

to the penitent soul. Let not this divine grace be offered you in vain. Be in earnest. Persevere in your struggle to overcome evil. Be resolute. When allured by temptation say *no* and *mean* it. Knowing how great is the force of example, give up for others' sake what may be made a cause of detriment to the Church and to the individual soul. Lent is a fitting time to curtail amusements which are lawful and innocent in themselves. Discipline becomes valuable according as it is directed against those worldly things which are engrossing the thoughts and affections of the heart.

Whatever holds back the soul from God is sinful. You cannot serve God and Mammon. If you are Christ's you must crucify the flesh. If you are not Christ's you can have no hope of salvation. To all, the Church offers her help now in prayers and sacraments and instruction. Sanctify the fast. Come as penitent children of the Lord seeking the strengthening grace promised to those who ask for it. Work out your own salvation. Extend the Kingdom of God amongst your friends and neighbors. Be true to your Lord and Master—and may the blessing of God rest upon you always.

Bishop Grafton's Lenten Pastoral.

TO THE CLERGY AND MY DEAR LAITY OF THE
DIOCESE:

The Church, the living organ of the Holy Ghost, having brought before us the fact that Almighty God became incarnate, now in Lent tells us how we treated him. We responded to His goodness by crucifying him. It is something dreadful to think of. It becomes more solemn when we remind ourselves that it was not by the Jews and Gentiles of Pilate's day, He was nailed to the cross, but also that it was our own sins that did it. And our guilt is a great deal worse than theirs, for we know who He is and have been sinning against a great deal more light and grace than they. Moreover, we Christians, by our own ingratitude, our worldliness, evil tempers, dissensions, half-heartedness, indifference, backslidings, slackened zeal, half-repentances, as well as by our positive transgressions, have been crucifying the Lord afresh, and in the face of His enemies putting Him to an open shame. For it is especially the sins of the professed followers of Christ that hinder the extension of Christ's Kingdom, and so are keeping back the reappearance of our Lord, when the new spiritual creation of righteousness and blessedness and life in God shall be ushered in. Till that day comes, our Lord hangs, as it were, on a cross. He is being kept there by us. His blessed body, indeed, no longer suffers, but His sacred heart does. It suffers in consequence of the coldness and apathy and unbelief and wrong and insult, and want of zeal that hinder the consummation of His kingdom, and so delays His coming and the reunion of all the blessed, in Him. Every sin of body or soul, of unbelief or disobedience, of neglect of grace and grieving of the Spirit, hinders it. Every division between Christians, or in parishes, or in family life, or between neighbors, keeps open the wound in Christ's heart. What the true penitent longs to do, as it stands near His Cross, is to make some loving reparation to Him—to mitigate in some way His grief—to hold up something to assuage His thirst—to win, like the forgiving penitent, some other soul to Christ.

Lent affords us a gracious opportunity to forward Christ's purposes. The man truly con-

verted to Jesus will not be selfishly seeking his own salvation alone, but will have all the interests of Jesus nearest his heart. To work for the lasting, joyous consummation of our final union in God, is of greater concern than to labor, as most men do anxiously, for a needless accumulation of the wealth that perisheth. To be zealous for the establishment of the enduring kingdom of Christ, from whence all poverty and sickness and every ill shall be forever banished, is wiser than to be absorbed in futile attempts to reform the decaying and perishing kingdoms of earth. Let us give ourselves wholly to Christ, and let Christ wholly take possession of us. A diocese really kindled aglow with the fire of divine love, and in earnest out and out, might move the world.

The best discipline of Lent is that of the soul, seeking to deepen its own penitence, to live nearer to Christ, to grow in union with Him. That we may do this the better, in common with the whole of Christendom, as it gathers in united efforts round Calvary, let it be a time of self-denial, of separation from the world; of special communion with God in prayer, of attendance on the Holy Sacrifice. It will aid you to do this, if you of the laity, take some rule of life under the wise guidance of your own pastors. The ancient custom which required abstinence from flesh meat during Lent, I would dispense to all infirm and sick persons, to those of growing years, or to those engaged in hard labor; and recommend it to be observed by others on Wednesdays and Fridays. Let your self-denials of whatever kind, come from a penitential love, which craves conformity to your Saviour, and would watch with Him and work for Him who died for you.

Ever asking, dear clergy and people, your prayers for my own guidance and sanctification, and praying that the Holy Spirit would so work with you and you with Him, that by His convicting and converting grace your souls may be more wholly knit in union with His own, I am yours affectionately in Christ, and with all Blessing.

CHARLES C. GRAFTON,
Bishop of Fond du Lac.

News from the Home-Field.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

CHURCH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—At the last meeting of the Directors of this institution, William Dimock, Esq., was unanimously elected member of the Board in place of his late lamented brother, Edward W. Dimock, Esq.

WINDSOR.

The members of Christ Church congregation spent the evening of Shrove Tuesday, in the Sunday school room, in a very pleasant and social way. At eight o'clock the rector, Ven. Archdeacon Weston-Jones, delivered a lecture, which was highly appreciated, being a very enterprising account of his travels in England, where he visited districts not usually touched on by tourists from this part of the world. The lecture was interesting, instructive and amusing, a number of laughable anecdotes being given in the Archdeacon's own genial way, and although it lasted till nearly nine o'clock, no one was tired of listening. At the close of the lecture the ladies of the Churchwomen's Working Association served a bountiful repast. The remainder of the evening was pleasantly passed in social intercourse and till about 10.30, when the gathering dispersed after a delightful evening.

Diocese of Fredericton.

DEANERY OF ST. JOHN.—The regular quarterly meeting of the Deanery of St. John was held on the 8 March inst, in St. Luke's church. The following was the programme:

3 p. m.—Meeting of clergy for Scripture reading and discussion.

6 p. m.—Tea served in school room, to which wardens and vestry of the church were invited.

7.30 p. m.—Evening service in church. In stead of the usual sermon short addresses were announced by Rev. Canon Brigstocke, and Rev. Messrs. Hudgell, Little and Greare.

The venerable Metropolitan of the Province of Canada has, as Bishop of Fredericton, sent the touching pastoral letter which follows to his clergy. While all must regret to know that His Lordship's physical strength is failing him, it is a great pleasure to think that his mental faculties are still clear and vigorous and that he enjoys good health; and all will desire and pray that he may yet be spared to witness the "blessing on what has been done and what remains to be done" for which he prays:

BISHOPSCOTE, Feb. 23rd, 1892.

MY DEAR BRETHREN—You are aware that some years since I thought it prudent, in view of a possible failure of health and strength on my part, to obtain the assistance of a Coadjutor, in order that the work of the Diocese might not be impeded. It has pleased God to take from me some portion of the strength that then remained, and I feel no longer able to undertake the laborious journeys which, up to a later period, God gave me strength to perform. Painful as it is to me to abridge any part of my former duty, I am obliged, at the age of eighty-seven, to ask you to consult with the Coadjutor as to any Confirmations for the coming year, and as to the administrative work of the Diocese in general, reserving to myself such work as it is practicable for a man in my present condition. You will, I feel assured, not set this down to any want of affection or earnestness on my part, and will help me with your kind words and earnest prayers, that what remains of my life may be spent to the glory of God, and to the good of the Church, over which the Lord hath made me an overseer.

Praying for a blessing on what has been done, and what remains to be done, I remain,

Your faithful and affectionate friend,

JOHN FREDERICTON.

The Clergy of the Diocese of Fredericton.—*The St. John Globe.*

THE LATE JUDGE WETMORE.—The funeral of the late Judge Wetmore took place in the afternoon of March 9th, and was attended by an immense concourse of people representing all classes of citizens, an evidence of the respect with which he was held by the community. Nearly all the members of the Legislature were present. There was a large number of floral offerings sent in by friends, and which covered the coffin. The funeral took place to the Cathedral where the service was conducted by the Metropolitan, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Alexander. At the grave in Forrest Hill Cemetery the service was read by the Rev. Canon Roberts. During the service in the Church the hymn "The Saints of God" was sung, and was most impressive. The Barrister's Society attended in force, preceding the hearse in its course to the Cemetery. All the local papers speak highly of the character of the deceased Judge and of his abilities and impartiality in the administration of his duties.