

**NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.**

**DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.**

**CORNWALLIS.**—On the 24th of October the first Confirmation in the parish of Cornwallis by the new Bishop of the Diocese of Nova Scotia, was held in the recently restored Church of St. John. It was an occasion memorable in the annals of this parish, and one which must be a cause of heartfelt thankfulness to the hard-working Rector of Cornwallis, as well as to the faithful of his flock.

The Bishop's visit was unfortunately a short one as an engagement in Halifax necessitated his leaving on the morning of the 25th, so that the parishioners generally had only the opportunity of hearing and seeing him at the Confirmation.

He arrived from Hantsport (where he had laid that morning the corner-stone of a new church) late in the afternoon of Wednesday, having been driven the 14 miles by the Rector of Cornwallis. After dinner at the Rectory the Bishop proceeded to the church, which for some time previous to the service had been crowded. Tastefully decorated with flowers and brightly lighted the Church now transformed into an attractive and thoroughly churchly building, had never looked so festal.

The service commenced by singing the hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers," in which the large congregation heartily joined. The candidates, twenty three in number, having assembled at the adjoining school-house now entered at the west door and walked in procession up the aisle, filing right and left into the seats reserved for them near the chancel. It was a touching sight to see among them some who had passed the allotted three score years and ten, some who had been led, even in the late evening of their life, to dedicate what remains to the service of God.

Contrasting with these were the maidens in their pure white dresses and the little uniform, simple caps (which, by the way, were a feature worthy of imitation) and the young men in the fulness of their strength—all with most reverent demeanor and apparently deeply conscious of the solemnity of the Rite in which they were about to partake. The Rector, the Bishop with his acting Chaplain, the Rev. Canon Brock, of Kentville, carrying the Episcopal staff, followed in procession up the aisle to the chancel.

Before the Confirmation, Baptism was administered by the Rector to three adults, two of whom were advanced in life, one a person of prominence in the parish whose example in taking this decisive step cannot fail to have an influence for good. The laying on of hands was beheld with deep interest by some who had never before been privileged to witness it.

The Bishop's address was listened to with profound attention. It was an admirable one, arresting and suggestive, on the growth of grace and knowledge in the soul. The newly confirmed were warned that the step which they had taken was not to be regarded by them as a *position gained* or as a halting place, but rather as an entrance upon an upward path, which must lead higher and higher in the religious life. The Bishop alluded to the mistaken idea held by some Christians that believing Christ, as they understand it, when making an open profession of religion, precludes the idea of an *advance* in grace and holiness there being nothing further attainable; whereas the Church's teaching is that our spiritual life is nourished, sustained and encreased by constantly having recourse to the means of grace provided by God in His Church.

The impression made by the new Diocesan upon those privileged to meet him was of the most agreeable nature and the Church people of Cornwallis earnestly hope that they may soon have another and longer opportunity of seeing His Lordship among them.

As a transient visitor to this beautiful parish I should like to bear testimony to the self-denying zeal and energy of its pastor.

A new mission has been opened by him at Kingsport, a growing settlement on the Bay of Fundy, where the Rector has now established a weekly service, making three full services every Sunday, one with weekly celebration at the parish Church of St. John, and an evening service at Canning.

**AMHERST.**—This parish has just received a set of beautiful and costly altar frontals and stoles made and presented by the Sisters of the Church at Kilburn. Rev. V. E. Harris had expected a frontal that he had spoken for when in England last winter, but was not prepared to receive so valuable an offering from these earnest and devoted workers for the Church. Their gifts to this parish were shewn for the first time at a *conversazione* on the evening of All Saints Day and were greatly admired by the large gathering of Church people present. On the following Sunday they were reverently presented at the Altar at the mid-day celebration.

Efforts are being made to erect a Mission chapel at Fort Lawrence about two and a half miles from this parish. Land has been donated and a subscription list started with such promising results that the promoters of the work feel sufficiently encouraged to go on and materials will be placed on the ground this winter, and the work commenced early in the spring.

The work on the Ship Railway has been commenced and has brought a very large number of people to this parish, and made quite an accession to the Church which is now filled to its utmost capacity, making an addition to the building very soon a necessity.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese is expected to make his first visit to the parish this month to hold Confirmation, and it is looked forward to with much interest, and he will receive a cordial welcome.

All Saints Day was duly observed by an early celebration at eight, and a full service at half-past ten. In the evening there was a very large social gathering of the parishioners to welcome all the newcomers who have so lately arrived here. It was held in the hall belonging to the Y.M.C.A., which had been secured for the evening; it is large, lighted by electricity, furnished with piano, and every convenience, making it well adapted for the purpose. The Vicar very kindly exhibited some beautiful altar hangings, &c., which had lately been received from friends in England, and which were greatly admired. A full description of these gifts has already appeared in the GUARDIAN. A very enjoyable evening was spent, good music both vocal and instrumental, and a pantomime by the members of the Young Men's Friendly Society, interspersed with agreeable conversation, filled up a good programme.

**ALBION MINES.**—We have lately lost several of our leading parishioners by removal—Churchwarden Rutherford, Mr. Blenkinsop, Mr. Ward, Mr. Inglis Johnstone, and last but not least our Vestry clerk for many years, Mr. Wentworth, who has not forgotten us however, and the other sent us a very acceptable gift of oilcloth for the vestry floor of a pretty and churchly design for which we offer thanks.

**HALIFAX.**—Our good friend the Chaplain-General has been visiting Ireland where his popular successor Mr. Tonnend is also now stationed, and from the following it will be seen he is the same "Edghill" as when in the Halifax Garrison:—

The annual Harvest Festival was held in the Garrison Church, Carragh Camp, on Sunday, October 14th; a very important day in the annals of the Carragh, because of the visit of the Rev. J. O. Edghill, D.D., Chaplain-General to

the Forces. For some days past the ladies of the garrison, assisted by many willing workers from amongst the men, had been decorating the building for the Sunday and had spared neither time nor trouble, so that the ordinarily somewhat bare church was on this occasion quite festal. There was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., and also after the parade service. In the morning the Chaplain-General preached from Gen. iv. 7—"Sin lieth at the door." His name is known as a preacher throughout the British Army, and no wonder! He is straight, forcible, and telling, speaking with such intense earnestness and conviction that the congregation as one man is carried along with him. In the afternoon there was held the children's flower service, to which the little ones brought their offerings of flowers and fruit for the patients in the military hospitals. A large table was placed in the chancel at which the Rev. F. B. N. Norman-Lee, senior chaplain, received the gifts; an address was then given by the Rev. G. H. Andrews on the subject of "Flowers and their lessons," the children answering well the questions put to them. Fall choral evensong was at 6.15 o'clock, and by that time one of the largest voluntary congregations ever seen in the church had taken their seats. The well-lighted church, the beautiful decorations, the large number of soldiers, formed a most impressive sight. Purposely there was nothing elaborate about the music, the simplest chants and hymns in which all could join, consequently the congregational singing was such as is not often heard. The Chaplain-General again preached an eloquent discourse on the parable of the "Rich Fool," and was listened to with deep attention. In concluding he alluded with praise to the great improvements in the Church and in the services since his previous visit, and called on the men to show they too appreciated the work of the chaplains by attending the services of the Church. While he was at the head of the Chaplains department he said it would be his endeavor to send them as chaplains priests of the Church of England who realized the greatness of their work, who would be not merely "Sunday chaplains," but week-day ones too, who would go in and out amongst the men and be their friends—follow-soldiers with them in the great battle against evil and sin. Immediately after the service the Hallelujah chorus was played by the band of the Highland Light Infantry. The offertory, a large one, was for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

**MAITLAND.**—We had a very pleasant and profitable visit from our beloved Bishop on Sunday, Oct. 21st; both priest and people had their hearts cheered and strengthened by his earnest loving words. An address of welcome was presented to His Lordship, to which he replied in a very happy manner. The Rector presented 54 candidates for the Apostolic rite of Confirmation, 8 of which came from the different denominations in the parish.

On Monday morning His Lordship drove through to Rawdon, a distance of 30 miles, on a bad road and on a cold stormy day, confirming for Rev. M. Ancient in the afternoon.

We all echo the wish of one of our old Churchmen, that His Lordship would soon come to us again, and thrill us through and through with his earnest loving exhortations.

**CAPE BRETON.**

**LOUISBOURG.**—On Saturday October 13th Bishop Courtney, who has been visiting Cape Breton for the purpose of administering Confirmation, was met at Mira River,—whither he had been conveyed by the Incumbent of Cow Bay—by the Rector of Louisbourg and driven to the comfortable and substantial Rectory, which has been lately built there. On Sunday morning there was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., in the parish church,