

## NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

## THE LATE LORD BISHOP OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Our correspondent writes:—Our Beloved Bishop is in Paradise in joy; his Diocese is in mourning. For the past few months it was plainly evident that the work and worry of the past year were beginning to take effect. The sprightly step lost its elasticity. Notwithstanding this the Bishop worked to the last—enduring to the end like a true Apostle. In Lent he was busy in Halifax with a larger number of Confirmations than usual, and had arranged for Confirmations this month in Springhill, Parrsboro, Amherst and Londonderry. Symptoms of paralysis set in which made it imperative that the Bishop should seek eminent medical advice in New York. After a short sojourn there the diocese was shocked and sorrow stricken with the sudden news that New York held the remains of our late Bishop. Both wife and daughter were with the Bishop at the time of his departure; both have the sincerest sympathy of every Churchman in the Diocese.

The press of the Maritime Provinces is filled with eulogistic notices of the late Bishop. We select from the Halifax *Herald* the following:

"The late Bishop was born in Sydney, Cape Breton, in 1819, the oldest son of the Rev. Hibbert Binney. When an infant he removed with his parents to England, and in due time he was educated in King's College, London, and Worcester College, Oxford, of which he became successively a Scholar and Fellow and where he graduated with honors in 1842 first-class in mathematics and second-class in classics. In 1842 he graduated M.A.; was tutor in 1846 and bursar in 1848.

In 1850 the Right Rev. John Inglis, third Bishop of the Diocese, died, when only 33 years of age. At that time Mr. Binney had already taken a position in the world of theology and learning and was looked upon as a rising man, so much so, indeed, that he had been sounded as to his acceptance of a Bishopric in another part of the world then vacant, and which he refused, preferring not to leave England except to come to Nova Scotia—his native land.

According to the records of the event: On the feast of the Annunciation in 1851, the Rev. Hibbert Binney, D.D., was consecrated in the chapel of Lambeth Palace by the most Reverend the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, (Dr. Sumner), assisted by the Bishops of London, (Dr. Bloomfield), Oxford (Dr. Wilberforce), and Chichester (Dr. Gilbert), the sermon being preached by Dr. Goulbourn, now Dean of Norwich. The Bishop arrived in Halifax on the 21st July of the same year.

Thirty-six years in any man's life is not very long when looked back upon, and it is only by contemplating the numerous changes which have taken place during "the quick march of time" that we can realize the length of such a life. Viewed in this light and from such a standpoint, the great length of deceased's episcopate in the See of Nova Scotia can be best understood if we give, as briefly as possible, a review of the condition of the Church of England as it was in 1851, both in Nova Scotia and world over, and as it is now in 1887. Of the Bishops who were occupying Sees when Bishop Binney was consecrated but three are now living, viz.: the present Metropolitan of Canada, the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, 1845; the Bishop of Down, 1849, and Bishop Anderson (late of Rupert's Land), now living in England, having retired in 1864. The Primus of Scot-

land (Bishop Eden) was consecrated the same year as Bishop Binney. In the United States but three prelates were senior to Bishop Binney, viz.: the presiding Bishop [Dr. Smith]

1832; the Bishop of Delaware [Dr. Lee], 1841 and the Bishop of Mississippi [Dr. Green], 1850.

In Nova Scotia, when Bishop Binney entered upon his duties as bishop of the diocese, there were, in all, but fifty-five missionaries at work (including several parishes at present vacant) the number has increased to one hundred. Almost every church building has either been enlarged and improved, or a new one built in its place. The old fashioned four-square building, with the great three-decker pulpit, so familiar to the older portion of our readers, has given place to more seemly structures, and in some places to very handsome and ecclesiastical edifices, while the internal fittings have been so changed and improved as to satisfy in the majority of cases the aesthetic taste.

The lack of system in the work of the diocese, and in the promotion of church objects external to it, which, in a measure, had been met by the formation of the diocesan church society, of which Bishop Inglis was founder and first president, has given place to a Synod formed in 1854, which embraces all licensed clergymen and two lay delegates from every parish and mission, and is the legislative body of the diocese. A church endowment fund has been raised amounting to between \$150,000 and \$160,000, the interest of which is to take the place of the grants from the venerable society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which now contributes to the salaries of the older clergy, but which is loss to the diocese at their demise. A fund for old and incapacitated clergymen has been formed, which now amounts to \$25,000; a widow's and orphan's fund of \$25,000 has also been raised; and there are parish endowments amounting to \$25,000 more. After having noticed very briefly the more notable improvements that have marked the Episcopate of Bishop Binney and which are mainly attributable to his personal energy and administrative ability, it will be a matter of more than ordinary interest to refer to those well known and honored names who were laboring in this field in 1851, and who have since gone to their rest, as well as to make mention of those veterans who welcomed the Bishop on his arrival, and who are still alive working bravely and energetically in their Master's service. The beloved and reverend name of Cogswell, and others almost equally identified with much noble work in the diocese, had passed away previous to that date, but amongst the honored ones, since dead, who greeted the Bishop, we find the names of Uniacke and Shreve, Willis and Bullock, Cochran and Gray, King and Gilpin, Twining and Elliot, Moody of Yarmouth, and Owen of Lunenburg, names still well known among us in the persons of their children and children's children. It is a pleasure to be able to point to some still in harness, whose places it will be very hard to fill, who were in the work, when Bishop Binney came to Nova Scotia. The aged

DR. WHITE, OF SHELBURNE.

the Nestor of the clergy, now over fifty-two years in the ministry, is beloved and honored by all of every name. This venerable gentleman with Canon Townshend, formerly rector of Amherst, and Dr. Nichols, rector of Liverpool, occupy the missions in which they labored thirty-six years ago. Mr. Synder, of Mahone Bay, Canon Maynard, of Windsor, Mr. Filleul of Weymouth, Archdeacon Gilpin, of Halifax, Mr. Avery, of Aylesford, Mr. Brine, of Pugwash, and Dr. Hill, formerly of St. Paul's, are names which have been household words for more than the period named, having been at work in the diocese at the time of the Bishop's arrival. There is a peculiar veneration among

churchmen the world over for the See of Nova Scotia, it having been

## THE FIRST COLONIAL DIOCESE OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH,

having been formed in 1787, and it was, doubtless, due to this that the episcopal endowment, which amounts to \$60,000, was so readily obtained. It will be well to give the official statistics of the Church of England population of Nova Scotia showing its growth during the last thirty years; an exhibit of which no religious body need feel ashamed. In 1851 in round numbers, the church population was 36,000, in 1861 it was 47,000, and in 1871 it had reached 55,000, while the last census made it 60,000, an increase of about 80 per cent. during Bishop Binney's administration. Taken altogether it is doubtful if there is another diocese in the whole colonial empire of Great Britain which presents better evidence of vigorous management and healthy growth than the diocese of Nova Scotia, or another bishop of the English church who could show so admirable a result of disinterested labours.

## THE BISHOP'S DUTIES.

were as onerous as they were varied and involved a good deal of travelling over Nova Scotia and P. E. Island. He was the head and front of the whole church and educational work in these provinces. He was a man of enlarged views, wide experience, great energy, decision of character and determination. He ruled with an iron hand and made a great many strong opponents. But he did everything for what he believed to be the best, was beloved by his friends, respected by his opponents; held in high esteem by all denominations; and beneath a sometimes rough exterior he possessed a warm and tender heart. In recent years he has given great attention to the affairs of King's College, and was engaged in elaborate preparations for celebrating the centennial of the Episcopate by the erection of a Memorial Cathedral, a site for which was given by the late Judge Bliss, upon which the late Bishop had set his heart, and towards which he had promised a contribution of \$7,000. The plans of the proposed Cathedral, which is to cost \$250,000, was sent to England some time ago, and the deceased was giving his closest attention to ways and means for raising money.

We join most sincerely in the universal regret which will be felt at the removal from amongst us of the beloved and able Bishop and Chief Shepherd of the Diocese of Nova Scotia: and to the members of his deeply beloved family and to the many sorrowing ones within his diocese, to whom he was indeed a Father in God, we tender our respectful and sincere sympathy. But we cannot forget that to the Church at large the loss is—specially at this time—a most serious and deeply to be regretted one. The present time is one in which wise counsel and matured experience are eminently necessary, and the late Bishop Binney possessed in no ordinary degree both of these qualifications: and not only his presence but also his ripe judgment will be missed in the "inner circle" of the House of Bishops. The removal from amongst us of such experienced and wise rulers, as the late Bishops of Nova Scotia, Niagara and Toronto renders still more onerous the responsibility devolving upon the younger "Fathers in God"—a responsibility we do not doubt, most fully recognized.

The removal of the Bishop of Scotia at the present moment seems, according to human judgment, inopportune too in view of the noble work just inaugurated and so earnestly supported by him; we mean the effort to erect a Cathedral Church, fitting in character to this the Mother See of the Church in Canada. But the sad event offers an opportunity to the