

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

LOCKPORT.—All the usual services in all sections of the parish are regularly held and are well attended. The midnight services at St. Peter's Church, Green Harbor, and Holy Cross Church, Lockport, on Christmas and New Year's Eve, were deeply impressive and were participated in by large congregations.

St. Peter's Church, Temperance Society, and St. Peter's Church Lodge I. O. G. T. Green Harbor, are in active operations, and Public Temperance meetings with addresses and music, with direct personal appeals are stirring up the people to take an earnest and active interest in Temperance.

Ladies Societies of Church Workers have been organized in connection with Holy Cross and St. Peter's Church.

The beautiful Church at Jordan Falls, will be consecrated by the Bishop in March.

Confirmation classes are being held in all sections of the parish and are largely attended by young and old.

The Friday evening addresses, in Holy Cross Church, by the Rector, are attended by large congregations, and much interest is taken in the teachings of the Church.

The Rev. T. W. Johnston has accepted the Rectorship of the Parish, and reports the very best church feelings amongst the parishioners, who continue to manifest an increasing desire to know and to do the will of the Great Head of the Church. The names of the Revs. Messrs. Churchward, Crouche, Wiggins, and Gibbons, are household words in the parish. The Rector writes "everywhere" they are spoken of with the deepest love and respect, and the warmest encomiums are heard of their good work, zeal and self-denying labours, and the state of the Church to-day is undoubtedly owing to the good seed sown by them, and the upholding of their arms by the few yet earnest minded churchmen.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

CHERRY VALLEY.—*Christ Church*.—The Rev. Fred. E. J. Lloyd, Rector, delivered the first of a course of lectures upon English Church History, in the above church. A large amount of interest having been aroused by the contemplated lectures the sacred edifice was filled by a most attentive and appreciative people. The "Old Hundred" having been sung and a collect said the lecturer set himself to the task he had to perform. The subject was "The Early British Church."

He combated the assertions so frequently made that the Church of England was formed at the Reformation, and owed her origin to the sinful whims and caprice of Henry VIII., by showing that there were Christians in Britain at a very early period, one of whom, Claudia, the daughter of Caractacus, and granddaughter of the famous Druid Bran, who afterward, on becoming converted, was known as "the Blessed," was mentioned by St. Paul in his second epistle to Timothy. Also that most historians of repute are pretty well agreed that British Christianity was a product of the preaching and labors of the Apostle of the Gentiles himself. In supporting this theory Mr. Lloyd referred to the fact that in the journeyings of St. Paul there is a long period of eight years in which we are told but little of them; but St. Clement, the historian, and others beside him, relate that he went to the "Boundaries of the West," and Tertullian, writing in A. D. 193, says: "From whom else have all the nations believed in Christ? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, all the coasts of Spain, the various nations of Gaul, and the parts inaccessible to the Romans, but now subject to Christ,—the words in italics alluding to Britain. Again, there are numerous traditions

existing in various parts of England and Wales relating to the presence therein of St. Paul. With regard to the establishment of Bishoprics and general church organizations, Mr. Lloyd said: "After the invasion of Julius Cæsar the Island of Britain was opened to intercourse with the rest of the world, and that after the conquest of Claudius it became an integral part of the Empire. Still, the chief intercourse between Britain and the civilized world, was through Gaul, and there are many reasons for believing that we owe it to that channel. In Gaul a few churches were planted from 150 to 170 A. D., Lyons being chief. The christianizing of Gaul was due to a great missionary effort in the time of Decius, A. D. 250, and the historical probability is that though there may have been isolated believers in England, yet the planting of the church in Britain was not earlier than that date." There is one historian who says: "It is a fact that Christianity was known in Britain in the first century, and there was here and there a Christian Bishop with his priests found teaching and preaching the Gospel to rude, wild people of the far-off isles of the west." The lecturer further showed that late in the second century, Lucius a British king, was converted to the Christian faith and he was the first prince who transferred the authority of the Druids to the Christians. Amongst other things, Lucius changed the heathen temples of Diana and Apollo in London into Christian temples, upon whose sites now stand St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. He also built churches at Cornhill, Gloucester, Winchester, Bangor, St. Mary, Glastonbury and the little church of St. Martin at Canterbury, whither came St. Augustine some centuries later.

Finally, the lecturer showed that British Bishops were present at the Council of Arles, in A. D. 314; also at those of Sardica in A. D. 347, Rimini in A. D. 360, and Antioch in A. D. 388.

The lecture lasted one hour, but the attention of the large congregation, many of whom had come from Orwell and Vernon River, never flagged for an instant.

It is hoped that three other lectures will be delivered shortly by the Rev. J. Simpson, His Worship Mayor Haviland, and E. J. Hodgson, Esq., Q. C.

CAPE BRETON.

ST. PETER'S.—On Friday Feb 15th, Rev. W. J. Lockyer paid an official visit to the village of St. Peter's, which, owing to its peculiar position is not contained within the limits of any parish, and has been therefore taken under the care of the respective clergymen who constitute the Sydney Rural Deanery, until better arrangements can be made.

The few church people there are very grateful for the privileges thus granted to them at intervals, and speak in the highest terms of the services &c. rendered to them by the Rev. Thos. F. Draper, Rector of Louisburg, who has paid them two or three official visits.

The following is an extract from Mr. Lockyer's report to the Rural Dean:—

Saturday, Feb. 16th:—Visited all the church people in their respective homes, and made arrangements for services during my stay. Evensong and Sermon at 7.30—subject of sermon "God and His Servant Nature"—meeting after the service to consider formation of a Sunday-school.

Sunday, Feb. 17th:—Matins and Holy Communion at 11 o'clock.—subject of sermon "The law of the Church's Growth"—seven communicants partook of the Holy Communion. Evensong and Sermon at 7.—subject of sermon "The growth of Christ in the soul."

Monday, Feb. 18th:—Visited a church family at River Bourgeois, and baptized a little boy six years of age—visited all the church-people—Secured a room for the Sunday-school,

and made all arrangements for its continuance. Evensong and Sermon at 8 o'clock, subject of sermon "The law of the Church's work."

Mr. Lockyer desires to convey his thanks to Mr. and Mrs. John A. Morrison for their kind hospitality and other services. And also to Mr. and Mrs. John Morrison for similar acts of kindness which had no small share in making the visit a very pleasant one.

A site for the Mission Chapel has been given by Mr. Morrison, and the few church people are determined to do their best to secure its completion at the earliest possible date.

A considerable sum of money for this purpose is deposited in the Bank.

The Rural Dean begs to acknowledge receipt of \$2. from H. A. of Guysboro, whilst each clergyman of the Deanery will be pleased to receive and acknowledge any contributions from those interested in the work.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

PORTLAND.—There was a large attendance at the annual Conversazione of the congregation of the Mission Church, Portland. An abundance of refreshments were served by a very efficient committee of ladies and gentlemen. After all were supplied the meeting was called to order by the Rev. G. Davenport, who read his report, giving a brief and detailed account of the work done during the past year by the various workers in connection with the Church. Much credit and praise is due to the ladies of St. Monica's Guild for their valuable work and assistance during the past year. Reference was made to the efficient assistance rendered by the men's club in various church duties. Mr. Geo. A. Schofield, treasurer, read his report, which presented a very satisfactory showing of the financial position of the church. After singing the Doxology the pleasant evening's entertainment was brought to a close.

GAGETOWN.—A wonderful change for the better has displayed itself in the church at Gagetown, I. C. N. B. Ever since the first Sunday in August last, when our new Rector, the Rev. H. Hackenly, formerly of Buckingham, Quebec, undertook the care of this parish and came to reside among us, a steady and rapid increase in the congregational attendance at the regular services has been noticeable. St. John's Church which for some time previous to Mr. Hackenly's arrival had been losing ground is now well attended and often when the roads and weather permit is crowded to overflow. Since August, the rectory has been repaired, painted and papered inside. Through the instrumentality of the Ladies' Aid Association new and handsome lights have been placed in the church and a new organ bought. The Sunday school is now in a thriving condition and well attended. The Summer Hill and Lawfield, outlying missions are well attended with anxious listeners. Mr. Hackenly is doing a good work here, and so far his labours have been crowned with wonderful success; he is very earnest and persistent in his labour of love and we trust that he may be the means, in God's hands, of making this hitherto careless parish one of the most earnest in the Province.

PERSONAL.—We are pleased to learn that the Most Rev. The Metropolitan is recovering from the effects of his severe fall on the steps of the Post Office lately and that it is hoped that he will soon be in the enjoyment of his usual health.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

MALBAIE, GASPE CO.—Two very successful tea parties have been held during the past month in behalf of the two new churches about to be built in this mission. The first at the Corner of the Beach, which resulted in leaving a balance of \$100 for that fund. The frame