

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

HALIFAX, N. S.

Rector's Annual Report—Easter, 1896.

THIS IS MY SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT as the Rector of this Parish, and I feel constrained at the outset to thank God for His goodness in giving me the requisite health and strength for the duties of one of the most arduous years in my ministry.

The year that has passed is one for which we all have reason to be grateful. In spite of many drawbacks the congregations have kept up to the former high average. The number of Communicants is still increasing. The interest in missionary work has deepened. The contributions of the people have been very large, larger even than last year. New families are constantly being added to the Church. And what is, perhaps, one of the best tests of a Church's prosperity, the Sunday School has grown to dimensions that four or five years ago would have seemed almost impossible.

This success may under God be attributed, I think, mainly to three things :

First, the plain, clear, and straightforward preaching of a simple and practical Christianity.