

DIocese OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE BISHOP reminds the Clergy who have not yet sent in their returns for 1882 that they ought to have been forwarded in the first week of this month.

THE following was adopted at the last meeting of Synod, and is published for the information of Clergy and Laity:— "That the Synod recommend that once a year a sermon be preached in each Parish, in which the claims of King's College shall be brought before the people, and a collection be taken for the funds of the College."

A MEETING of the Lunenburg Rural Deanery will be held at Lunenburg on Wednesday and Thursday, January 24th and 25th, at which the Clergy of the Deanery are respectfully invited to attend. The services will commence at the Parish Church on Wednesday morning, at half-past ten o'clock.

W. E. GELLING,
Secretary.

HALIFAX.—The anniversary service in connection with the Church of England Institute is to be held on to-morrow (Thursday) evening, at 8 o'clock, in St. George's Church. The service, as usual, will be full choral, the united choirs of all the churches, under the direction of Prof. S. Porter, organist of St. Paul's, taking part, and the preacher for the occasion is to be the Rev. Canon Oringstocke, Rector of Trinity Church, St. John, N. B. It is to be hoped that a crowded congregation will attest their interest in the Institute's welfare, by being present. There will be a celebration of the Holy Communion for members of the Institute and others in St. Luke's Cathedral at 7.30 a. m.; St. George's Church at 8 a. m. The offertory at both services will be devoted to the purposes of the Institute.

St. Luke's.—The Rev. F. R. Murray left for a trip to Jamaica on Monday week. Mr. Murray, although steadily improving, was hindered by the excessive cold weather from making more rapid advances towards complete restoration to health, and his physician thought it better that he should remove to a more temperate climate for a few weeks. Mr. Murray is expected back about Easter. His people, to whom he has endeared himself, will anxiously look for his recovery and return.

NEW HAVEN, C. B.—While in England the Travelling Missionary in Cape Breton received from some kind English ladies a box of presents—useful and ornamental—for a Christmas tree for the children of the Sunday School of St. Andrew's Church, New Haven. On the evening of Tuesday, Dec. 26th, (St. Stephen's Day), the children of that place and the adjoining Cove were gathered in the upper room of the store of Mr. Murdoch MacLeod, the merchant of Neil's Harbor, who had kindly placed the room at the disposal of the Mission, and had cleared it out himself at no small trouble. At 7 o'clock the eager little ones, who had collected at the door long before the appointed hour, were admitted with their parents to view the wondrous tree bearing such strange fruit—a tree weighed down with beautiful presents, and all aglow with the bright gaily-coloured tapers, thoughtfully supplied by the same kind hands who had packed the box. Over the top hung a Chinese lantern. All day the Missionary's wife, with one, a "Mother in Israel," who knew the name and age of every child in the two harbors, had been busy apportioning the presents for the 82 children, who now, with rapt faces, gazed for the first time upon a Christmas tree. One man present thought once, many a long year ago, in England he had seen a like tree; another had read or "heard tell" of one, but honestly avowed he had never thought to see a "Christmas tree." A useful present, with a Christmas card and a toy or something to amuse, was given to each child; and soon warm mufflers and thick mittenees, with Tam O' Shanter's or knives and bags of sweets were stowed away with baby socks, &c., to be unfolded and opened at home, to which all dispersed at 9.30, having first given three cheers for the kind English ladies who had proved their love for our dear Lord by giving help and pleasure to some of His little ones in Cape Breton.

LUNENBURG.—The Christmas decorations of St. John's Church are in no wise inferior to those of former years. The beautiful interior of the church contributes exceptionally to the success of any attempts at ornamentation, while at the same time profusion is necessary to satisfy the many prominent features in its style of architecture. Both these peculiarities have been satisfied in the work of the present year, and the result is very gratifying to the observer without at all wearying by heaviness. A notice of a few of the most prominent features may not be uninteresting. Beginning at the chancel, the altar frontal is in three panels of white with crimson margins, each panel holding a suitable text in gold. Each arched casement of the beautiful chancel window is surmounted by a simple evergreen wreath. A screen of three arches divides the chancel about the centre of the choir stalls. Along the front of the screen, over the arches, are the words "Immanuel, God with us" in old English letters, gold on blue background. In the capital of each of the two centre pillars is a large golden star, with a smaller central star in imitation of polished granite surrounded by numerous stars of gold on white, the whole tastefully interwoven with evergreen. Suspended from the apex of the organ chapel arch is a huge six-pointed star of evergreen-bordered crimson, in whose points are six smaller

stars of silver, while in its centre is a circle of gold surrounding another golden star. In the arch over the vestry is the same design, everything harmonizing perfectly with the chancel ceiling, which is frescoed in imitation of a blue, star-studded sky. The pulpit is paneled with white and evergreen, each panel containing some symbol; the lectern garlanded with graceful wreaths, and both pulpit and lectern have banners of crimson bordered white with mottoes, "Peace on Earth" and "The Word of God" respectively. The wreathed font contains a beautiful collection of pressed ferns and autumn leaves. The body of the church is also tastefully decorated, well-formed wreaths hanging in graceful curves from rafter to rafter across the nave, while from the projections are alternate circles of evergreen and banners with Christmas texts. The ends adjacent to the chancel are ornamented with panels and texts in a manner defying adequate description—the golden letters of "The King of Kings, the Lord of Lords" on a ground of coan purple within Gothic arches producing a soothing and gratifying effect. Over the long stained glass windows at the sides are texts of gold, lake and blue Roman letters on white cloth. Looking toward the rear of the Church we find there, too, no pains spared to beautify and adorn. Festoons, garlands, borderings and texts are as numerous here as elsewhere. Away up over the end gallery, around the arch opening into the tower, in the centre of which is the stained-glass end window, is one line of a Christmas hymn "He that was born upon this joyful day," while straight across the gallery, seeming to form the impost of the arch since the intermediate space is lost to view, is the completing line, "Around us all his glory shall display." The pillars supporting the gallery are garlanded, and short festoons of evergreen stretch from pillar to pillar looped at the centre between every two pillars by a tuft of evergreen. Over the centre two side doors are the texts "Lift up your heads O ye gates," "Ye lift up ye everlasting doors," "The King of glory shall come in." Besides the interest taken in the decoration by several ladies of the congregation great credit is due to Mr. Wm. Solomon who not only designed the work but, unaided except as to the heavier work of placing ladders and hanging the rafters, carried it into effect.

NEW ROSS.—Divine Service on Christmas Day in Christ's Church both morning at 10.30, with celebration, and evening at 7. The church, with its new east window, its sittings and other sundry improvements, together with more complete and tasteful decorations than last year, presented a very cheerful inviting interior. We have lately purchased two new cylinder stoves, with Russia-iron tops, 5 feet high, of W. A. Craig, Bridgetown, of a style and patent which we can cordially recommend to such rural churches as wish to combine ornament with utility. Large congregations, with over 60 communicants at the celebration, at both services, which were choral throughout, the Pr. Pss. according to Helmore, rendered by a full double choir, and our young organist, Miss Mary E. Skerry, as usual delighted us all with her careful and neat execution of the accompaniments. Collections for Superannuation Fund, \$2.31. Celebrations on St. Stephen's and St. John's Days, at 10 a. m.

DIocese OF FREDERICTON.

FREDERICTON.—The opening of the new Church of England Hall on Tuesday evening, January 2nd, was an event of much interest and importance in the history of this Parish. Owing to an uncertainty as to the building being ready by Tuesday, the notice given to the parishioners was brief and imperfect; but in spite of this the main hall, which will hold nearly 400, was well filled. The Metropolitan presided, and called on the Rector to conduct the short service completed for the occasion. The Rev. F. Alexander, Sub-Deacon, read the lesson and kindly accompanied with the organ the chanting of the glorias, and the singing of several stirring hymns. The Metropolitan then made a vigorous address, setting forth the need that had long existed for such a building as that in which they were then assembled, and the many useful purposes to which it would be applied in the Church work of the parish. He spoke especially of the meetings of the Synod and Diocesan Church Society, of the Church of England Temperance Society, of the Sunday-school which had quite outgrown its present quarters, of Bible classes, sewing society, and other parochial organizations, and closed with a strong appeal for such liberal contributions from the parishioners that the Building Committee might be enabled to hand over the building to the Church entirely free from debt. The Rector then spoke briefly of his great happiness in the success of an undertaking which had been near to his heart for years, of the ample accommodation which the building afforded for the prosecution of Church work of every kind, of the thoroughness of its construction, and of the zeal and cordiality with which the Building Committee had co-operated with him in bringing their important enterprise to its present satisfactory condition. He then called on the Treasurer, A. A. Sterling, Esq., who made a very lucid statement of the present financial position of the Committee, showing that the land, building and furniture would cost about \$4,700, of which upwards of \$2,000 had been paid, and part of the balance was guaranteed by subscription. His Hon. the Chief Justice then appealed in energetic terms to the liberality of those present, setting a good example by a generous increase of his own subscription. The collector's book was then passed round the room, and when returned was found to have \$340 added to its list. This first pleasant gathering in the new hall was then closed with the doxology sung heartily by all.

PARISH OF BURTON.—On Tuesday the 19th of December a musical and literary entertainment was held in the Temperance Hall, Oromocto, for the purpose of paying for much needed repairs on the Rectory, and for increasing the endowment fund of the parish, of which a beginning was made this year 1881. The evening was fine, and many enjoyed the pleasure of hearing the Rev. George Love, Rector of Kingsclear, recite one of Byron's most pathetic and beautiful pieces. As an encore he gave those famous lines of Shakespeare, "To be or not to be," and all listened with rapt attention as he recited (as only an Irishman could) "The Bells of Shandon." The rector of the parish, the Rev. William Greer, gave a humorous reading, and the Rev. G. H. Sterling, Rector of Maugerville, and Mrs. Parker, of Fredericton, sang several tunes to the great enjoyment of all who heard them. The choir of St. John's Church, Oromocto, rendered with good effect one of Mendelssohn's open air songs, "In a Wood." One of the most pleasing features of the evening was the lively music furnished by the band of the Messrs. Hughes. This is not the first time that they have kindly given their services in aid of Church work. "God Save the Queen" was played about 10 o'clock, after a most enjoyable evening. The receipts amounted to forty-two dollars. Any contributions towards increasing the Endowment Fund of Burton will be most thankfully received and gratefully acknowledged by the Rector's wife, Mrs. Greer, or by Mrs. T. A. Beckwith, Treasurer of the Sewing Society of St. John's Church. Most cordial thanks are due to the Rev. R. Simonds, formerly Rector of this parish, for the sum of twenty-five dollars in aid of the Fund.

BEAUFORT.—On December 28th the Bishop Coadjutor visited this settlement, which has been for some time without any ministerial visit. The people welcomed him very cordially, and expressed themselves as grateful for an opportunity of meeting together for public worship. Mrs. Mills, the wife of the Crown Lands Commissioner, has a flourishing Sunday School, and has trained a large proportion of the scholars to sing very nicely indeed. After the service several carols were sung, and one little child, only seven years old, sang a solo with a very sweet voice and accuracy in time and tune. By the kindness of some friends in St. John a sum of money has been raised for a Sunday School library, which will, it is hoped, be in use before Easter.

DIocese OF QUEBEC.

(From our own correspondents.)

The fifteenth session of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec was convened in the city of Quebec on the ninth of January. It was opened by divine service choral in the Cathedral. After service the Synod organized to the National School Hall.

The attendance of the clergy was good, with the exception of those in the Lower St. Lawrence Missions. The laity were not so fully represented as usually, perhaps owing to a winter session.

The Bishop's address, which we will publish in our next issue, was of a practical nature. Of the important measures which received the Synod's endorsement, the first had reference to the payment of the Board's missionaries. It had been the custom of the Board to deduct from the missionary's stipend each quarter, for the time being, the amount of indebtedness by the mission to the Board. This was considered an injustice to the missionary, inasmuch as he had fulfilled his agreement with the Board by his previous three months service. This rule is now imperative. It is to be regretted, in a conservative view, that a resolution relating to the appointment to self-supporting parishes, was lost by the lay vote. The Canon provides that the Bishop shall nominate and a parish "board of concurrence" may accept or reject the Bishop's nominee. When the Board of concurrence will not concur in the Bishop's appointment, it leads either to a dead-lock or a compromise. The amendment offered by Rev. C. Hamilton was calculated to remedy this, by giving the sole appointments to the Bishop after a rejection of five nominees. This was lost by a small lay vote.

A motion for triennial Synods was rejected, and also a motion to revert to summer instead of winter Synods.

A committee was appointed to correspond with the "Anglo-Continental Society" in order to further the general circulation of that Society's publications to the diocese. This subject enlisted much discussion by the leading minds of the Synod.

A Committee was also appointed with the view of counteracting the influence of infidel and rationalistic tendencies.

The report of the "Eastern Townships Colonization Society" was adopted. This was merely the recognition by the Synod of the work of that Society, its object being to circulate amongst intending emigrants correct information respecting the Eastern Townships as a field for emigrants, and to enlist co-operation on the part of the Church. A motion requesting the Lord Bishop to direct that a collection be made in every parish or mission in the diocese during each of the three next ensuing years for the widows and orphans of Algoma, was carried unanimously.

The usual reports of the Standing Committees were adopted, with several resolutions of thanks, viz., to the Bishop, the citizens, for the "Morning Chronicle," for reduced railway fares, and the fifteenth session of the Quebec Diocesan Synod was brought to a close, after three days deliberation, by the Lord Bishop pronouncing the benediction.