

the Death, the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus, are three great events which His disciples ought always to remember as the three steps in their salvation. But far too many, even among Church people, forget the day on which our Lord went up to heaven, and do not see why this is a very great and glorious day for us all. The day is not observed in England like the others, as a day when work is suspended; and so, perhaps, busy people can only come to Church on Ascension Day, early in the morning or late at night, and this, I suppose, drives the day out of their minds.

Yet if we love our Master as much, and were as grateful to Him as we ought to be, should we not be glad to remember His Ascension Day, even for His own sake. Think of the rest and joy which it brought Him. He had humbled Himself for us, even to the death of the Cross. He had endured all those bitter sufferings of which we read on Good Friday. And now came that which made up to Him for all. Pain and shame and death were over for ever. The time was come when He could enter upon His glory; when He could rejoice in having ended triumphantly His great work, and being welcomed Home. What a change to Him from Good Friday! Instead of that fierce mob shouting and cursing around His cross, He had about Him to-day the countless multitudes of holy and loving ones to receive Him. Instead of crying to His Father out of the darkness and the loneliness, He found Himself at His Father's right hand for evermore in the fullness of joy. Ought we not to rejoice then in His joy?

But Jesus passed into heaven just as much for our sakes as for His own.

He told us Himself that He was going to prepare a place for us. Of course we cannot understand all that He meant by those words. What our place will be in the life of the world to come we cannot tell. But the Ascension of our Lord teaches us that there is a place for man in that blessed life. For He Who "is gone into heaven" is not merely the God who "came down from Heaven to take upon Him our flesh." It is the Man Jesus Christ. It is He whom the Apostles touched, He Who showed Himself alive to them after His Passion. It is One in our flesh, with a body, soul and spirit like ours. He has opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers. He who is the first fruits of our Resurrection is the first fruits of our Ascension too.

Then, again, our Lord is gone to appear in the presence of God for us. But when that offering was finished upon the Cross, He did not cease to be our Priest. He "hath an unchangeable Priesthood." And for this very reason it is that he is able to save us to the uttermost, as much as we need, and as long as we need. For He "ever liveth to make intercession for" us. For every fresh sin of ours, He is able to obtain forgiveness by pleading His own sacrifice. Ascension Day assures us of an unceasing prayer going up for us, of a forgiveness which we can have continually as we need it.

A third great blessing which we gain from our Lord's Ascension, as we learn from His own words, is the Presence of the Holy Ghost the Comforter. This was the main reason why, as He told His disciples, it was expedient for them that He should go away. It is hard for us to understand how this is. But at least we can see, I think, that the spirit of God speaking to our spirits is a greater and more blessed gift even than the Human Presence of Jesus as a Teacher and Friend. And it is one which all men, in all ages, and in all lands, may possess. We have no need to cross the sea to Palestine to hear the words of Him who spake as never man spake, or to tell Him our troubles and wants; because He is gone up on high, He is ever with us, a Living Word speaking to us, a Living Master and Lord to whom we can ever speak.—*American Church Times.*

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

AMHERST.—Trinity Sunday of '89 will long be memorable in the annals of this parish as a day of more than usual interest. His Lordship the Bishop having expressed his willingness to hold his Trinity ordination in "Chris' Church" arrived in the parish on Saturday the 15th inst. accompanied by the Ven. Archdeacon Kaulback, Rev. Prof. Vroom, Rev. A. W. Bent and Rev. H. G. Lancaster, Bishop's Chaplain and the candidates for Holy Orders, nine in number. On Sunday the services commenced with a celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 8 o'clock; Matins at 9.30, and at 11 o'clock. The procession was formed in the schoolroom as follows:—Vestrymen, Wardens, Choirmen (vested), Candidates for Diaconate, Candidates for Priesthood, Clergy in order of Ordination, Preacher, Assistant Clergymen of the Parish, Vicar, Ven. Archdeacon, Bishop's Chaplain, Bishop. Immediately at the close of the processional hymn, the sermon by Rev. Prof. Vroom was delivered, and was most earnest and heart-searching, the words to the candidates being thoughtfully and feelingly given. The candidates were then presented by the Archdeacon. The Litany was said by the Bishop, and the Communion office to the end of the Epistle the Archdeacon being the Epistoler. The examination and ordination of the following persons to the Diaconate then took place:—H. H. Pitman for Amherst, G. Forbes for Alberton, P. E. I., Thos. Loyd for Port Hawksbury, C. B., D. P. Allison and E. D. Parry, not located.

The Communion Service was then proceeded with D. P. Allison being Gospeller. After the examination for priests and silent prayer for a few moments the *Veni Creator* was sung and then the following were raised to the Priesthood:—Rev. Chas. H. Fallerton for Falmouth, E. T. Woollard for New Ross, Chas. P. Mellor for New Dublin, Wm. Crawford-Frost for New Glasgow, the Ven. Archdeacon, the Vicar, Rev. Prof. Vroom, and Rev. A. M. Bent taking part with the Bishop in the ordination of the priests. The rest of the Communion office followed the Bishop being celebrant, the Vicar server. The congregation remained in their places until the benediction had been pronounced, and the procession had passed out in reverse order.

An open air service was held on the grounds of the proposed new church at Fort Lawrence at 3.30 o'clock which was largely attended, many coming from quite a distance. After a shortened service, addresses were delivered by the Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon and Rev. Prof. Vroom.

At 7 o'clock the Church was again packed with a reverent and devout congregation. The procession was in the same order as in the morning preceded by the Cross bearer. After Evensong had been said his Lordship delivered a most masterly and eloquent sermon from Rev. 4th last part of the 8th verse, dwelling most forcibly upon the necessity of holiness and purity of life. The music for the day was of an exceedingly high order. The offertory being large. The laying of the corner stone of the new church at Fort Lawrence on Monday (the Festival of St. Alban the Martyr the name for the proposed church) was a most interesting ceremony, performed by His Lordship who in his usual happy and genial manner addressed those present, referring particularly to the erection of this building and the substantial aids that had already been secured. Judge Moire also gave an interesting address, abounding with historical facts in connection with the place, and alluded in a graceful way to the presence of Mrs. Chandler aged 87, widow of the late Lieut Governor of New Brunswick, who had come from Dorchester to attend the services which she did and heartily enjoyed,

and belonging to a family that has been connected with the Church for generations.

The weather on Saturday was perfect and everything passed off most satisfactorily.

The Bishop has endeared himself to us all, by his loving and sympathetic nature, and we are already looking forward to another visit.

His Lordship and Clergy were hospitably entertained by the parishioners.

HALIFAX.—*St. Paul's*—At a meeting of the male members of *St. Paul's* congregation held lately and at which reporters were excluded, the resignation of the rector was freely discussed, and it was resolved to accept the Doctor's resignation, to take effect three months hence, the congregation agreeing to give him \$2,000 in lieu of any claim he might have on the parish; and to take the Rectory off his hands.

MAITLAND—Elmhurst, Maitland, was lately the festive scene of the nuptials of Dr. J. A. Byers, of Springhill, and Miss Frances Cochran, of Maitland. The happy couple left immediately after the ceremony for St. John. A large number of very valuable presents were sent from friends of the bride in the United States and Canada. The brother-in-law of the bride, Rev. W. Chas. Wilson, performed the marriage ceremony assisted by the rector of Maitland and future New Ross, Miss Cochran is the daughter of our late energetic layman, Hon. A. M. Cochran, M.L.C.

NEW GLASGOW.—Rev. W. Crawford-Frost, late of Charlottetown, P. E. I., has been named rector of *St. George's* Church, to take effect after he is priested.

A number of Rev. Mr. Crawford-Frost's friends on Tuesday afternoon, prior to his leaving the Island for ordination, presented him with an address, accompanied by a purse containing \$183.

ALBION MINES.—Daily morning prayer has been said when the Rector was at home, since the beginning of the month: whether we shall be able to continue the services daily in winter has to be considered.

On *St. Barnabas* Day there was an early celebration in the Parish Church, with special intention for a blessing on *St. Bees* Church in the Westville part of this parish, the corner stone of which was to be laid in the afternoon.

The Church will be very similar to that in New Glasgow—minus a chancel at present.

A fancy sale and Picnic for the Church Improvement Fund of the Parish Church was held on July 16th.

WESTVILLE.—*St. Barnabas* Day saw the corner stone of our little Church laid. The Grand Lodge of Freemasons attended and assisted the M. W. Grand Master to perform the ceremony—the said G. M. being our Rector. The building is so planned that when need arises a chancel can easily be added.

The corner stone bears the words "St. Beas (cross) A. D. 1889," on the eastern face, and "compass and square" on the north side. The Rector having asked to be allowed to name the Church after *St. Bees*, his *alma mater* in England.

The Picnic in the afternoon realized a nice little sum.

AVON.—The 51st meeting of the Chapter of the Avon Rural Deanery met at *St. John's* Church, Cornwallis, on the evening of April 30th. The members present were: the Rev. W. J. Ancient, Rector of Rawdon, B. D., the Revs. Canon Brock, D. D., Rector of Horton, K. C. Hind, M. A., Rector of Newport; C. H. Fallerton, B. A., incumbent of Falmouth; and the Rector of the parish, the Rev. F. J. H. Ax-ford; the Rev. J. M. O. Wade arrived next morning. Shortened Evensong was said by