

News from the Home Field.

DIOCESE OF ALGOMA.

BY REV. T. H. APPLEBY.

Our Diocese has now been in existence a little over six years, and by the abundant blessing of God and the working of His Holy Spirit upon the hearts of His people, much has been effected for the advancement of His Church, and many have been quickened into a deeper spiritual life in Christ, throughout the Algoma Diocesan portion of the Lord's vineyard.

Much of our success is due, under God, to our unwearied and self-denying Bishop, who, like a faithful chief shepherd annually visits and duly performs his episcopal functions throughout his most extensive Diocese.

It is with the deepest feeling of gratitude to our heavenly and gracious Father that we humbly acknowledge His providential care over us during the past year, and most signally has it been manifested during the last twelve months; for while we have heard scarcely anything else but the cry of "hard times" all through the Dominion, he has been pleased to pour into our treasury more abundant offerings than before, and we are enabled at the end of the old year to carry a considerable balance to the credit of our mission fund for 1880. The diocese of Toronto however is still in arrears, and the large sum of \$912 I deeply regret to say, is due as their portion towards our Bishop's stipend, but we feel sure a generous effort will be at once made to meet their liabilities, especially with regard to the latter amount.

It is cheering indeed to be able to begin the new year with a balance, but yet for our population of about 75,000 both more men and means are most urgently necessary.

In the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, where immigrants are continually flocking in, the Bishop could easily find work for five or six additional missionaries, in fact they are urgently wanted, and yet in this extended and interesting field he can only promise to place one extra man for the present. On the great Manitoulin Island where there is a population of 10,000 the Bishop is only able to promise a stipend to one additional missionary, and yet three more could be most advantageously employed. For St. Joseph's Island with a population of about 2000 we require a resident missionary, also on the north shore, in the neighborhood of the Bruce Mines ample work is waiting for another. West of the Sault another missionary will soon be wanted. The Neepigon requires another, or better still, very shortly, a white man in full orders and an Indian deacon. Then we ought to have one or two travelling missionaries among our pagan Indians.

"Lift up your eyes, then, and look on the (Algoma) fields for they are white already to harvest."

"The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few, pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

The Bishop offered \$800 per annum each for two men in good standing in priest's orders, all this autumn, and commissioned me to enquire for two such during my visit to the older dioceses, one for the Manitoulin Island and one for Rossseau in Muskoka, and yet not one efficient man offered his services, although different ones have said to me they would like very much to be engaged in our work. And why, it may be asked, had we not suitable applicants? Simply because they felt they would be called upon to give up too much by entering our diocese.

We have no surplus commutation, no superannuation, no Widows' and Orphan's Fund, no provisions to look forward to, and if a man of good standing leaves one of the older dioceses immediately he enters on the mission field of Algoma his name is at once struck off the roll of the diocese from whence he came, and participation in any of the above named funds by the present synodical action seems to be denied him.

I have heard some of our brother clergy in the other Canadian dioceses remark that most of the missionaries in Algoma are paid the liberal stipend of \$800 per annum! In reply I would merely say that in the district of Algoma some things we have to purchase are double the price they are in the front, and many are at least one third more. Then we are cut off from the the civilization of the outer world during the

winter months, and in the whole district we have not a suitable school for the education of our children. What inducements are there then to hold out to men to cast in their lot amongst us? There is in our high and holy work a thorough realization of a strong earnest faith, a secret satisfaction, a seeming larger outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the hearts of those who go, and upon those who hear the word of God, and the missionary often, oh! so often, experiences an inward peace which this world cannot give, nor, thanks be to God, can ever take away. Ours is a blessed work of simple implicit faith, a work of prayer, a labor of love, of faith in the Canadian Church's hearty, generous support.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

St. John's Church Institute.—The following is the course of Lenten Lectures arranged for Wednesday evenings during Lent:—1. "One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church," Rev. Canon Brigstocke. 2. "The English Church older than Romanism," Rev. T. E. Dowling. 3. "The Church of England during the Middle Ages," Rev. J. R. Campbell. 4. "The English Reformation," Rev. G. G. Roberts. 5. "Schools of Thought within the Church of England," Rev. Canon Partridge. 6. "Growth and development of the Anglican branch of the Church," Rev. T. Neales.

Trinity Church.—Work is actively proceeding in the interior. The outside is finished, all but the spire. The school room is finished, and has been occupied for service.

Portland.—St. Luke's.—We hoped to give our readers the architect's description of the new building, taken from the Sun, but its great length will not permit it just now. Rev. L. G. Stevens informs us that he expects to have the Church consecrated about Easter.

Church of England S. S. Teachers' Association.—This Association for the Diocese of St. John has arranged an admirable programme of meetings and services for the year. A devotional meeting was held Feb'y. 3rd. The subject of address was "The Example of our Lord Jesus Christ, spoken to by Rev. F. H. Almon and Rev. Canon De Veber. The next meeting will be April 6th. Subject—"Children's Hymnals, Services of Song, and Carols." Opened by Rev. L. G. Stevens, Mr. W. M. Jarvis.

Carleton.—Rev. Mr. Dowling is instructing candidates for the annual Lenten Confirmation. The Metropolitan is expected on the 2nd Sunday in Lent. Two hundred copies of Church Work are taken in this Parish. In this respect it is the banner Parish in the Dominion. We clip from his parochial cover the following:—

Teachers' Devotional Meeting.—Twenty-one of our willing workers in the Sunday Schools (including five Teachers from Fairville) assembled on Wednesday Evening, January 14th, to take part in a Devotional Meeting.

A short address on St. John, ch. xxi. verses 15, 16, 17, was delivered, the subject being "The Principle of Christian Work." Our Teachers' Meetings generally deal with details in the organization of the Schools, but this one—the first, and let us hope not the last of its kind—bore directly on the Teachers' personal application of THE GOOD SHEPHERD's simple and yet searching question:— "LOVEST THOU ME?"

Deanery of Kingston, N. B.—About a year ago the clergy of this Deanery, at one of their usual meetings, after discussion, organized the Deanery of Kingston General Union, for the purpose of improving the choirs and promoting congregational singing in the Churches of the Deanery. The management was placed in the hands of three officers—a President, a Secretary, Treasurer and a Conductor, and it was resolved that an annual subscription of fifty cents should constitute membership. During the winter months from the various choirs of the Deanery have been at work upon the following selection of music for an evening service:—Magnificat, to Single Chant, by Tallis, in G.; Nunc Dimittis, Single Chant, by Barnaby, in E.; Psalms, the 17th and 48th, to Single Chant, by Tarrant, in F., the pointing used being Elvey's; Hymns, from the New Edition of Ancient & Modern, 235—"O what the joy and the glory must be"; 365—

"O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea"; 479—"Now thank we all our God," and 431—"Disposer Supreme," and the Anthems—"O Taste and See," by Dr. A. Sullivan.

The Conductor (the Revd. Canon Medley) has also visited several of the Parishes and held preliminary practices, so that when the Union hold its first general meeting, all knew what was required.

This first meeting was held at Rothesay on Thursday last (Jan. 29th.) Contributions were there from several Parishes.—Rothesay, Greenwich, Hampton, Kingston, Morton, Springfield and Sussex—forming in all a choir of fifty-four members of the Union. Eight members were absent.

A practice of the choirs was held at the Church, at 11.30 A. M. Unfortunately, in consequence of a delay of the train, Revd. Canon Medley was absent, but things went fairly. After this a splendid lunch was provided for the members of the Choral Union by Mrs. Partridge and the ladies of Rothesay; at the Rectory, and then at 3 P. M. came the service. The Conductor had, by this time, arrived. The President of the Union and Rector of the Parish acted as accompanist. There were eight other clergy present. Prayers were said by Revd. D. Pickett, Rural Dean; Lessons by Revd. T. E. Dowling and Revd. E. A. Warneford, and Revd. L. G. Stevens preached.

The singing was, on the whole, steady and good. There is always a good deal of difficulty in getting a number of choirs to sing together, especially since the pointing is not that generally used by several of the choirs. The Psalms and Canticles, however, were clearly sung with the words far more distinct than is usual in such cases.

The hymns also went well—perhaps "Disposer Supreme," to Handel's glorious tune, the best while the hymns sung after the offertory—"O Lord of Heaven, and Earth, and Sea"—was the least steady.

The anthem was rendered correctly and with spirit, showing a great deal of care in the preparation of the various choirs, which will doubtless tell in improved singing at home.

And altogether the day was not only a most enjoyable one, but one spent usefully and well in the endeavour to mutually improve one another in the performance of the musical part of our simple Parish services.

The spirit and heart with which, after the Benediction, the choir sang "Now thank we all our God," expressed the feeling of all present for the glorious opportunity of meeting together from our various homes, and, we may hope, that from this small beginning, greater things will grow.

Hampton.—We regret to hear that the Rev. George Gardner has gone to Algoma. He is a loss to the Diocese.

Aberdeen.—The Rev. A. Hoady is endeavouring to put up a building for the Beaufort Settlers, where Worship may be held. To assist in this object, drawing room concerts have been held in St. John, with very successful results.

Sackville.—This Parish requires a Clergyman. It is the centre for the Methodist Schools, and needs an able and prudent man.

Shediac.—St. Andrew's Church.—Mrs. John Bell, an aged lady, lately deceased, whose interests were identified with this Parish, has bequeathed \$300 to the Corporation, and \$50 to the Sunday School.

Moncton.—A most successful drawing room concert was given by the choir on behalf of the Organ Fund, at the house of the Hon. Judge Botsford. A limited number of tickets was sold, and 70 persons were comfortably seated. The concert was a great success in every way. The instrumental pieces of the Misses Carrie and Justine Dunham, and Mrs. Elliott were much admired. There was a charming Piano Trio by Mr. A. A. Rankin, Miss Agnes Taylor, and Miss Carrie Dunham. The vocal music was excellently sung. Mr. Rankin deserves great credit for his efforts:

OUR MR. SHAW has met with good success so far in New Brunswick. He has been out a little over three weeks, and has obtained over 250 subscribers. In Rothesay he got over 50 names, making 80 in all in that parish. Canon Partridge, to whom he expresses himself

much indebted, went with him through the parish. A large number has been added to our list in St. John, Portland and Carleton, and Mr Shaw hopes to bring the number in these places up to 500 before he is done. Our paper is working its way into homes, where a Church paper has never gone before, and its influence will be felt. We feel sure that New Brunswick will materially add to our strength, judging from the good beginning that Mr. Shaw has made.

NEW DENMARK.—The Danes are making strenuous efforts to complete their Church for consecration. They greatly need \$200 for this purpose. What Churchman will help them in their praiseworthy object?

Sussex.—A large class is under instruction for Confirmation in Sussex and Studholm. A S. School House is contemplated as among the necessities for Parochial work. The ladies have \$200.00 in hand towards it, and it is hoped will soon take active steps to increase this sum.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

We are given to understand that while there has been a small deficit in the receipts from the city Churches to the Home Mission Fund of the diocese, the amounts so far received from the country parishes are in some cases considerably in advance of previous years.

What is wanted is an organization of a permanent character in each parish to foster an interest in the cause, and to stimulate the people to offer of their substance to Him whose bounty has given them all that they possess.

Rosette.—The Rev. W. S. Gray, whose health compelled him to make a trip across the Atlantic, has returned home greatly improved in health.

We heartily pray that our brother may, in the good providence of God, be able to continue his work, blessed with restored health and strength.

Pictou.—We had the pleasure of a visit from the Rev. Mr. Edgcomb, the popular Rector of this parish, and we are glad to learn that the work is prospering in his hands. He has our best wishes.

Truro.—A very successful concert was recently given in Truro, towards the Church Fund, and over \$100 realized therefrom. It is to be repeated after Easter.

Seaford.—The Rev. J. W. Norwood, the Rector of this parish, has had a tumor of considerable size removed from his neck. We rejoice to learn that Mr. Norwood is doing well, and that he is able to resume his duties.

Dr. Weeks, the Warden of Dartmouth, has shown his interest in the people at the head of Chezetook, and in the cause of religion, by contributing \$5 towards the completion of St. George's Church at that place.

Sackville.—Permit me, through the medium of your columns, to make an appeal to the Churchmen of the Dominion, and more especially of this Province, on behalf of the Sackville Parsonage Fund. It is now nearly a twelve-month since (the old house being utterly unfit for human habitation) the people of this parish began to build a new Parsonage for their Rector, and although every effort has been put forth, and many kind friends in other places have in a true Christian spirit, contributed towards its completion, we yet find ourselves in need of about \$400 before it can be made ready for occupation. Having taxed our own financial strength to the utmost, and having obtained from personal friends all that we can expect them to give, we are compelled to make this GENERAL APPEAL to those who have been blessed by God with the ability to help us. This is a very urgent case, as the Rector is obliged to reside several miles from the nearest Church, while he has two others to serve, as well as an outstation, still further away. If all those who read this APPEAL will contribute even one quarter of a dollar each (which may be sent in postage stamps to the care of the GUARDIAN office), we may surely hope that sufficient money will be forthcoming to complete the building.

WILLIAM ELLIS.

St. Margaret's Bay.—The Rector of St. Margaret's Parish begs to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the fol-

lowing:—Jan. 1879, \$29; Feb., \$19; May, \$10; June, \$10; Aug., \$10; Oct., \$7; total, \$67,—collected by Mrs. F. H. D. Veith, of Halifax, towards St. Peter's Chapel in this Parish, and also for same object, \$2. Nfld. currency, collected by Mrs. Ferns, of Halifax; also for Bell for Parish Church, collected by W. E. Baine, Esq., \$9.50; given for new Organ by D. Gruchy, Arichat, \$5; also, for Chancel of Parish Church, from John Croucher, Esq., Barrington, \$5.

HALIFAX.—C. of E. Institute.—A fair and appreciative audience attended to hear the lecture delivered on Monday evening by Mr. J. Y. Payzant, "on Religious Unreason." The subject was the difficulties which thinkers, non-thinkers, and free thinkers of the present day experience in deciding what to believe in regard to religion.

The lecturer, elegant in diction, sound in logic, and eloquent throughout, contained a great number of points for earnest consideration, and was interspersed with pleasant anecdotes and keen satire. In conclusion the Lecturer showed that the attacks of philosophy, and the speculations of those who were engaged in opposition of science, falsely so called, were not really a source of danger nor a cause of fear to those whose faith was built on the Rock of Ages, and the assurances of Revelations as to man's higher destiny and future bliss. He paid a graceful and feeling tribute to the work and brilliant talents of the late lamented Prof. DeMillo. As also did Rev. Dr. Kill, who introduced and offered some appropriate remarks in connection with the Lecturer's topics.—Mail.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Charlottetown.—St. Paul's.—The adjourned discussion of St. Paul's Church Association took place on Friday evening, from eight to ten o'clock. The point raised was as follows: The British Church was exterminated by the Saxons, and no trace of Christianity or of Church buildings remained in England, and that as a Church we are an outcome of the Church of Rome and nothing more. Supported by Messrs. L. H. Davies, R. Shaw, and A. B. Warburton. A contrary position as follows: The British Church did exist when Augustine landed, and fought the Church of Rome on several questions; was finally merged by diplomacy. Supported by Lieut. Dixon, R. N., Revds. D. Fitzgerald, A. Osborne, Messrs. R. Fitzgerald, Newbury and Welsh. Mr. A. Peters joined in the discussion but it was not clear what theory he supported. Mr. T. Williams argued the British Church was destroyed, and if any Church had a right to claim descent from the Christian Church in opposition to Augustine, it would be the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. The discussion was kept up with much spirit, but the speech of the evening was made by Rev. D. Fitzgerald. There was a large attendance.

The Men's Bible Class from eight to nine p. m., Wednesdays, is flourishing. We are going through the Epistle to the Romans. The Women's Bible Class from 3.30 to 4.30 p. m., Thursdays, has been in operation for three months. We have studied St. John's Gospel, Epistle to Ephesians, Epistle to Galatians, St. James' Epistle, and now commencing Revelation of St. John. The Ladies' Sewing Society is doing good work. Mr. Charles Palmer, Superintendent of the Sunday School, is lecturing on the Book of Common Prayer, to the scholars, after the usual lessons, on Sunday. At the Children's Service, 3 p. m., on the first Sunday of the month, Mr. Osborne is taking up the Doctrines, Usages, and Holy Days of the Church.

St. Paul's Church Association.—The Rev. D. Fitzgerald read a paper, on Friday evening, the 6th inst., on "Christian Missions to the Heathen." Louis H. Davies, Esq., in the chair. After the paper the chairman spoke well on the cause of the rapid spread of Christianity in the Apostolic age; pointed to the decline of missionary zeal through many centuries; the revival of the Jesuits, and the present earnestness of the Church of England. A discussion was kept up by Messrs. F. Peters, Lieut. Dixon, R. N., A. Peters, Dr. Leeming, Charles Palmer, F. W. Hales, Rev. A. Osborne, Thos. Williams. The Rector replied in an eloquent speech against the position taken up by some of the speakers: the position being that Protestant Missions were more or less a failure, and that the Jesuits were the successful missionaries.