importance of the subject.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

TRURO.—The beautiful Church of St. John was most tastefully decorated this Christmas-tide, the principal part being confined to the chancel. At the back of the altar was the motto "Behold I bring good tidings of a Saviour's birth," done in red letters on a white ground with sprays of fresh holly (the gift of a young lady in England), which, with the dark spruce and fir wreathing was most effective against the ash panneling of the chancel. A handsome white satin frontal with orpheys of red and saered monogram on centre the handwork of Mrs. A. H. Holland, was used for the first time and it is expected that before long the Church will be provided with suitable colors for each season.

Notwithstanding the bad weather the early celebration was well attended, there being more communicants at that than at the mid-day service.

On the Thursday following the little ones of the Sunday-school gave an entertainment in the crypt of the church, consisting of recitations and dialogues, which was a great success, the large room being well filled and the sum of \$26 being realised towards purchasing more seats for the school. Most of the children did their parts so well that it is impossible to particularise, but a dialogue between Master George Pollock and Miss Mabel Blakie, was so admirably executed as to be deserving of special notice.

On the 6th inst. a tea was given to the Sunday-school children, which they seemed to enjoy as only children can. Afterwards Churchwarden Dr. D. H. Muir very kindly entertained the children by exhibiting a magic lantern. The views were both amusing and instructive and the children were delighted with them.

The Vicar of the parish, Rev. J. A. Kaulback then presented some twenty-five prizes to the scholars who had made the highest averages during the past year, and as the children left for home a well filled bag of candy was given to each.

On the 13th inst. a social was held for the adult members of the congregation. A most substantial tea was provided and by half-past seven all the tables were filled.

The evening was spent in conversation interspersed with readings by members of the congregation, and every one seemed to enjoy themselves and to be anxious to make it pleasant. Indeed, though the first social held in the parish for several years, it was pronounced such a success that it is intended to have one every two weeks through the winter.

NEW ROSS.—The Christmas tide story of this mission for 1886 is a short one, but there is one comfort, nobody can call it a *dry story*, for everybody in Nova Scotia must remember what the weather was like. Those who know this mission, what the roads are like, how widely scattered the people live, can understand how much could be done here on Christmas day. However, on Sunday, 26th, we had a nice choral celebration, well attended, with fifty-five communicants; also choral Evensong at 7 p.m. The seventh annual Sunday-school Christmas tree was deferred from Holy Innocents' evening, the usual time for the tree here, to the 30th in hopes of more moonlight and better weather, and we gained thereby a sparkling, lovely evening, besides fully eighty-four scholars of the Sunday-school, a large congregation was present. After shortened Evensong and a brief address, the carols were sung and two trees lit up. Much over one hundred gifts were distributed to scholars, teachers and others. Some very useful nice gifts, tokens of kind regard, were handed down for the Rector and his family, for which sincere thanks are hereby tendered. Strangely enough, while the past year has been one of almost total failure amongst people in their business affairs, yet the amount collected for the B. H. M. has exceeded that ever sent in before from this place, being \$58.07, or \$17 more than sent in for 1885. But adversity proves very healthy for the tree.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

ALBERTON.—The timber is being got out and other preparations being made to put up a neat little Church on Western Road, lot 6, on the opening of spring. Steps are also in progress towards erecting another at Alma, lot 2. Both of these places are near the line of railway, and settlers are continually moving in.

A handsome Dominion Chapel organ was recently placed in the Kildare Church, the generous gift of Miss Jane Travers, one of the first and best supporters of this Church. Sad to say, she did not see her kind gift, nor the great improvement it has caused in the service. Her Lord came for her suddenly, yet His aged servant was found waiting and ready. The organ was first placed in position and used on the occasion of her burial.

On New Year's eve a large surprise party filled the house of the Incumbent, all provided with heavily laden baskets.

Before sitting down to tea, Mr. W. B. Dyer, on behalf of the congregation, presented a very handsome fur coat and gloves to the Incumbent, while Mrs. Dyer presented a beautiful album to Mrs. Mackenzie. This is but one of many similar tokens of goodwill shown by the people.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

FREDERICTON.—The Bishop Coadjutor, Dr. Kingdon, delivered, on the evening of the 24th ult., in the Church Hall, a most interesting and able lecture on "The Copts."

ST. JOHN.—At the annual meeting of the Ladies' Association of the Church of England Institute, the Rev. Canon Brigstoke presided and the various committees presented their reports on the year's work, which were very encouraging. There was a membership of 201, and all subscriptions but three were paid up. The Finance Committee reported that the receipts for the year, including a balance of \$43 from 1885, amounted to \$322 and the expenditure \$309, leaving cash in hand to the extent of \$13. There is also the sum of \$180 to the credit of the Association, the proceeds of the Girls' Friendly Home. The President remarked upon the satisfactory state of the work. The following were elected officers:—Mrs. Thos. Walker, Vice-President; Miss F. Symonds, Treasurers; Miss H. Peters, Secretary. Com.