

## Diocesan Intelligence.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HALIFAX.—*St. Luke's Cathedral*.—This church is handsomely decorated. The decoration of the chancel, designed by the Curate, Rev. Mr. Gills, is a work of art. The reredos is composed of straw work, on white ground. In the centre piece are the words, "Wonderful, Counsellor" in letters of red, on white. The side panels have "I H S" in red and "Jesus" in straw work. Over the top of the reredos, "Glory to God in the Highest," and over the centre piece in straw work on red ground, "Emmanuel," over the organ is "Hosanna" in straw, and on the wall opposite the organ is a scroll with "Alleluia" in letters of straw on a ground of green.

A new feature in the decoration is a chancel screen, over the centre of which is "Christ is Born" in letters of straw on green ground. Around the galleries the sentence "I am the Root and the Offspring of David and the Bright and Morning Star."

The pillars are decorated with wreaths, and the walls and galleries with triangles and circles, all of spruce. The Font is dressed with flowers—and the pulpit with spruce. The whole work is most elaborate, and is creditable to the taste of the designer and the skill of the ladies and gentlemen by whom executed.

*The Bishop's Chapel*.—As is usual on the Festival of the Nativity, much pains have been bestowed on the decorations. The wall of the altar, is covered with a pure white dorsal cloth decked with golden lilies and *fleur de lis*, and bordered with a maroon colored border, on which there are the sacred monogram, "I. H. S.," and Maltese crosses in gold, on a blue ground. Surmounting the dorsal is a cross, standing out in relief, and two banners hang either side of the chancel window. On the re-table are four vases of crimson flowers, which stand out beautifully against the white ground of the dorsal cloth. On the front of the re-table is the single word, "Bethlehem." On each side of the altar there is a magnificent salvia—the stalls are all lined with evergreen, and the desks and lectern are hung with white pontals. The chancel screen is picked out in green, and along the top, and massed at the bottom are quantities of flowers and tropical plants in pots, conspicuous among which are a great number of scarlet poinsettias. The pillars of the chancel arch are wreathed with green, and the capitals gracefully adorned with ferns and flowers. The gas lights through the church are festooned with green, and the walls of the nave are adorned with stars, and monograms worked in green spruce. The Font is decorated with white camillas and other costly flowers—among which is the graceful smilax.

*St. Paul's* is decorated this Christmas more elaborately than on any previous occasion. The chancel, of course, is the part of the Church where most pains have been bestowed and most taste displayed. A reredos has been improvised, consisting of three arches—on the centre of which on white ground is the sacred monogram in green, and on the other two are the words "Jesus" and "Christ" respectively, in red letters on a white scroll—which runs transversely over the initial letter "J" worked in green upon a red ground. The walls of the chancel on each side of the reredos are covered by a magnificent trellis work of evergreen.

Over the chancel window on a white scroll in old English letters in red is the sacred legend, "Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ." The walls on the *decani* side of the choir are ornamented with five gothic arches of evergreen, over which are the words, "A light to lighten the Gentiles." The front of the choir stalls is most tastefully decorated with trellis work of evergreens, the sentence on the cantores side being "Behold thy King cometh," on the *decani* "Hosanna in the Highest." The music stands are surmounted with a trimming of moss, sparkling with what appears to the uninitiated spectator as ten thousand diamonds. The centre font (which was presented to the church some time ago by Mrs. Norman Ritchie) is filled with tropical plants and

ornamented with ever-green. The front of the reading desk is trellis work of evergreen, surmounted, like the choir stoles and music stands with moss, the words "King of Kings," worked in white moss, with the sacred monogram underneath, appearing on the front of the desk. The pulpit is also evergreen trellis work, the words "Jesus" and "King of Glory" being worked in rice—on the side in the same sort of letters, is the word "Emmanuel." The reading desk was designed and executed by the Misses Almon, and the pulpit by Miss Lily Archibald and Miss Ritchie. The chancel was designed and carried out by Miss Sinclair. The work in the nave of the church was superintended by Mrs. Wm. H. Hill and Miss Hill. The font is the work of Mr. G. Franklyn. A host of other ladies and several gentlemen, whose names we have not ascertained, lent their aid.

*The Garrison Church* has the decorations of the most beautiful description. Real flowers, and evergreens, and mosses, and grasses; flowers in golden vases and in sombre pots; flowers in every variety, at different points within the altar railing. At the back of the communion table is a white reredos, in three sections. On the left hand section the text begins "Thy Throne, O God," and on the right hand section it ends, "Is forever and ever," while the centre section bears the word "Emmanuel," arched, under which is a cross beautifully worked with white camillas. On the right and left sections are elegantly worked monograms. Over the reredos is the line "O come let us adore Him," and this is surmounted by a cross worked in bark and ivy leaves. At the top of the communion table, arranged so as to appear under the cross of camillas, is a beautiful worked text "I am the bread of life."

*Holy Trinity Church*.—Over the windows are three crimson scrolls, with borders of evergreen, containing the text: "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" Under the window, and above the Holy Table, on a crimson ground with ornamental green border, are the words: "This do in remembrance of me." And over the large arch is a white scroll with plain green border, and surmounted by a large cross of Iona, containing the following text in scarlet letters: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." Around the nave run festoons of evergreen and in the arches of the roof hang wreaths of the same material. The spaces between the windows are occupied by Jerusalem, Maltese and Constantine crosses. The front of the pulpit is decorated with the letters "Alpha" and "Omega," in monogram form, on a white panel; while the same letters occupy two white panels in front of the desk. The font is surmounted by a crown.

*St. Mark's Church*.—Around the body of the church, between the windows, are placed the words, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth, peace, good will towards men," the letters being formed with evergreen. Immediately above, suspended from the cornice, are festoons of evergreen. The gas fixtures, reading desks, and altar railings, are also decorated with the same material; the window frames, north and south, doors, and chancel arch likewise. Above the Communion Table, the words, "God is love" appear also in evergreen. There are also sundry devices as stars, crosses, &c., worked on a red ground interspersed in different parts of the church.

*St. George's*.—Around the front of the crescent-shaped gallery, in neat letters, Isaiah ix. 6. is worked. The railing of the gallery is festooned with evergreens, and the same material covers the gas brackets and the pillars. The font, desk, and pulpit are wreathed with hemlock and real holly, and at the organ gallery, in blue and gold letters, is the word "Hallelujah."

BRIDGEWATER.—*Holy Trinity*.—The Christmas decorations are of their usual superior character. The prayer desk at the east, and the pulpit at the west front of the chancel, and the lectern are neatly wreathed with evergreens. The front of the pulpit shows the word "Immanuel." The font is also wreathed, and surmounted by a pyramid of evergreens and flowers. A screen is placed across the chancel—the base supported by rustic pillars, twined with evergreens. On the two centre pillars banners are hung bearing the words—"Christ the Lord," "Alpha and Omega," and "Behold thy

King cometh," in gilt letters. On the base of the screen are the words in crimson letters, "Glory to God in the highest." Above the base are three arches on red ground, bordered by spruce. The centre arch is surmounted by a cross, and has a gilt star underneath it, and bears the words, in white letters in old English style, "We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship Him." The other arches shew the words, "Hark the herald Angels sing," and "Glory to the new born King." The chancel walls have the words in blue letters on white ground, placed in curved lines, "Christ is born," and "Jesus our Immanuel." Above the words are inverted arches and pendants of evergreen. The words "I am the true vine," in spruce letters, are placed between the three centre chancel windows, and on the latter are the words, in red letters on white ground, "On earth peace, and good will to men." The chancel windows are festooned with evergreen. Around the walls of the body of the church are the words in spruce—"I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." The words "Son of Righteousness," in white letters, are placed in front of the gallery formerly occupied by the choir, opposite the chancel, and inverted arches of evergreen are formed above them. The church windows, the pillars supporting the gallery, and the open rafters are trimmed with evergreen, and inverted arches and pendants of the same are placed over and between the windows.

HALIFAX.—*Bishops Chapel*.—On the last Sunday in the year the preachers were the Rev. Professor Wilson, of King's College, Windsor, and the Bishop. There was an eight o'clock celebration in the Chapel on the Feast of Circumcision.

*The Cathedral*.—On the Eve of the Circumcision service was held here at 10.45 p.m., the preacher being the Rev. A. Townend, Senior Chaplain of the Garrison.

The Revd. John Storrs, M. A., late Rector of Cornwallis and Horton, is not unmindful of Missionary work although retired to the old country. On the day of Intercession, he pleaded the cause of Missions in the Parish Church of Beccles, Suffolk, remarkable architecturally for its detached tower.

A special despatch to the *Halifax Morning Chronicle* states that "on account of differences with his congregation many of whom have returned to the Church of England," the Cummingsite preacher at Ottawa has resigned.

## FREDERICTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FREDERICTON.—An ordination service was held in the Cathedral on the Fourth Sunday in Advent, at which Messrs. W. O. Raymond, of Woodstock, and James Millidge, of St. John, received Deacon's Orders. The Rev. Mr. Millidge has accepted the curacy of St. George's Church, Carleton. The Rev. Mr. Raymond has been offered both the curacy of St. Mark's Parish, St. John, and the position of missionary at Stanley.

"THE CHURCHMAN'S ALMANAC."—This useful little production has been made still more useful by the Rev. T. E. Dowling, by adapting it to the use of his congregation. Eight pages have been added, in which the most important features and needs of the parish are laid before the people.

The following summary of contents may be useful to those who wish to secure a similar excellent auxiliary to their parish work:

On the first page is the name of the parish church, a statement that its seats are free and unappropriated, and a request that every member of the congregation should join in the responses, and, as far as possible, in the singing, of the services. The second page is devoted to the yearly arrangement of services for Sundays, week days, saints' days, and anniversaries. The Sunday school, with a few plain words about its object, and some admirable tales for the scholars, occupies the third page. On the next is the announcement of the meetings and classes for the year, with two requests—one for lay helps, and one for those