

CHRISTENING.

Oh, if there be a sight, on earth,
That makes good angels smile,
Tis when a soul of mortal birth,
Is washed from mortal guile:

When some repentant child of Eve's,
In age, is born anew:
Or when, on life's first buds and leaves,
Falls the baptismal dew,

But all the same! The soul that, in
That laver undefiled,
Is truly washed from wrath and sin,
Must be a little child.

Children alone that grace may claim,
Whether to babes be given,
Or to the child-like heart, the name
Of all the sons of Heaven!

See, then, the font, the church's door,
The group with glad-some look,
The waters, and the priest to pour,
The sponsors, and the book!

What light is on all faces now,
As low they bend to pray!
How kindly on the grandsire's brow,
Each furrow smoothes away!

How fond the pale young mother's eye
Lights up, with tearful charm,
To see her babe enfolded lie,
Upon the surpliced arm!

And he, of innocence, that wears
That sign and spotless vest,
How Shepherd-like! Like Him that bears,
The humblest in His breast!

But hark! the tiny Christian's name!
Hush! 'Tis the Mystic Trine!
The Water, and the Spirit, came,
And, there, is life divine!

The Cross is signed—mysterious seal
Of death our life that won:
And Christ's dear spouse, for woe or weal,
Hath borne her Lord a son.

For woe or weal! The grafted shoot
Alas! may fade and die;
Though long the fatness of the Root
This shower of grace supply!

But JESU! take Thy child from earth.
Ere sense and guile begin,
If, only so, this second birth
May 'scape the death of sin.

—BISHOP COXE.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN CHURCH NEWS.

According to notice, the meeting of the General Committee of the Diocesan Church Society was held in the Madras School-room, Fredericton, on Tuesday, July 4, and was attended by a considerable number of the clergy and lay delegates. In the absence of his lordship the Bishop of the diocese, the Rev. Canon Coster, Ecclesiastical Commissary, occupied the chair.

The Secretary, the Rev. W. Ketchum, read the reports of several missionaries, and of the local committees; some returns had not been sent in, but it was found that the income from subscriptions and collections would be a little less than that of last year. The total income reported, including interest of investments, amounts to about \$6,000.

The report from the Auditors of the Treasurer's accounts was found to be satisfactory. The amount of investments is about \$12,500.

The Rev. the Chairman then read a communication from his lordship the Bishop, relative to the proposal of the Society for Propagating the Gospel to reduce their grants to this diocese. The substance of this communication will be found in a preceding article. It appeared that the reduction contemplated by the Society for Propagating the Gospel will require during the coming year an extra expenditure by the Church Society of at least \$600 to keep faith with those clergymen who depend upon the Society's grants.

On Wednesday morning the Sub-Committee on appropriations was occupied in arranging the schedule of grants, which was the same as that of last year, except that no recommendation was made for the importation of books, or towards the erection of new churches, all available funds being required for the support

of the Society's missionaries. In the evening, at the meeting of the General Committee, the report of the Sub-Committee was unanimously adopted, and the usual grants to the missionaries and to the widows of the clergy, passed.

After notice given a year ago, it was resolved that the constitution of the Society be altered by providing for the annual appointment of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Auditors of the Society by the General Committee, and also that the lay members of the Executive Committee shall be annually appointed by the General Committee, instead of at the anniversary meeting.

A remarkably good and kind feeling was manifested throughout the whole of the business, and the greatest attention shown. A vote of thanks was passed unanimously to the Rev. Canon Coster, for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

On Thursday evening the anniversary meeting was held in the Legislative Council Chamber, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor presiding. There was not a very large attendance of those interested in the work of the Society. The proceedings commenced with the usual prayer, being read by the Rev. Secretary, after which his Excellency addressed the meeting and explained the present position of the Church of England in the province, its connection with the Propagation Society, and the alterations which that Society is about to make in its relations with the Church in the diocese of Fredericton.

The Rev. W. Ketchum then read the Annual Report, after which the Rev. John Pearson, sub-dean of the Cathedral, moved the first resolution, that the Report be received and published under the direction of the Execu-