

friends at Christmas time has done well, but what proportion of those who profess and call themselves Christians go on to do in the same proportion for God's family, of which they are members? We would not disparage or regard with indifference the Christian giving by which churches have been built and the Gospel has been in a measure sustained in almost every hamlet of the civilized world, by which hospitals and schools have been founded and missions have been established in all lands; these are all indisputable evidences that the Gospel of Christ has a power over the hearts of men that no other religion ever approximated. Measured by the test of giving, in the aggregate, we need not be ashamed of our faith nor shrink from comparison.

All this is true; yet when we come down to individual giving, and set over against a fair estimate of obligation our knowledge of personal ability, in a wide range of observation, the contrast is disheartening. The experience of pastors and teachers is nearly everywhere the same. "Bricks without straw," have to be furnished; work without adequate co-operation has to be done; opportunities for lack of means, have to be passed by; while in most cases the money and service are at hand for doing what needs most to be done, if they were only in the hands of faithful stewards. The Lord's house is sometimes left bare or not built at all, while even the stables of the wealthy Churchman are decorated; the Lord's Table is meanly furnished, while gold and silver gleam around the festive board; the finances of the parish have to be rescued from ruin by devoted women, who work and scheme and struggle on, while a few rich people who are just as responsible for the work in proportion to their means, go summering or wintering at an expense of thousands, and satisfy their conscience by a small Sunday offering in a mission church built by poor people who are thankful for these crumbs of comfort which wealthy tourists give. A millionaire who gave fifty dollars a year to his parish, (we are stating a real case), a communicant, withdrew his subscription during a six months absence, and when a portion of his family removed from the parish, he reduced his subscription to twenty-five dollars, because he could not occupy a whole pew!

These remarks are not to be construed as implying reproach to all wealthy Churchmen, nor as intimating that those in moderate circumstances always or generally do what they can for Christ and the Church. The latter are too apt to assume that the rich ought to do everything, because the rich can "just as well do it as not." They fancy that the little they can do will not be of any use; failing to realize that the very rich are very few, while the great body of the Church is made up of those who have small incomes, and that the many small gifts might aggregate more than the few large gifts. They also fail to realize that the giving of money and service is as great a privilege and as clearly a duty for them, in their degree, as for their wealthy neighbors in theirs. If rich and poor would all come up to the measure of their ability, what an Epiphany we should have!—*Living Church.*

## News from the Home-Field.

### Diocese of Nova Scotia.

#### SALMON RIVER.

At last, the auspicious day arrived for Salmon River congregation in the formal opening of a grand church structure, which the congregation was looking forward to for the last eight years.

Eight years ago this month Mrs. Smith organized a Sewing Circle at Salmon River with a membership of fifteen ladies, Mrs. Smith being elected President, which office she has held ever since, giving full satisfaction to all interested.

The congregation was personally canvassed by Mrs. Smith, to realize funds for carrying on the work.

This task was performed under trying circumstances, as the roads were sheathed with ice, and at this season of the year money is scarce as was then. Yet on her return to the Rectory in the evening, she found that partial success had crowned her effort for the day in realizing fifteen dollars, which enabled her to purchase goods to begin operations.

The ladies of Quoddy, became imbued with the same spirit of enthusiasm to help on the good work, formed themselves into a Sewing Society, electing Miss Susan Hartling as President, which office she faithfully sustained for seven years. The two circles giving seven picnics, with grand pecuniary results.

The Salmon River circle is still continued and is doing faithful work under the labors of five or six ladies, who have constituted its membership for the last four years.

Many of the members having resigned, for reasons not known to the writer.

We, however, extend to them our grateful thanks, for their past assistance, wishing them to remember the caution, not to be weary in well doing.

As to the present workers in connection with the circle, we fail to find appropriate language to express our feelings of gratitude to them for their persistent and persevering labors, under many trials financial difficulties frequently hindering them.

Notwithstanding all the opposing forces set against their success, they have accomplished their desired end, in seeing a beautiful church built and completed for the pure worship of God.

We extend our cordial thanks to a generous public for their kind patronage on picnic occasions.

Mr. Burch of Halifax, was the architect. Mr. Alfred McCabe of Middle Musquidoboit, was the builder.

He has gained for himself a good reputation as a *Church builder*—giving entire satisfaction as to his good workmanship.

The building Committee is deserving of great praise for the able manner in which they performed their several duties.

The dimensions of the Church are: Nave 50 x 31, chancel 16 x 20. The vestry is very commodious. And a very handsome tower and spire at the N. W. corner, pointing, as well directing our thoughts to Heaven.

The windows are quarried glass, from Messrs.

Spence & Sons, Montreal, having narrow borders of colored light and appropriate designs in the east window.

The walls and roof of the interior are sealed with planed and beaded spruce of good quality from the mill of Messrs John and Martin Prest, of Mooreland and coated with hard oil finish.

The purlins, with the truss work are finished in dark walnut stain, with the Chamfers in Indian red.

A very fine Gothic arch marks the entrance to the chancel.

The Church will accommodate 275 comfortably. The seats are very easy, with Gothic ends.

The 15th ult., the day of opening, was a joyous day to many hearts.

Morning prayers were read by the Rector and the Rev. E. H. Ball of Tangier preached a very acceptable sermon from the words, "Lord I have loved the habitation of thy house."

There were present at morning service about 175 of whom over one third communicated. The preacher eulogized the congregation for some of the signs of reverence which marked their care for the old Church.

At the Evensong service, the Church was well filled, the Rector of Tangier was again the preacher, giving us a very fine Advent Sermon, explaining many important matters to the congregation, as well becoming quite eloquent at times. The congregation consisting of all creeds went away highly pleased with the preacher's forcible remarks.

The Rev. W. Selling, R. D., of Bridgewater had fully intended to be with us, expecting the opening to have been much earlier; the congregation would much like to see their former Pastor who had so faithfully ministered with them in Holy things in past days.

### PORT GREVILLE — CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

During the year past, the faithful in this parish have painted the inside of the Church, have put in a new furnace, have given a new three light chandelier for the chancel, and at Christmas a new brass cross and vases, in memoriam, were added. This work has been mainly done by the Ladies' Aid, who by the regular giving of small sums have shewn how much may be done for the House of God, when love is in the heart and directs the willing hands to open the purse.

DILIGENT RIVER.—A new bell of 250 lbs. weight has been given by the junior mission guild of the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawe, Pa., to this Church. The few steady workers here try to prove that to help themselves is the best way to call down help from above. The large parish of Parsboro, of which this is a mission, is now without a curate, who would find plenty of work and large scope for the exercise of all developing talents in assisting the Rector.

### Diocese of Fredericton.

#### NEWCASTLE.

The Christmas and Epiphany services in connection with St. Andrew's Church, were as usual, of a very joyous and bright character. The Church itself, pretty and attractive at all times, was rendered more so by the tasteful decorations. The first service on the Feast of the Nativity was, of course, a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 8.30. This was followed by full morning service at 11 o'clock and a second celebration. There was a fair number of com-