

perfect membership of Christ; to a lively faith, ripe judgment, and sound knowledge of His will and mysteries; to a full sanctity and partaking of His Spirit.

Thus may we with propriety think of our Ble. ed Lord's Ascension. And if we thus think, we shall be thankful that amidst the disregard of holy sea-

sons and the truths they teach, which, alas! is too common in this country, our Church still lifts up the standard of primitive truth, and would teach her members to ponder upon the great fact of the Ascension into Heaven of Him who is, and ever will be, at once the Son of God and the Son of Man.

CHURCH WORK AND CHURCH PROSPECTS.—No. 1.

IT is proposed, in this paper, to speak a few words of comfort and of encouragement to those who sometimes obtain little of either, and who have no very pleasant prospect before them at the present moment,—the country clergy of this diocese. It is curious to see how exactly the state of Church livings in England is reversed in New Brunswick. In England, where "dirty acres" are invaluable, the good livings are almost always situated in the country, and the poor livings almost always in the towns. In a town of forty thousand people, you may find thirty livings, whose value is, in each case, under £150 per annum, and most of them without a house. In the country there is generally a parsonage, and frequently a respectable income. In New Brunswick, our town clergy, who are but few, are more decently provided for, (with some exceptions,) but our country clergy have a poor pittance at best, and, without home-assistance, would be, like the curate, "passing rich on forty pounds a year." Town clergy no doubt have their difficulties, but they have several great advantages of which their rural brethren are deprived. Their parishioners and their churches are near at hand. Their services, generally speaking, do not exceed two on Sunday. They are in the centres of life and intelligence. They can take advice from each other, and the laity. They have libraries within easy reach. They are never prevented from visiting the sick, or from getting to church, by impassable roads. They never go to church, after making their own track through the snow, and are obliged to return, because no one but themselves would face the storm. If they are in need, there is generally some wealthy parishioner who will help them. If they want to grumble, there

is always some one to listen to it, and a little grumbling is thought to do a man's heart good. But what is a poor man to do, who is fifty miles from his nearest brother, as is the case with some of our clergy? Now when we look at all these difficulties, and at others, which seem ready to fall upon us, we may as well look back a little at times gone by, and try to gather up some of the fragments of work done under great discouragements, in the diocese, in hope that the same kind Providence which has brought us so far, will still watch over our struggles and keep us to the end.

All colonial work, then, of all kinds, seems to be best described by that expressive word, SCRAMBLE. Men scrambled into the country, and they scrambled through it; they scrambled into its forests, and they scrambled out again; they scrambled up its rivers, and down its rivers, and into its swamps; they scrambled for logs, and they scrambled for houses, and they scrambled for food, and for clothes, and for education, and for all the necessities, and for what they could get of the comforts of life. There is another local word, now unfortunately in danger of being utterly forgotten, which well describes what men went through in early colonial days. It is the name given to what is now dignified with the genteeler title of Upper Woodstock. Till lately it was called, and admirably called, HARD SCRAMBLE. It precisely points out what a country missionary often met with when he first went into the remote districts. Indifferent lodging, coarse food, rough roads, no near neighbours, people all scattered about, men continually in the woods, or driving logs, plenty of sects, but no union, difficulties about getting Churchmen together, and keeping them together, about getting up a