

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BISHOP'S CONSECRATION.—The Feast of the annunciation was the 34th anniversary of the consecration of the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, and was fittingly observed by special celebrations of the Holy Communion at the Bishop's Chapel and at St. Luke's. At the celebration in St. Luke's, His Lordship feelingly begged the congregation to ask God's blessing upon the work of the Diocese and to solicit for him the guidance of God's Holy Spirit in the manifold questions he is called to deliberate upon. A large number of communicants received the Sacrament from the Bishop's hands. We heartily congratulate the Bishop on this his thirty-fourth anniversary of consecration, and gratefully record the remarkable progress that has been made in church work in the Diocese since he entered upon his labours. Churches and Missions are dotted all over Nova Scotia. Over one hundred clergy are under the Bishop's jurisdiction, and about \$300,000 of church lands have accumulated during his episcopate. It is worth noting that the Bishop ranks fourth in priority of consecration of all the Bishops in the Anglican Communion. His Lordship is still full of vigor. He is now holding Confirmations in Halifax and starts off on an episcopal tour directly after Easter. There is more than an encouraging outlook for the Church down here, and the progress of the past is but a prelude to the glorious harvest that is now ripening. More Missions are needed. Canon Missioners ought to be in the field. A stately Cathedral must soon be an accomplished fact, and the Diocese that had in its inception the whole of British North America in its jurisdiction, will, in every good work and progress, prove itself really to be the Banner Diocese of British North America.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE.—Fred. P. Outram, Esq., read his paper on the "Irish Question" before the Institute last Monday. The paper was an exhaustive account of Ireland's troubles, and the conclusion arrived at was that the restoration of a Parliament to Ireland, similar to that of 1782, was impracticable and disloyal to the Empire. A brisk discussion followed, in which Messrs. Silver, Harrington, Tremaine, LeNoir and others took part.

GARRISON CHAPEL.—His Lordship the Bishop preached once more at this Chapel last Sunday, and was pleased to observe that although the Church had been closed for some time and the chaplain confined to his house, the congregations had once more gathered together in full force and were evincing interest in the services.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. Mr. Sherman, rector of Pugwash, took part in the services at St. Luke's last Sunday. The Rev. gentleman is in ill-health and will be obliged to take a long rest from parochial work.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

BLACKVILLE, N. B.—This spirited parish has lately had the interior of its pretty little Church completely refitted. The ceiling has been calcimined, walls tinted, windows frosted and tinted, and the whole of the wood-work painted, the seats being grained. But it has evidently been determined not to do things by halves. For the paint was hardly dry upon the Church, when the few faithful ones who are always foremost in church work here undertook with a zeal and energy unsurpassed in the history of this or any other parish, to procure funds with which to purchase an organ. They were not long at work before a considerable sum of money was realized; and now a new \$200

Uxbridge Organ attests the value of their labors. A small sum is still due upon it; but without doubt the same energy that urged forward the enterprise to its present stage, will complete it at an early day.

FREDERICTON.—His Lordship the Metropolitan has given notice to the clergy of the Diocese, that the consecration of the Bishop-elect of Niagara will (D. V.) take place at the Cathedral on the Fest: of S.S. Philip and James, and has invited them to attend the service. No doubt a large number of them will avail themselves of the privilege of witnessing the solemn act of consecration, and the opportunity of extending to Rev. Mr. Hamilton a hearty greeting. His election to the episcopate has been hailed with thankfulness and delight by the clergy of the Diocese. Those virtues and graces which have adorned his life as a priest in the church of God, will, we feel sure, shine with still greater lustre in his life as a Bishop to the honour and glory of God's holy name and the furtherance of His Kingdom.

His Lordship the Bishop Co-adjutor will shortly begin another tour through the Diocese on behalf of the needs of the Diocesan Church Society. The success which resulted from the Bishop's last tour, will, we trust, in the present instance be even still greater. It is needless to add that he is just the man for this work, his knowledge of business, his plain practical addresses, and his thorough earnestness in the work of the Church will arouse in the laity of New Brunswick a greater interest than has heretofore been felt with regard to their duty in liberally supporting the work of the Church. It only remains for every parish to receive him heartily and render him all the assistance possible in this special work. If they do this and then act upon the principle of being "not only hearers but doers;" there is no doubt but the result will be such as to give the Church in this Diocese renewed life and vigour and greater freedom to accomplish the vast amount of work that remains to be done.

MONCTON.—Mr. Reid, who is to assist the rector in the Mission work of this parish, is now on his way from England and will soon enter upon his duties.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

QUEBEC, March, 24th.—The anniversary service of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society was held on the evening of the 16th instant, at the Anglican Cathedral, where an effective musical service was rendered by the choir, under the direction of the talented organist, Mr. E. A. Bishop. The officers of the society occupied the front pews and collected the offertory.

The curate of the Cathedral, Revd. J. Ridley, preached the sermon of the occasion from the words "And who is my neighbor?" and "God hath made of one blood all nations of the earth."

The reverend gentleman said the words of the two verses from which his text was taken, furnished a question and an answer to which he desired to direct their attention. Paul wished to assure the Greeks to whom he preached at Athens of his brotherhood with them, and that he was bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh. Some pretended to trace man's origin to something inferior to himself, while others classified different races of men as of various origins. Others again talked of a process of gradual development. The Athenians considered themselves as the aborigines of mankind. There were some who believed that others co-existed with Adam, and others again that he was not the first man at all; but the scriptural teaching was that God had made all mankind to be descended from a single pair. Here we have the oneness of the human race,—all nations made of one blood. St. Paul strikes a blow at the prejudices of the Athenians and shows that all mankind has a common parentage and a common brotherhood. The preacher dwelt at length and in eloquent language upon the common parentage

and common brotherhood of man, of the points of family and national resemblance and diversity, and exemplified the practical lessons to be learned from the reply to the question "Who is my neighbor?" The rev. gentleman referred to the duties required by the recognition of the brotherhood of man, and especially to the duty of benevolence, appealing at the same time for a liberal collection in favor of the funds of the Society under whose auspices the service was held.

The English Church parsonage at Valcartier, seventeen miles N. W. from Quebec, was completely destroyed by fire on Tuesday last. Fortunately there was sufficient assistance present to save a portion of the Rev. Dr. Riopel's furniture. The building was insured in the Imperial, and the furniture in the Sherbrooke and Stanstead Mutual.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

Church of St. James the Apostle.—The Very Rev. the Dean of Montreal, delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture in the school-room of this Church on the evening of the 23rd ult., on "The lower forms of Animal Life." There was a large attendance.

COTE ST. PAUL.—*Church of the Redeemer*—Lent has been marked at this Mission of the Church of St. James the Apostle by extra services; one held on the Sunday evening, and another on the Wednesday evening of each week. Much interest has been manifested.

St. George's Church.—We find that we were misinformed in regard to the date at which the Bishop would hold a Confirmation in this Church. It will not take place on Easter Sunday, as announced last week.

Trinity Church.—The Rev. Canon Mills, rector of this Church, delivered a lecture on Tuesday evening the 24th ult., in the basement of the Church, in which, in a most pleasant and graphic manner he brought before the very large audience present, the chief incidents of his late visit to England, and in imagination at least gave them the benefit of a like trip. We are pleased to know that the worthy rector has recovered from his late illness, and is again able to look after the welfare of this large and important parish.

CHURCH CONGRESS OF 1885.—It is hoped that the difficulties which were supposed to exist in regard to carrying out the wish of the General Committee to hold the next Church Congress in Montreal, are in a fair way of removal. At a meeting lately held, presided over by the Bishop of the Diocese, and at which a number of the clergy were present, a resolution was passed unanimously, declaring it desirable to hold the Congress here provided a guarantee fund were raised; and a committee consisting of Messrs. Shearer, Marling, Brayley and Davidson was appointed to secure such guarantee within fourteen days. It would appear from reports received from those having charge of the meetings in Hamilton and Toronto that very little expense was incurred; and this consideration ought not to stand in the way of what would seem to be an indisputably beneficial agency in connection with the work of the church.

ORGAN RECITAL.—Notwithstanding the unpleasant weather, there was a large attendance at the Church of St. James the Apostle on Friday evening the 27th ult., on the occasion of the Organ Recital and Service of Song given by the Messrs. Harriss, assisted by the choirs of the Cathedral and St. James.

COTE ST. ANTOINE.—The Bishop of the Diocese held a Confirmation at St. Matthias' Church, in this suburb, on Sunday evening, the 29th inst., when fifteen persons were confirmed. This makes 59, in all, confirmed in this parish within two years.