

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

PERSONAL.—Rural Dean Gibbons has returned from his visit to England.

Rev. V. E. Harris, is still in the Old Country doing deputation work for the S. P. G. The Rev. gentleman is expected to return early in the New Year.

HALIFAX.—*St. George's*—The new Sunday school house, which is near the Church, is nearing completion. It cost about \$3,000, and is another mark of the energetic and progressive work of the Rev. Dr. Partridge. *St. George's* is a model parish, and long may the present Rector work among his present flock.

St. Luke's—The news of the resignation of the Minor-Canon Murray came upon the Diocese like a thunderclap. The Rev. gentleman has been Rector of *St. Luke's* for many years, in fact is the senior clergyman in Halifax. The changes in the Halifax Churches have been very frequent of late, in fact almost rivalling the itinerant system of the Methodists. Another peculiarity is that with each change has come the significant fact that to England Haligonians looked for the filling of the vacancies.

To-day every rector of a Halifax Church is English born and English educated, and now to cap the climax we are looking to England for a Bishop. Mr. Murray has been a model parish priest, a grand organizer, and wielded a great influence among his brethren. The whole Diocese will regret his threatened departure, and we yet hope that some means may be entertained whereby he may work amongst us with less strain to his threatened weakness. The following interview with a reporter will give full particulars to date:

It was quietly whispered around town that Rev. F. R. Murray had resigned the rectorship of *St. Luke's*. A *Mail* reporter called upon the reverend gentleman to verify the report. "Yes, it is perfectly true," said Mr. Murray. "I have resigned the rectorship. It is a great grief to me to have to do so. I like Halifax, like the people, like my parish, have worked hard, but my lungs were so affected by the poor house fire that I cannot stand the cold, and must seek a milder climate. I feel well, look well, and am apparently good for as much work as ever; but the permanent interest of my health demands a change. My lung is very tender and it easily affected by the cold. No, I am not going to Bermuda. I do not know where I shall go, but shall probably seek missionary work in a milder winter climate. A meeting of the congregation will be held next week to consider my resignation."

"The news will be received with general regret," remarked the reporter.

"The congregation and I have got along well together," rejoined Mr. Murray, "and I shall deeply grieve to leave the parish. But it will only be removing from one portion of the Lord's vineyard to labor in another."

"Do you know anything about those English clergymen who are alleged to have refused the Bishopric of Nova Scotia?"

"No. It has not been offered to anyone since the last meeting of synod and therefore cannot have been refused. The committee have had no word from the Archbishops since the meeting of synods. The only communication we have had from their Lordships was the brief cable saying the documents were imperfect. The story that any one has refused the office is therefore as absurd as it is improbable."

It is to be hoped that the city which has been honored by the heroic act of the reverend gentleman by which his health was impaired will not fail to show its appreciation in a very substantial manner.

CLEMENTSPORT.—The Church folk in this little village believe in deeds, not words. To

make things easier and more comfortable for the parson, they sent him not long ago a new carpet, and within a week have set up a new parlor stove in the Rectory. These acts, with many others equally kind and thoughtful will help to make the Parson's Christmas really happy.

HALIFAX.—The regular monthly meeting of the Halifax Branch of the C. of E. Teachers' Association was held in *St. Mark's* hall, Russell street. Notwithstanding the threatening appearance of the weather, there were sixty teachers present, a large number having come from the south end of the city. It unfortunately happens that the meetings of the Orpheus club are also held on Monday evenings, and thus many teachers, who are also members of the club, are unable to attend the association meetings when any special rehearsals are in progress. Rev. Dr. Partridge, president of the association, took the chair, and after the opening exercises, a well prepared and equally well delivered paper was read by Miss Kate Fletcher, of *St. Mark's* Sunday school, on "What I would aim at as a Sunday school teacher."

Mr. Thomas Brown, of *St. Luke's*, then read a most able and exhaustive paper on the subject: "The necessity for and beneficial result of definite religious instruction." It was very refreshing and a source of great satisfaction, in these days of vagueness and indefiniteness (from a churchman's point of view), to find a layman so thoroughly posted in the tenets and history of the church, and so thoroughly definite in his enunciation of what he knows and believes. Remarks on the paper were offered by Rev. W. B. King, Rev. C. W. McCally and the president; also, by Mr. Wm. H. Wiswell. After this discussion, which lasted until ten o'clock, a hymn was sung, and the president closed the meeting with the benediction.

Letters were read from Rev. F. R. Murray and Rev. Tertius Poole, of *St. Paul's*, expressing their great regret at being unable to be present owing to other engagements.

CAPE BRETON.

SYDNEY.—Meetings in aid of the Board of Home Missions were held last month in this parish, at Coxheath and the North West Arm. The Rev. R. D. Bambrick, Rector of Sydney Mines and North Sydney, kindly gave his eloquent assistance, and through his eloquent and forcible addresses the contributions from these districts will be in excess of former years.

The Rev. D. Smith has at the beginning of the winter season received from some of his Sydney parishioners and friends the most welcome and opportune present of a handsome fur coat.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

ST. JOHN.—The Rev. Canon Brigstocke, delivered lately before the Church of England Institute a most scholarly Lecture on the English language and its origin. The different sources from whence the English language sprung and the modifications it has undergone were discussed in a practical and instructive manner. The historical value of words, their spelling and pronunciation also came in for a fair share of the lecturer's attention.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

SHERBROOKE.—The necessity for increased church accommodation in East Sherbrooke for members of the Church of England, has been so long apparent that the congregation of *St. Peter's* Church set earnestly to work to provide a suitable building. Their exertions were crowned with such success, as to warrant procuring a site and erecting a commodious edifice.

A lot was secured and plans prepared and the contract let to Mr. Davis, who has performed

his share of the work in a very satisfactory manner.

The building is capable of seating a congregation of about 160 and has been so far completed as to be available for service. For the present, it will be under the charge of the rector of *St. Peter's* Church, and services will be held every Sunday at four in the afternoon. The first service was held last Sunday afternoon, when the Rev. Mr. Thorneloe, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Reid, followed by a sermon by the first named gentleman; the Church being crowded, and many persons not being able to obtain admission.—*Sherbrooke Gazette*.

ROBINSON.—The oyster supper and bazaar held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 30th Nov. under the auspices of some of the congregation of the Episcopal Church was a great success, the proceeds amounting to \$50.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. J. G. Norton, Rector of *Montreal*, has left the city to conduct an Eight Days Mission in Shawville, P. Q.

Collections and subscriptions received at the Synod office, since last published statement:

For the widow of a clergyman lately deceased:—Rawdon, \$2; *St. Martin*, \$41.75; Buckingham, \$3.00; Knowlton, \$7; Brome, \$8.06; Berthier, \$14.00; North Shefford, \$2.00; Standbridge East, \$2.75; Cote St. Louis, \$1; Hill, \$6.20; Vaudreuil, \$10; *St. Thomas*, \$25; Dunham, \$5; *St. Matthias*, \$10.13; Outremont, \$4.76; *St. George's*, \$30; *St. Armand West*, \$4; Sutton, \$2.50; Church of *St. John the Evangelist*, \$5.75; *St. Stephen's*, \$13; Granby, \$5.27; *L'Église du Rédempteur*, \$1; Hemmingford, \$1.50; *Leclerc*, \$2.19; Noyan, \$4.00; Clarenceville, \$6.88; Bedford, \$3; Aylwin, \$2; Pottou, \$2; Huntingdon, \$6.75; Portage du Fort, \$5; Mille Isles, \$3; Arundel, \$1; Grace Church, \$2.50; River Desort, \$2.12; West Farnham, \$12; Swol, \$9.94; Iron Hill, \$1.31; Leclerc, \$1.88; Chambly, \$1.12; Rougemont, \$1.48; *St. Andrew's*, \$1.50; *Christieville*, \$11.75; Lucadio and *Sivanno*, 70 cts.; Boscobel, \$2; *Cardley*, \$4; *Nelsonville*, \$7.85; *Waterloo*, \$9.79; *Lacolle*, \$2; *Thorne and Leslie*, \$1.23; *St. Armand East*, \$3.10; *Onslow*, \$2.50; *New Glasgow*, \$3; *Franklin and Havelock*, \$5.51; *Clarendon*, \$3.50.

For Domestic Mission:—*Christieville S. Sch.*, \$3; *Onslow*, \$2.55; *Grace Church*, \$10.50; *Cote St. Louis*, \$1; *Clarendon*, \$9.

For Algoma Widows' and Orphans' Fund:—*Christieville*, \$5.

Collected by Rev. E. F. Wilson, in Montreal: Jubilee Committee, per R. H. Buchanan, \$150; *St. Stephen's S. Sch.*, \$25; *Theological College*, \$436; *Mrs. W. J. Buchanan*, \$10; *Miss Cruso*, \$10; *St. Thomas'*, \$22.15; a Jubilee singer, \$1; *Cathedral S. Sch.*, \$50; *M. Meeting St. George's Sch.*, \$32; *Mrs. Drake*, \$5.

For London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, Hemmingford, \$2.

For Jubilee S. P. G. Fund:—*St. Thomas'*, \$10; Buckingham, \$5.22; Chambly, \$10.4; Sutton, 75 cents; Boscobel, \$1.05; *Cardley*, \$4; *St. Andrew's*, \$2; *Vaudreuil*, \$11.67; *Bilton*, \$4.15; *Aylwin*, \$2; *Papineauville*, \$2.15; *St. Amedee*, \$2.15; *Monte Bello*, \$1.70; *Grace Church*, \$15.50.

For Foreign Mission Fund:—*Grace Church*, \$10.50; *Clarendon*, \$12.

For Parochial Funds:—*West Farnham Parsonage fund*, \$31; *Nelsonville Endowment fund*, \$50.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

BROCKVILLE.—The anniversary services in *St. Paul's* Church were announced for last Sunday, the 11th Dec., the Rev. Canon Damoulin,