

## NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this Paper by Our Own Correspondents.

## DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

**DIED.**—At Charlottetown, P.E.I., on the 21st instant, after a painful illness, in the 44th year of his age, the Rev. George Wright Hodgson, Priest, Rector of St. Peter's, Charlottetown.

With what sorrow and regret will all who knew him, all especially who had the privilege of his intimate friendship in College or in after-life, read the announcement of the death of their dear friend.

Passing his examination for degree at King's College, Windsor, at an age too early to permit his graduating, he remained in residence, continuing his studies with what influence for good can hardly be estimated, and "Hodgson's" room at old King's will long remain a dear, familiar name to his classmates, an object of respectful reverence to his juniors, as the the unfailing resort wherein all, with their trials or troubles, their venial or more grievous faults, were sure of wise counsel or kindly reproof.

Nor was this influence confined to his fellow-students; the professors even gladly availing themselves of the ripe wisdom of this blameless life.

Admitted a Deacon in 1865, and Priest in the following year, and appointed in 1869 to the charge of the free Church of St. Peter's, Charlottetown, as Rector and Bishop's Chaplain, he ever did good work for his Master, and by the purity of his life, the joyousness of his disposition, and his eloquence in the pulpit or on the platform, he extended that influence begun at College till, not in this Diocese only, but wherever he was known, all had been the better for his precept and example.

Mr. Hodgson had the courage of his convictions, and at first encountered the most strenuous opposition in his cure at St. Peter's, Charlottetown. Latterly, the opposition almost, if not entirely, ceased; for, however much some of his brethren of the clergy and laity differed from him in their views, all were won by his wisdom and eloquence, and acknowledged his honesty of purpose and the purity and manliness of his life.

It will be a comfort to all his old comrades to know that during his last illness Mr. Hodgson had the loving administrations of so dear a friend as the Archdeacon. Through him he dictated a brief farewell to his congregation, which, by its humility, its loving care for his flock, is a fitting conclusion to a life so well spent, so untimely cut off.

## A DYING PRIEST'S LAST WORDS TO HIS PEOPLE.

To the Congregation of St. Peter's Church:

My Dear Friends,—As your Priest lay dying he called me to his bedside and desired me to take down his last message to you. I did so. It is given below as nearly in his own words as I am able to give them.

EDWIN GILPIN,  
Priest.

## My Dear People:

God calls me away, and the time has come when, for a period at least, we must be separated. He only knows how deeply I have borne you in my heart—how I longed for your welfare in time and in eternity. During sixteen years I have worked among you. I hoped I might be spared yet longer in the Church of Christ on earth; but he has willed it otherwise. I humbly say: "Thy will be done." I am conscious of my imperfections and shortcomings; and oh! my people, I do entreat you to pray for me—so soon to stand before my God, that he will forgive me my sins. One thing I long to say to you: I want to thank you for all your kindness and goodness to me. My last words

are these: Do not be cast down if difficulties present themselves. Be of good courage; God is with His church, and will be even to the end. If trials come upon you, be patient. Be diligent in prayer and in the use of all the means of grace. Love the Lord Jesus, and love one another for His sake. And when I am gone from you, pray for my soul, that it may rest in peace and be made perfect against "that day."

Yours very affectionately in Christ,  
GEORGE W. HODGSON.

He died the day after (Monday.) The remains were viewed by crowds of people during Tuesday and Wednesday, and were carried to his church at an early hour on Thursday morning, where they were laid on a bier in the chancel. The church was very appropriately draped in black, in fitting expression of the people's deep grief at their pastor's death, while a profusion of flowers symbolized the gloriousness of his rest, and suggested the sure and certain hope of his resurrection. Holy Communion was celebrated at 7.15 o'clock by the Venerable Archdeacon Gilpin; at 8.15 by Rev. Mr. Kaulbach, of Truro, and at 9 o'clock by Rev. V. E. Harris, of Amherst, who was formerly curate in St. Peter's Church. During these services, members of the congregation partook of Holy Communion for the last time in the bodily presence of him whom they loved so well in his office of their priest. At 10.30 o'clock the last celebration, for the convenience of visiting churchmen, was immediately preceded by the office of the dead, the lesson being read by Rev. F. W. Murray, of St. Luke's Cathedral, Halifax. Rev. Charles Darling was the celebrant, the services being full choral celebration of Holy Communion. The pall-bearers, the Revs. Messrs. Moore, Murray, Kaulbach, Reagh (New London), Harris and Johnston (Victoria), occupied seats in the chancel. Rev. Cecil Wiggins relieved Rev. Thomas Johnston when the body was carried from the church, which was crowded by the large number of men attending the funeral.

The scene outside the church was touching. Crowds of people stood about the gate for over an hour, and numbers thronged the sidewalks along the route. The hearse was almost filled with the floral offerings of the congregation and others. Among the mourners were the Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald, Archdeacon Reid, Archdeacon Gilpin, and Rev. Charles O'Meara, while many of the clergy of other denominations walked among the Temperance Alliance. It was a solemn procession—a grateful evidence of the love of his people, and the esteem and admiration of the general public for the devoted priest, the good citizen, the talented scholar, and the eloquent reformer. His body was laid where he had wished it to be, among his people in St. Peter's churchyard which he so tenderly cared for, and about the adornment of which he gave instructions during the last hours of consciousness.

To his bereaved wife and relatives, and to the parishioners who loved him so dearly, we tender our heartfelt sympathies.

**A SUGGESTION.**—A writer from Nova Scotia says:—"The name of Hodgson must never be forgotten by us. A true saint of God was he, and the Diocese, yea, the whole of Canada, has sustained a heavy blow in his loss. Let us do something to perpetuate his memory and stir others to follow his example. Cannot some of us make a move and collect subscriptions for a memorial either for his own parish church or in the form of a Hodgson Divinity Scholarship at King's. Those who were at College with him would be the fitting persons to take the initiative."

**TRURO.**—Handsome memorials now fill the five windows of the chancel of St. John's Church, and add very greatly to the beauty of what is one of the most beautiful chancels in the Diocese. It was only last week that the number

was completed. All have come from the establishment of W. Wallis & Strong, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and are specimens of their best workmanship. Sylvester G. Chambers is the donor of the last, which is in memory of his wife who died March 20th, 1884, and of his infant son Gerald, who died about a year previous. The subject is an appropriate one. A mother is holding up her child to receive the Saviour's blessing, and the Saviour, whose face is one of striking beauty and great benevolence, with uplifted hands, is represented as pronouncing it.

## DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

**ST. JOHN.**—The funeral ceremonies of the late Mrs. Walters, wife of the Rev. J. Walters, attracted a large congregation to Trinity Church on Thursday afternoon, July 30th. At 4.15 the cortege entered the church, the remains being preceded by Revs. Canon Brigstocke, Canon DeVeber, Geo. Schofield, R. Simonds, W. O. Raymond and O. G. Dobbs. As the procession passed up the centre aisle, the organ pealed forth a solemn strain, and the congregation rose to their feet. The subsequent proceedings, which were participated in by Rev. Canon Brigstocke, Rev. Canon DeVeber and Rev. Geo. Schofield, were of a very impressive character. The choir sang "My God and Father while I stray," and "Rock of Ages." They also chanted the psalms for the day. As the casket was removed from the church, the Dead March in Saul was played by Mr. Gubb. The pall-bearers were Simeon Jones, Chas. Patton, C. P. Clarke, C. W. Weldon, John Magee and Morris Robinson. A number of the city clergy and representative citizens of all denominations were present in the church. The remains were taken to Montreal for interment.

## DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

**HATLEY AND WATERVILLE.**—The Rectory of Charleston, one of the two founded by Bishop Stewart, has been for some time known as the Mission of Hatley and Waterville. The first congregation was established by the Bishop himself, who had charge of the district before his elevation to the See of Quebec. He was succeeded by the Revs. Johnson, Jackson and Burrage. The latter for more than twenty years worked the Mission, as well as visiting and holding services in the whole country now embracing the Missions of Stanstead, Magog, Coaticook and Barford. He some years ago retired on a pension, and still resides in Hatley. The Rev. A. J. Balfour, now Rector of Melbourne, succeeded him, followed by the Rev. A. Stevens, the present incumbent. This district, subject to so many changes and vicissitudes, is now rapidly developing into what was the intention of the founders—a self-supporting parish. At Waterville the growth of the congregation is marked. I did not have time to visit Hatley, always interesting from its varied history and associations in connection with the Church, and especially at present, as the Bishop of New Hampshire is spending the summer there with his family, it being his native place. The Rev. Mr. Bernard, of Bury, took the duty on Sunday, 19th, at Sherbrooke. The Board of Concurrence have accepted the nomination of the Rev. C. Rawson, and it is much to be hoped the gentleman, who is well known in the diocese, will return again. He has been spending the last three years in England.

**LENNOXVILLE.**—The funeral obsequies of the late L. E. Morris, Esq., took place on Friday last, at St. George's Church here, and from thence at Malvern Cemetery. The funeral was largely attended by the friends and acquaintances of the deceased, the Bar and the officials at the Court House turning out in force. The mourners were the two sons of the deceased, Messrs. W. and R. E. Morris, Lt. Col. B. T.