

The Rural Dean then preached a Sermon suitable to the occasion, and the Rector gave the Benediction. The congregation was large and the singing very hearty.

ROTHESAY.—Our Rector has returned from New York and is busily at work again after his vacation. We are now having a Course of Lectures in the School Room, which are much appreciated. Rev. Canon Medley gave one of the course and Rev. J. Roy Campbell another. The Secretary of the Agricultural Society, Mr. Lugin, failed us, having some important business to attend to in St. John.

Deanery of St. Andrews.

A regular meeting of the Chapter will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 12th and 13th, at Christ Church, St. Stephen.

Meeting in Christ Church School House Tuesday evening at 7.30. Holy Communion at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, and Evening Service in Christ Church on Wednesday at 7.30.

Christ Church, St. Stephen.—A lecture was delivered by the Rector in the School House on Tuesday evening, February 19, on "The Temple at Jerusalem in the Time of our Lord." The lecture was illustrated from a bird's-eye view. The charge for admittance was 10 cents, and the sum of \$9 was realized. Several other lectures are to follow. The subject of the next one will probably be "The Religion of the Ancient Egyptians."

Correspondence.

To the Editor of The Deanery Magazine:

DEAR SIR: By request of the late meeting of Section iii., S. S. T. U., held on Tuesday, the 26th instant, I enclose a copy of two resolutions passed at that meeting, and beg you will allow the same to be published in your columns. They are as follows:

Resolved, That since under the present system of giving a religious education to the children of the Church through the agency of Sunday Schools, regular attendance is very necessary; it is most important that parents be shown this, and that they do all in their power to effect this regular attendance of their children, and also see that they carefully prepare their lessons at home.

Resolved, That where it is impossible to carry on collective Sunday School work in our Parishes, owing to the lack of capable Teachers, it is advisable that every family become a Sunday School in which the Catechism may be at least learned by rote, and that each Parish Priest endeavour to catechize the children in his care at least once a month.

Yours respectfully,

J. SHARP,
Secretary to Section iii.

Diocesan News.

On Monday morning, February 25th, his Lordship went to Sussex on business of importance, and returned to Fredericton on Tuesday, the 26th.

At a recent meeting of the S. S. T. U., Section iii., held at Petitcodiac, a resolution was passed for the formation of a Sunday School Teachers' Library, and a committee of three was appointed to frame the necessary rules and order the first instalment of books. This is a move in the right direction, and the Library will in time become a useful help to the teachers.

The Season of Lent.

Why do we keep Lent? Because the Church teaches us to do so, and, after the example of our LORD'S Fast of forty days, appoints for her children a forty days fast. It is a very, very ancient law of the Church—some even say it was appointed by the Apostles—but at least Lent was observed within the three first centuries of the Christian era. It is called the "Quadragesimal Fast" from the Latin word which signifies forty, and it is called the "Lenten Fast" from the old Saxon word "*Lecten*" which means *lengthen*, because it always comes in Spring when the days begin to lengthen.

There were many customs attached to this Holy Season in old times, and various duties were appointed for the people. Some that were called "Penitents"—i. e., persons who had been guilty of notorious sin—were to undergo discipline for the sake of being restored to the Communion of the Church; and others that were called "Catechumens"—i. e., persons learning Christianity in preparation for Baptism—were to submit themselves more earnestly to their high calling, in diligent attendance on Church instruction. All of every class looked forward through the forty days to EASTER, the great time of spiritual rejoicing. Lent was then, as it should be now, the great *Revival* time in the Church's year, a time when men's hearts and consciences and habits were examined, sifted, and changed; a time when a man who had been a sinner, night, under a sense of GOD'S displeasure, more effectually rouse himself from the sleep of death, and begin a new life of repentance, faith, and turning to GOD.

Our Mother, the Church, is very wise and very kind in having such a season in her round of teaching, for as our LORD teaches us, Prayer, Almsgiving and Fasting are each to be practiced as the gravest duties of His disciples. Keep the rule, then, and look for Christ's blessing.