

News from the Home Field.

Gathered specially for this paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.—*Church of England Institute.*—The Committee intend having entertainments at the Freemasons Hall on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Mrs. Jarley, brilliant tableaux, and the Haydn Quintette Club are on the programme. We hope that the people of Halifax will crowd the building.

Cow BAY, C. B.—A tea meeting and fancy sale were held at South Head, on Wednesday, Feb. 6th, by the ladies of Christ Church. Our numerous friends in this and distant parts of the Mission had been looking forward for some time to a pleasant sleigh drive, a good tea and an enjoyable meeting with their friends; and in order to secure this, almanacs were duly consulted and compared by the committee, and although they varied very considerably as to the probable state of the atmosphere at the time appointed, they all agreed to provide a moon of sufficient size and power, to be visible in the whole Mission. On the day and hour appointed, the good tea was provided; the moon was in the very place in which the almanacs said she would be; but alas! for the anticipated sleigh drive—alas! for Jehu and his fair one, who was longing to witness his furious driving—the snow, so necessary for the occasion, had “melted and gone,” and the only appearance of winter was the narrow strip of ice between the harbour and the house where the sale was to be held. But in spite of the occasional showers of rain and conspicuous appearance of waggon wheels on the harbour ice, the gathering was an unusually good one. An excellent tea was provided at 30 cents. At the same time, the work of the committee during the past year was exhibited in another room. Aprons with stripes, and aprons without stripes, were in abundance; and owing to the careful manipulation and gentle pleading of the young lady in charge, a number of those useful articles were disposed of. The “wild and deadly raspberry vinegar” was dealt out at a fixed price per glass; and whilst, no doubt, this accounts for the wild actions of some on the occasion, the large proportion of water, as compared with the raspberry vinegar, as clearly accounts for the handsome profits in that particular branch. The auctioneer was no less in earnest at the work assigned to him, and disposed of the cakes, etc., in a manner which resulted in credit to himself and profit to the committee. The sum of \$60 was realized, and will be devoted to Church purposes. Whilst it would be difficult to decide on any one person of the committee as excelling in zeal, owing to the great interest displayed by all, we would tender our thanks to Miss Jane Spencer, for her kindness in giving the use of her house for the occasion, and to all the kind friends who assisted.

A building committee has been formed with A. Belloni, Esq., as chairman, for the erection of a parsonage house in Cow Bay, and the work is to be proceeded with at once.

In the deaths of Senator Bourinot, of Sydney, and Sir Edward Archibald, of London, this part of the Mission has lost two kind and liberal friends. We tender our deepest sympathy to the bereaved.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

ST. JOHN.—The Church of England Teachers' Sunday School Association held a regular meeting on Tuesday evening, in Trinity Church school room. The Secretary, Rev. F. S. Sill, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, the Rev. gentleman having accepted a charge in the Diocese of Albany. Addresses, of an interesting character, were delivered by Mr. Sill, and also by the Rev. S. G. Schofield and G. O. Troop. Mr. W.

S. Carter was elected to succeed Mr. Sill as Secretary of the Association.

THE annual soiree of the Mission Church was held in the school room of the Church, on Tuesday evening, 12th inst., and was largely attended. The proceedings consisted of conversation among the members. The ladies provided a bountiful display of refreshments, which were handed round. The Rev. Mr. Davenport, the Mission priest, read a Report of the work of the Church during the year ending 31st December, 1883, of which the following is a summary:—Forty-four fresh names had been added to the roll of communicants; 11 left the city; one died; total number at present, 103. During the year, 22 infants and 6 adults were baptized, and 13 persons confirmed by the Metropolitan. The usual number of celebrations and services were held, four on Sundays, and 13 to 15 on week-days, in all 995, with 183 services, 38 lections, and a weekly public catechising of the children in Church, besides various classes for instruction. The Church has been enriched with several valuable gifts of Church furniture from anonymous donors, including a handsome pulpit. A fund of \$250 was raised for building an organ chamber, and removing the organ from the west end. Also, a bell was subscribed for, cast in Messrs. Warner's bell foundry, England, the founders who cast the Fredericton peal. Good work was done by the womens' branch of the guild for the altar, and other needs of the Church; also, for some of the needy country Churches of the diocese. The work done by this society for gifts and funds for Church work amounted to \$529.00 during the year. \$583.82, including childrens' boxes, was given to the D. C. S.; \$94, and various gifts to the sick and needy; \$60 for Sunday School library. Next year, it is to be hoped, the Church will be in a position to make good grants to Foreign Missions, such as Rev. F. Benson's Indian Missions and the struggling Bloemfontein Mission, South Africa. The Sunday School, under the efficient management of Mr. Frith, has increased its numbers and efficiency. The night school is progressing favorably under Mr. Hurd Peters. A guild, consisting of four wards, has been started for men, women boys and girls. A large number of excellent tracts, published by the Church League at New York, has been circulated. Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Frith, Hurd Peters, G. A. Schofield and Steel, and the staff of teachers; also to Rev. Dr. Simpson and Rev. G. J. D. Peters, for kind services in the absence of the priest; also to Mr. Black, architect, of Boston, for several designs and working drawings given by him from time to time.

CHATHAM.—The 4th in the St. Mary's series of popular evening entertainments came off in the school-room on Monday evening, the 11th inst. As usual, the room was filled with an appreciative audience, and the performance elicited much commendation.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

LONDON SOUTH.—As the Board of Missions in the circular lately read in the several churches in the Ecclesiastical Province asked for \$50,000 for this year, a member of St. James' Church, London South, at the missionary meeting held last week, suggested that 1,000 men give \$50 each, or 2,000 give \$25 each, and he offered to be one of either number, and considered that there should be no trouble in having that suggestion carried out.

WOODSTOCK.—On Sunday, 3rd inst., during the absence of the Rector, the services were conducted by Rev. Mr. McKenzie, Brantford, who preached an eloquent and impressive sermon to a large audience. The collections were much in excess of former years.

PARIS.—The Bishop has appointed Rev. J. L. Strong, of Port Stanley, to be incumbent of St.

James' Church, Paris, vacant by the removal of Rev. Mr. Caswell to the Brantford Indian Mission.

ST. MARY'S.—On Sunday morning, 3rd inst., the Bishop administered the rite of confirmation to about fifty candidates in St. James' Church, and preached at the evening service. On Monday evening the annual missionary meeting was held, when the Bishop and Revs. Patterson, Deacon and Turnbull addressed the meeting.

BRANTFORD.—The Rev. J. D. Caswell has resigned the rectory of Paris, and been appointed to the rectory of Kanyungeh, on the Grand River, among the Six Nations Indians.

ST. JOHN'S, WOODHOUSE, AND CHRIST CHURCH, VICTORIA.—*Bishop Baldwin's Visit.*—On Sunday, 20th January, the Bishop of Huron preached to a full church at Vittoria, and the large congregation seemed much impressed by his earnest appeal to “come unto Jesus.” On Monday, 21st, St. John's Church was well filled by an audience who listened with wrapt attention while the Bishop preached to them from the words “Behold I stand at the door and knock.” After the service most of the congregation met at the residence of Hiram Bowlby, Esq., where a reception was given the Bishop and Mrs. Baldwin. All were very highly pleased with the whole proceedings. The following address was presented, to which the Bishop replied feelingly:—Right Rev. Father in God,—On behalf of the congregation which we represent and on our own behalf, we desire, on the occasion of this your first visit to our parish as our Bishop, most cordially to extend to you the “right hand of fellowship” and to bid you “God speed” in your most important work. We believe that we express the unanimous feeling of the two congregations when we say that we are deeply thankful to the Great Head of the Church that He has called you to preside over our Diocese as its chief Pastor. Your well-known earnestness in preaching “Jesus Christ and Him crucified” is an assurance that your ministrations among the many thousands to whom you will have the opportunity of proclaiming the everlasting Gospel will be blessed of God to many souls. Your faithfulness and ability in doing battle against the sins and errors of the times in which we live will, we are confident, stir up many to “arise and put their armour on.” Your great loving anxiety for the salvation of immortal souls is a guarantee that the missionary work of our Church will “prosper in your hands.” We earnestly pray the Lord of the Harvest may abundantly bless your work, that you may be spared to discharge the responsible duties of your high and honoured position and that you and Mrs. Baldwin may find a happy home in our diocese, as we are certain you will find a warm place in the affections of our members of our Church. Wm. B. Evans, B. A., R. D., Rector of St. John's Church, Woodhouse, and incumbent of Christ Church, Vittoria; James Covernton and Alfred Ades, Church Wardens of St. John's Church; Henry Selby and James Smyth, Church Wardens of Christ Church.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

BALDERSON.—His Lordship the Bishop of Ontario has authorized the Rev. D. V. Gwilym to collect subscriptions throughout the Diocese towards building a new church at Balderston. Although the congregation is very small, eight hundred and fifty dollars have been promised on the spot.

OTTAWA.—*Agnosticism.*—It will be remembered that during the last session of the Diocesan Synod, held at Kingston, in June, the Bishop read a paper on “Agnosticism,” which has since been published by request in pamphlet form. Mr. W. D. Le Seur, B. A., Assistant Secretary, Post Office Department, Ottawa, has just published a reply entitled “A defence of Modern Thought.” Some time ago the Bishop preached an able sermon on this subject before His Excellency the Governor General, the Marchioness of Lansdowne