

DIocese of Nova Scotia.

"The Bishop intends commencing his Western Confirmation Tour at Hubbard's Cove, Saturday, May 9th." Further appointments are as follows: May 10 and 11—Chester and Western Shore; 12 and 13—Mahone Bay; 14—Lunenburg; 15—La Have, St. Matthew's; 17—Bridgewater; 18—Pleasant River; 19—La Have, St. Peter's.

PRAYER

Authorized and recommended by the Bishop of Nova Scotia, to be used during the continuance of the War in Egypt, unless some other shall be ordered by higher authority.

O ALMIGHTY God, King of all Kings, and Governor of all things, whose power no creature is able to resist, be present we beseech Thee with the forces of our Country sent forth to maintain their cause in a Foreign Land. Preserve them from the perils of the climate, direct the counsels of the leaders, and vouchsafe to all such strength and fortitude, that no adversary may be able to withstand them; that so the world may acknowledge Thee to be our Protector and Mighty Deliverer, and that we may glorify Thee, the only giver of all victory; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Mediator and Advocate.—AMEN.

RIVER JOHN.—The following address was recently presented to Revd. J. L. Downing, rector of St. John's church:—

Reverend and Dear Sir.—We, your Parishoners, desire to offer you our hearty good wishes on the completion of eleven years of your ministry amongst us, and to express our earnest hope that you may long continue going out and coming in, to the different scattered settlements and homes in this widely extending mission. Living as most of us do at considerable distance from the Parish Church and Rectory, we should be most ungrateful did we not acknowledge warmly your never failing attention to us. Not only has the Parish Church been rebuilt through your exertions, but you have been the means of providing the excellent "New Church known as Holy Trinity," while no state of the roads or of the weather has hindered you from most punctual attendance thereat, as well as at Tatamagouche, Barrasois, Brule and the Cape.

In sickness and trouble your sympathy has never been wanting, while at your own house we have ever found you and Mrs. Downing to be most hospitable and considerate.

Praying that the Good God may continue to bless your work among us for many years to come. We are your sincere friends and grateful Parishoners.

Signed on behalf of the Parishoners,
Holy Trinity—David Mingo,
Joseph Neville.
Barrasois—Samuel Buckler,
John McBourne.
Tatamagouche—John Irvine,
William Buckler.
Cape John—James Murphy,
Thomas Robison.

REPLY.

My Dear Friends and Parishoners.—It is not easy to say what I feel with regard to your kindly address. The affections and prayers of the people for whom one is set to minister in holy things are most gratifying. In the matters which you particularize, I can take no more credit than that I have tried to do my duty. Difficulties such as your name are to be expected, but when they are appreciated as you appreciate them, the hardness vanishes. Nor have you allowed your feelings to be expressed merely in words. I have to thank you—as I do most sincerely—for more material proofs of your kindness; the handsome sleigh robe

new clergyman, the church must be proportionately benefited. It is when instead of looking upon a flock, bodies and souls must be proportionately benefited. It is when instead of looking upon a Pastor thus, disaffection creeps in and "a man is made an offender for a word" that souls are endangered and the growth of envy, hatred and malice and all uncharitableness, is encouraged, it is then that the church suffers.

Sincerely thanking you for all your kind expressions towards Mrs. Downing and myself, and craving for you the best blessings of the Great Head of the church, I am your loving friend and Pastor.
J. L. DOWNING.

ALBION MINES.—The Easter services were well attended. A goodly number of communicants kept the Easter Feast at the parish church, which looked bright with the white frontal, dossal, &c., and the cut flowers and altar cross of white azaleas, offered by some of the ladies. A service was held at Westville by Mr. Morris Taylor (Divinity Student) which was well attended. Mr. T. had also enabled the rector to give Westville a Good Friday evening service, by keeping the parish church open.

A new choir cheered the service at St. George's New Glasgow, consisting of Mrs. Bent, Mrs. Patton, Mr. Jennison, Mr. Bent, Mr. Patton, Mr. Godfrey, and Miss Campbell as organist; every one was delighted (after the entire fast from music during Lent) with the excellent and jubilant chanting and singing.

The Easter meeting was held according to Law; the greatest praise the meeting can receive, is that there is little to be said of it; everyone was re-elected—(one vacancy in the Vestry being filled by Mr. Wm. Blenkinsop) and everyone was considered entitled to thanks.

The Fabric Committee was strengthened by the addition of Dr. Johnson, and it is understood will take steps to procure means for further improvements—being out of debt and a few dollars in hand. Seats and windows require reconstruction; what the committee will do first remains to be seen. The wardens are to see to keeping up the "envelope system" in its integrity, as through removals from the place, &c., this has become needful for the maintenance of the church work.

The offertories for the conversion of the Jews, on Good Friday were \$10.11.

HALIFAX.—St. Mark's and St. John's Parish.—The Lenten and Easter services in St. Mark's Church have been very well attended this year. A large congregation assembled every evening during Holy Week, when several of the city clergy preached special sermons, the rector filling their places. It was gratifying to see many more at the Easter Communion than in any previous year, especially at the early service, which was semi choral. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, in four vases on the re-table, and a number of potted plants in bloom, chiefly from the hot-house of W. E. Warrall, Esq. The choir acquitted themselves very creditably, especially in the Easter anthem "Now is Christ Risen" which was particularly well rendered. There were altogether six services in the parish on Easter Day, the Lord's Supper being administered four times. The curate, Rev. J. O. Crisp preached at the morning service, and the rector, Rev. H. J. Winterbourne, occupied the pulpit in the evening, both preaching appropriate and earnest sermons.

A lady has presented to St. Mark's a chaste and handsome alms-plate, bearing the sacred monogram I. H. S. in the centre with flowers surrounding, while the rim has on it the following text: "Thy prayers and thy alms are come up for a memorial before God."

A new two-manual organ is to be placed in the church this week which will be both useful and ornamental, and will no doubt be a great addition to the musical part of the services. The parishoners have subscribed most liberally towards the instrument, bringing their energies in some cases to

the flock committed to their charge. We believe that there is real life in St. Mark's Church and that it is not confined to two of the city churches as a recent correspondent would lead some people to imagine.

HALIFAX.—EASTER.—The festival was a joyous one in all the churches. Decorations of flowers were profuse and handsome. The Cathedral was specially tasteful in gorgeous banners, rich altar vestments, white callas and pot plants. The arrangement of the flowers was simply exquisite, both in the chancel and at the font. The Bishop's chapel was prettily decorated and much pains had been expended on the decorations. There was a chancel screen surmounted by appropriate Easter text, and both chancel and font were simply filled with flowers. The scene on first entering the chapel, was very imposing. Bermudian lilies were profuse at St. George's, and in all the other churches some attempt had been tastefully made to mark the Queen of Feasts. There was a manifest improvement in the music at all the churches and compositions of an ambitious nature were sung. The number of communicants on Easter Day was very large at most of the churches. Your correspondent will send a comparative list next week. The following are from the published reports of Easter meetings; the reports of other churches will be sent next week.

St. Paul's.—The financial statement showed: expenditure, \$8,148.96; receipts, \$7,911.21; balance on hand, \$139.46. The estimated expenditure for 1885-86 is placed at \$7,761; receipts, \$7,400. The total expenditure for the year by this parish was \$13,274.92, this includes the distribution of fuel, food, etc., among the poor. St. Paul's alms house of industry, missionary in Country Harbor, etc. A resolution passed requesting the rector to nominate Rev. David Neish for curate at St. Paul's. Churchwardens, Robt. Taylor and R. Uniacke. Vestry, E. J. Lordy, Hon. A. G. Jones, J. C. Mahon, I. H. Mathers, C. C. Blackadar, A. DeB. Tremain, J. H. Symonds, A. C. Edwards, F. S. West, Augustus Allison, W. H. Hill, W. J. Stewart. The rector was granted leave for a long vacation during the coming summer. The estimates for the coming year shew a reduction in some of the salaries, the estimated expenditure being \$7,409.00 against \$8,148.96 expended last year.

St. Mark and St. John.—The financial report of these two churches showed receipts \$1,516.16; expenditure \$1,487.51. Estimated expenditure for the coming year \$2,174.38. The church is small and steps are to be taken shortly for improving and enlarging the church as increased accommodation is needed. The following officers were elected: Wardens, John W. DeWolf and William Woodill, Vestrymen, G. M. Connor, Wm. Taylor, J. E. Wilson, A. Vizard, F. Ward, C. S. Harrington, W. Hedley, C. R. Harrington, F. W. Harley, John Overy, Daniel Rutherford and H. F. Worrall.

St. George's.—The financial report shews receipts for the past year to have been \$3,251.93, and the expenditure \$3,220.69. The estimates for the ensuing year are: Income, \$5,000; expenditure, \$4,969. The Wardens report says: "Our collections now are larger than they have ever been, I believe, in the history of the parish. In 1882 they were \$396, now \$834.20. In 1882 pew rents were \$923, now \$1,325.90. The gain from these two sources to the revenues of the parish, since 1882, is nearly \$900. Since Easter, 1882, 45 pews have been rented. Fifteen hundred dollars have been expended in beautifying the church, every cent being raised by private subscriptions. In looking back we find that the largest amount received by the church, during its said to be the best days for any one year was, for offertories, about \$400, and for pew rents, \$1,600. Of this last amount \$300 was received from the gallery. Now, the gallery is practically free. We have received then, during this year, as large a sum for