

News from the Home Field.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

AMHERST.—Rev. Canon Townshend has been quite ill, but we are glad to learn that he is now improving. Mr. Drake, the efficient organist of Christ Church, resigns his position at Easter. He intends going West.

WESTVILLE.—There are a few Church people here, and to them Mr. Moore, Rector of Albion Mines, affords opportunities of public worship twice a month. He has just received the following address, to which he made a grateful and suitable reply:

Rev. and Dear Sir,—At the beginning of another year, we beg that you will kindly allow us to convey to you our deep sense of appreciation of your clerical labours in our midst, and the high estimation in which you are held as a man. Notwithstanding the many drawbacks incident to a new field, you have ministered to your parishioners in Westville during the past three years with cheerful animation, constant faithfulness, and exemplary devotion. No tribute of ours can do justice to your great kindness, excellent counsel and example; but we thank you most heartily, and ardently desire that you may be encouraged to "go forward" in the Master's work here and your appointed fields prospered and blessed. We beg that you will accept the accompanying gift (a purse containing \$30.00), not for its intrinsic value, but as a very small expression of our sincere regard for you as a true gentleman, eloquent preacher, and faithful pastor. On behalf of your parishioners, we remain, reverend and dear sir,

Yours faithfully, etc.

ALBION MINES.—On Sunday, the 5th, thanks were offered to Almighty God in Christ Church, and in St. Georges (New Glasgow), for the escape of our beloved Sovereign from the maniac's bullet. After the latter service Mr. Newton Drake, the organist, played "God Save the Queen" as the congregation left the Chapel.

WALTON.—Presentation to Rev. Mr. How.—

ADDRESS.

We, your parishioners and other friends in Walton and vicinity, as some slight token of our appreciation of your faithful work as a clergyman, and our regard for you as a personal friend, would ask your acceptance of this purse (containing \$80), and of the accompanying articles (value \$13); regretting that the impassable state of the roads has prevented the appearance among us this evening of many parishioners and friends who would otherwise be here, and in particular one of our most zealous and noble-hearted Churchmen, (A. McNeil Parker, Esq.) who, absent from home, has been unable to return in consequence of the impossibility of travelling over the blocked up roads. We trust that your valuable life will long be spared to continue the noble and self-denying work of a clergyman in our midst.

Walton, March 6, 1882.

REPLY.

My Dear Parishioners and Friends,—I have again most cordially to thank you for making this opportunity of assembling in this hall, as you did on two former occasions for the same object. In the first place, I construe your act in its highest light, viz., your earnest desire to express your heart felt allegiance, and to do honour to my Glorious Master our common Lord and Saviour, the King of kings, and then your warm attachment to the Kingdom He Himself set up, which, being planted in dear old England in times Apostolic, has in all succeeding ages, like a polypos, cast its tentacles from England, as centre, to all quarters of the habitable world—east, west, north and south—and your gratitude that God planted one arm in the rock-bound shores of Nova Scotia, a finger of which has been located in this parish, and has been signally blessed as a means of guiding wanderers homeward from our native land, and, lastly, as an expression of your good-will towards me. In this connection, I assure you, no such token is necessary. I have most abundant proof in my constant intercourse with you, as pastor and friend, that you have anything but hard feelings towards me. I rejoice to say that though I have not feared to speak plain Bible truths, as interpreted by the dear Church of our fathers, I have thereby won your confidence, esteem and affectionate regard. Yet, though this well-filled purse is not needed to show your attachment to me, I am truly glad that I may fairly conclude that you value the Gospel at a much higher figure than you are pledged to contribute towards its support.

Pray that God will ever enable me so to labour, that, whether loved or hated by man, I may witness for Christ; and that He will mete back to you in the same measure as you have meted to Him through His ambassador.

Mrs. How particularly wishes me to thank you for your past kindness to her and the members of our family, and I invoke the blessing of God, our loving Father, on you and yours, both now and forever.

Your faithful Pastor and friend,
HENRY HOW.

Walton, March 6, 1882.

The above event was to have taken place during the moonlight nights of February, but the frequent storms delayed the presentation. The evening was most pleasantly spent in listening to the well-rendered recitations of C. E. DeWolfe, Esq., of Windsor, who has taken a deep interest in the Church at Walton in the past, and also to the singing of the choir, under the directorship of Miss H. Allison. Anyone who knows the circumstances of these noble hearted people of Walton will be able to estimate the great sacrifice they have made to raise such a handsome purse for their clergyman. I am sure that inasmuch as 27 of our number have had their salaries reduced that we should see 26 other accounts similar to this appearing in your columns. Let the 26 parishes try one, and see whether their pastor will be grossly offended; if so, don't on any account repeat it; if not, do by all means, until he declines to accept. "Where there's a will, &c." For see how Walton has done her duty, and by the same sacrifice other parishes could raise proportionately larger or smaller sums. These voluntary expressions of the people are most encouraging (and most acceptable) to the Clergy, who, though they do not murmur, often scarcely know where the money is to come from to pay their honest debts.

HALIFAX.—St. Luke's—Mr. A. P. Silver will lecture in St. Luke's Hall this (Thursday) evening, at 8 o'clock. Subject, "Savonarola the Florentine Reformer." Admission 15 cents; two for 25c.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

GREENWICH, K. C.—The concert by the choir of St. Paul's Church, of Oak Point, in aid of the building fund, came off on Wednesday, March 1st. The sum realized was \$14.50. Great credit is due to the choir for their energetic efforts to provide funds for the repairs of the church.

SHEDIAC.—The Lenten Services are remarkably well attended. On Wednesday evenings this church is nearly full. Three courses of sermons are being preached. On Sunday mornings the course is on "Temptation," on Sunday evenings on the "Prodigal Son," and on Wednesday evenings instructions on "The Way of Salvation." On Friday evening a Bible Class is held. On Sunday the services in Shediac may now be ranked as among the heartiest in the Diocese. There are hearty responses and good singing. The offertory averages about \$10 a Sunday. The affairs of the new Rectory are progressing, and the Parish is ambitious of having the best Rectory in the Diocese. The Rector, Rev. H. H. Barber, speaks very highly of the kindness of the people, who seem to vie with each other in making him comfortable. The Sunday school is prospering, though the severe winter has been against it. We are glad to chronicle this remarkable change that has come over this old and well endowed Parish. At first the evening service, which was a complete novelty, was looked upon as a doubtful experiment, but this church is now full at this service.

POINT DU CHENE.—We understand that the Rev. J. N. Jones will shortly take charge of this Parish.

CARLETON.—The Sunday school of St. George's Church was broken into last week, and the collection box robbed of between two and three dollars. The annual Lenten Confirmation was held on the morning of the Second Sunday in Lent in St. George's Church. Thirty persons received "the laying on of hands"—nine men and twenty-one women. Ten of this number were heads of families, and twelve were formerly attached to different religious denominations. The Bishop of Fredericton also preached the same Sunday at evensong in St. George's Church.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

(From our own Correspondents.)

TOWNSHIPS, MISSION OF HATLEY.—(Concluded.) Under such circumstances it is not difficult to imagine the effect of this intelligence on the minds of the residents of Hatley and Waterville. When they learned that after all the united efforts of both pastor and congregation, he, for whom the house was built, was not going to inhabit it, they felt that their fond hopes were blighted and their efforts paralyzed. The bare idea of losing their beloved pastor filled every heart with sorrow. After the first burst of grief, however, some members of the congregation suggested presenting him with a farewell gift. Several ladies undertook the task of collecting subscriptions for that purpose. They were very successful—even at Massawippi, where they lay no claim to Church membership, all willingly subscribed. If they did not belong to the Church, the respect in which Mr. Balfour was held by all was sufficient to make it a pleasure to contribute towards the present. The result of the subscription list in East Hatley and Massawippi was somewhere between \$60 and \$70. All this was done without Mr. Balfour having the slightest intimation that such a scheme was on foot. The day before his departure was appointed for meeting at the Academy Hall, Hatley, where his friends and congregation assembled to publicly say farewell. He was busily engaged in preparing for his departure on the morrow, when a deputation from the hall, about seven o'clock in the evening, desired his attendance. Imagine his surprise on arriving

thither to perceive displayed at the further end of the hall a beautiful present, consisting of an ice pitcher, tray, goblet and bowl. After an interval of a few minutes occupied by the exchange of kind greetings, W. G. Murray, Esq., of Massawippi, in the name of the congregation and friends of Mr. Balfour residing in East Hatley and Massawippi, presented him with their gifts and an address, expressing the heartfelt sorrow experienced by all at parting with one for whom they entertained such deep feelings of affection and respect, accompanied by a wish that his future career in a wide sphere should be all that could be desired. He responded in a few appropriate words, expressing the feeling of gratification with which he contemplated the many marks of affection and kindness which emanated from the hearts of his friends and the members of his congregation. He said the surprise was so complete that he was quite at a loss to express his gratitude for the tender expression of kind feeling evidenced towards himself, and added, moreover, that he would ever think with the greatest pleasure of his ministry in Hatley and the kindness he received, and that he would always take a deep interest in their spiritual welfare. Previous to this he was surprised in a similar manner by the congregation of St. John's Church, Waterville. He was requested to call at a certain house where some friends desired to see him. There he was presented with an address and a purse containing some \$20 or \$25. The Rev. A. Stevens, of Dixville, was appointed to succeed Mr. Balfour in Hatley. While everybody mourned Mr. Balfour's loss, they did not forget that they owed the duty of hospitality to his successor. The congregation of St. James' Church held a reception at the Academy Hall, when, in the presence of a goodly number, Dr. Jones, of Hatley, presented the new clergyman with an address of welcome, expressing a hope that his work in a new sphere would be attended with marked success. Some time afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Stevens held a reception in the new parsonage, at which all expressed themselves as having spent a very pleasant evening. Mr. Stevens has given expression to sentiments of satisfaction with his new field of labor and the kind hospitality of the people. We sincerely wish him success, and have no doubt that he will soon win the affection and respect of his congregation. We are happy to state that the Mission of Hatley and Waterville will at no distant date be elevated to the dignity of a parish. The endowment fund for the Rectory of Charleston is accumulating, and very soon we expect that a dividend will be available, when the Mission will become a self-supporting parish.

COMPTON.—The "Ladies' College" is, as usual, well attended, which reflects great credit on the Principal for his efforts to make this an institution surpassed by none.

MAGOG.—The members of the "Junior Literary Society," after a very successful entertainment, presented their President, Mr. J. J. Procter, with a handsome purse.

LIABILITY OF A CLERGYMAN MARRYING MINORS. A Mrs. Couture, of Sherbrooke, sued Rev. John Foster, Rector of Coaticooke, for having married her minor daughter without the bans being published. The action was dismissed by Hon. Mr. Justice Doherty, and the judgment was confirmed by the Court of Appeal. The Court held that the responsibility of the clergyman was fully covered by the marriage license, and also that the marriage had proved a most advantageous one. The plaintiff claimed alleged loss of service, but the Hon. Mr. Justice Ramsay, of Montreal, held that it was most absurd for a mother to claim any proprietary rights over a daughter 20 years of age unless she were domiciled with her mother.

RIVIERE DU LOUP, EN BAS.—Our parish has been deeply moved by the death—almost sudden—of Mr. Alexander Fergusson. Mr. Fergusson was an engine-driver, and his rapid illness, it appears, was the sudden culmination of unsuspected injuries received at an accident a few weeks ago. He was a young man in the prime and vigour of life. He was universally esteemed for his steadiness of character, his quiet, unassuming demeanor, and for his uniform kindness of disposition; moreover, he was an only and most devoted son. It is not remembered that there was ever a larger funeral at the English Church of Riviere du Loup; many were unable to get in. This general respect for the departed and heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved was still further marked on Sunday by the Methodists closing their chapel at the "Station" and attending the Church service, when a funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. R. C. Tamps to a deeply affected congregation.

Your readers have been kept informed of the progress of the mission work of our Diocesan Missioner, the Rev. Isaac Thompson. Success has so far attended his labours beyond the expectation of the most sanguine. For this result the whole Church will rejoice. It has been suggested to me by the projector of this important work that I should obtain for your widely-read paper regular notice of the time when each mission will be held, and that I should, on behalf of this Diocese, ask the prayers of your readers for God's fullest blessing upon this our venture of faith and love. Notice will accordingly be sent you regularly for the future of the time of holding each Mission

sufficiently long beforehand for the information to be in the hands of all your readers before each opens, and all who read the notice are requested to join us in special prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the work. A very successful Mission is now in progress at Kirkdale, a fuller notice of which will be sent you in a few days.

Mr. Thompson's next Mission, then, will be held at Leeds, in the county of Megantic, the Rev. John Kemp, D. D., incumbent, beginning on the 24th March. The next after Leeds will be held at Georgeville, Mission of Magog, on our beautiful lake Memphremagog, the Rev. James Hepburn, M. A., incumbent, to begin on the 7th April. Each Mission will continue for ten days, unless there should occur some special reason for prolonging it.

If we ask the intercessions of your readers outside our own borders, we ought to afford them some information as to the circumstances of those among whom in each case Mr. Thompson will be labouring. The two Missions of Leeds and Magog are as widely different in the character of their population as possible. Leeds is one of our very oldest Missions, and its people are all old country people, members of the Church for the most part for generations, accustomed to enjoy her services as nearly as possible gratuitously, and quite willing that it should always be so. The people of Magog, on the other hand, are mostly American in their origin, the small minority who form our congregations warmly attached to their newly found mother, and willing to pay for the services they receive. The mass of people outside in Magog belong to no religion; in Leeds all have long since been gathered into some one of the more sober of the Protestant sects. Those within the Church in Leeds need quickening, in Magog those outside must be gathered in.

Let me here say to the Clergy and Churchwardens of those parishes who seek Mr. Thompson's services, that I hope it will not, in any instance, be forgotten that all the expenses for travelling from his home and back or otherwise incurred by the Missioner, are to be borne by the parish seeking his aid, his salary alone being provided by the Central Committee. I have no reason for thinking that this matter has been in any instance forgotten; but in the all-absorbing attention to more important matters it might be overlooked. Distinct provision for meeting these expenses ought to be made in each instance before requisition is made for the services of the Mission. S.T.P.

QUEBEC.—The fifty-third anniversary meeting of the "Church of England Female Orphan Asylum" was held in the institution on the 6th of March. The Bishop addressed the children in a very impressive manner. The Rev. Messrs. Housman and Rawson were present. A few prizes were distributed. The committee of ladies were congratulated on the efficiency of their new matron. A sumptuous tea was provided for the children as usual.

The usual meeting of the Church Missionary Union was held in the National School on the first Monday of the month, when the Rev. G. V. Housman gave some information upon "Mission work in Delhi."

A very beautiful set of altar linen has just been presented to Mr. Hamilton's Church, accompanied by the following words:—St. Matthew's Church. Altar linen for use on festivals. Offered by ladies of the congregation and a few others who attended the early celebrations during the "Mission."

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

(From our own Correspondents.)

MONTREAL.—There is an activity in our churches of such a generally uniform character, that while it presents nothing special in "news items," indicates solid work. We may presume that in country as well as in city the clergy see the importance of using the Lenten time as a "Mission" time. In the country however, the season itself causes impediments to this work. Blocked or broken roads, dark nights, or disheartening weather. The few faithful that manage to turn out, finding themselves few, and as to the seating in the church, "far between," require some physical energy as well as faith and love to keep them up in their attendance. In view of this difficulty of a large church and a few people, ought not the clergy, when they are engaged in building a parsonage, to provide a small wing to such parsonage and in the immediate vicinity of the Study, so that the one heating apparatus may do, in which wing (call it by any name you will) a good deal of the parish work may be carried on with convenience to the clergyman and comfort to the people. Here could be held Bible and Confirmation or other instruction classes—here the clergyman could have daily prayers, and be sure of a congregation, for there he could assemble his own family, let who else likes stay away, if so minded. Many are the advantages that will occur to the mind of a working cleric in having such a room, costing little additional to construct, and little to heat, and great would be the return spiritually to such Parish, and where there is a good return spiritually, there will accompany it a large appreciable return financially. Why is it not tried? Is there any such in existence in any of our Canadian Dioceses?

HEMINGFORD.—The parsonage has lately been destroyed by fire, and a special meeting of the Vestries of the Churches of St. Luke and St. John.