

to the Sunday-school a few Sundays ago. The Sunday-school house is being shingled and otherwise improved.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

DR. PERRY, BISHOP OF IOWA, HAS DECLINED the Election to the See of Nova Scotia; and under the resolution adopted at the last Synod, the appointment now lies with His Grace The Archbishop of Canterbury; The Archbishop of York, and the Bishop of London.

THE SERMON.

Preached in St. Luke's Pro-Cathedral, Halifax, August 12th, 1887, (being the Centenary of the Founding of the Colonial Episcopate), by The Most Rev. John Medley, D.D., Lord Bishop of Fredericton, and Metropolitan of Canada:

EPHESIANS IV, 13:—"Till we all come, in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

I must crave your indulgence, my brethren, in having undertaken, at very short notice and amidst many engagements, to address you on this important occasion. I am, however, moved to comply with the request by the consideration that this may be one of the very few opportunities which may be allowed me at the close of a long Episcopate. There is, however, a sense in which I need no apology. For I come to you with a heart full of sympathy for what is to me a deep sorrow, and with a due regard to the difficulties of your position, in which a false step may prove of lasting injury to the Church. England expects you to do something worthy of a great deliberative body, practically independent, yet by your own action morally and religiously bound to her Creeds, Articles, and her Ordinal. Your position is one of great seriousness. It requires great firmness, with a charitable feeling to every member of the Church. It demands earnest prayer for the guidance of that Divine Head, who will prosper His own handiwork if we only act on Apostolical principles, with a strong sense of religious duty. Ours is no scheming political party: it is for us to follow simply the guidance of our Master, as far as we can trace His loving, tender hand.

It would detain you far too long were I to attempt to enter into the details of the last hundred years, to which we look back with thankfulness and wonder. This has been done fully by the Secretary of the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and I hope all of us have read and pondered over that most interesting statement of facts. I shall call your attention chiefly to the following points: the marvellous success which has attended its progress, notwithstanding many hindrances; and the anxieties and duties which press upon the present generation of Churchmen.

Here we must cast a backward glance at that unhappy time, when every effort to furnish the Church with the integrity of her divine constitution was made in vain. Again and again was the petition offered: again and again was the request refused. Scanty bands of Missionaries without Dioceses, without Confirmations, with no power of organizing, no coherence, no drawing towards a common centre of unity, no facility for Ordination;—all these evils were duly represented, but were thrown into the wastebasket of official indifference; and the Order which the Divine Master founded, and His Apostles planted, was supposed to be a dangerous enemy to the Mother-State. Alas! how blind are worldly, scheming men to the State's real danger, and to those spiritual interests which

are intended for the safety, not the destruction, of the commonwealth. The statesmen of England slept till the loss of their magnificent colony aroused them fiercely from their dreams. They came with the sword to subdue a colony, and they left it a nation; smarting under a sense of injustice, burning with a desire of revenge. And when the noble-hearted Seabury hastened in person to press his petition on behalf of the Church, how tardily and ungraciously was his request admitted! How sore and sick was that undaunted heart with hope deferred and expectation thwarted, till at the last that painful reproach was wrung from him, "This is the worst place for doing any business that I have ever seen."

The same fate awaited that faithful soldier of the cross, Charles Inglis. What a mockery of sound reason and sober sense was his appointment to the Episcopate, when as the reward of his loyalty to the Crown, one single Bishop was supposed capable of presiding over all the Churchmen scattered over all the possessions of British North America. That one strong man was faithful in his day. When a hundred soldiers with muskets loaded, and with bayonets fixed, came to disturb him at his prayers, he only raised his voice the louder and beheld them with no trembling glance, that every one might hear and see that prayers are borne on angels' wings to the throne of the Most High, and that whoever else shook with fear, that man was not Charles Inglis. That one strong man was left to guide the helm alone, with duties assigned him which he could not possibly discharge. Now dim tradition pictures him slowly sailing up the River St. John, in a small schooner, baffled by winds, and camping out at night, till he could reach at length the central post. With few confined here and there, a small band of Missionaries planted, he returns without visiting the huge continent which lay beyond his powers. Surely the system, not the man was at fault.

And now let me call to mind some of the hindrances as well as the successes which have marked our path. I do not speak of the difficulties incident to travelling in those early days, but of hindrances to spiritual growth. English statesmen seem to have thought of a Bishop only as an officer of State, a useful potentate to be respected, not a primitive Bishop, mixing with the people of his charge, assisted and supported by his flock. This unprimitive method of dealing with the Episcopate may account in some measure for our want of success, and the great progress of other religious bodies of Christians. Not only did they dislike and misunderstand our Prayer book, and our services, but a Bishop was supposed to be a State officer, foreign to their conceptions. Fifty years after the original appointment, Bishop John Inglis perceived the necessity of a general contribution of Church members to all Church objects; lest, if England should withdraw her aid, the Church should fall to pieces for want of general support. His idea was an excellent one, but it is not even now perfectly understood and appreciated. There still lingers in men's minds the old notion, of a Church paid by the Government, and founded by the State. Had the Church acted on the Apostolical principle, that all who enjoy the privileges of the Gospel must contribute according to their ability to support it, the Church would have struck deeper root.

Again, it was thought fitting that those who had loyally fought for the Crown should secure for themselves and their families all the offices and pecuniary benefits which the State had to bestow. Hence the Church became identified with a party, and its original an. Apostolical foundation was by many entirely forgotten. Thus a certain narrowness of view proved a considerable hindrance to spiritual life and progress. Dissent was supposed to take the popular side, and the Church was thought to be less wide, and more exclusive than her neighbours, though when the case is fairly stated, it was

far otherwise. Yet in spite of these and other hindrances, God has blessed us with success. The Episcopate is better understood, the Clergy have multiplied, and our Missions are better supported. Above all, spiritual life has increased in the hearts of our people, and the value of our Services and our Sacraments is more fully realized by our members. Much has been lost, but not all. Much has been gained, but not all that might have been won. Success has not been commensurate with our privileges, but more than our sins and our shortcomings deserved.

(To be continued.)

PUGWASH.—The Amherst Rural Deanery held its Chapter here on the Feast of St. Matthew. The members present were Rural Dean Moore, the Revs. Dr. Bowman, J. A. Kaulbach, J. R. S. Parkinson, M. C. Wade, W. C. Wilson, A. Bent; and by invitation of the Chapter, Mr. Warner, the indefatigable lay reader at Bedford, took part in the exercises of the Chapter. At the first evensong the Rev. J. R. S. Parkinson preached a stirring address on contending earnestly for the faith, and spoke in plain terms of the lack of true heroic manliness among Churchmen in this particular. On the Feast of St. Matthew, the Rural Dean celebrated the Holy Communion, and the Rev. Dr. Bowman preached *ad clerum* a masterly sermon on the various religious systems which challenged the attention of Christians and whose foundations had been shaken if not totally destroyed by the stability of the foundation laid by the Lord Jesus. The afternoon service was held at Wallace, a distance of about 9 miles from Pugwash, and here the Rural Dean preached one of his characteristically incisive sermons on "Wash and be clean." The lesson of obedience to the ordinances of God and complete subjugation of man's will to His will was forcibly and feelingly enforced. The members returned to Pugwash and assembled at the Rectory in the evening for business. Resolutions were carried providing for the introduction of an S. P. C. K. Branch Depository at Truro, and the Rev. Rural Dean Moore, the Rev. J. A. Kaulbach, and Rev. J. R. S. Parkinson, were appointed a Committee to perfect plans. A long and useful discussion followed concerning the matter of a travelling missionary. Regret was felt at the resignation of Rev. Mr. Hudgell, and also at his absence, and a fitting tribute was paid to his energy in pushing forward a promising work in this Deanery. A first-class missionary worker, full of zeal and of the Holy Ghost is now needed to carry on what must prove, under God's blessing, a rich reward in days to come. Other business was brought forward and the usual exercises closed a brotherly harmonious and cheering re-union. Our respected Rural Dean could not refrain from expressing the deep pleasure derived by him from meeting with his old parishioners and worshipping for the first time in the new and properly arranged Church at Pugwash; and also at finding at Wallace great interest shown in the necessary repairs and improvements going on there. The pleasure was chastened with the sorrow at missing some well known faces, especially those of Mr. Jas. Blair, and Mr. McCaron. Churchwardens in the days of Mr. Moore's rectorship. All the members are deeply sensible of the kindness and hospitality bestowed upon them by the staunch Churchpeople of Pugwash. Under Mr. Bent's rectorship, despite the most desponding circumstances consequent upon deep depression in business and change of the channels of commerce, the Church band has held firmly together and advanced to higher and better things. The loyalty of the congregation to the pastor was firm and tried, and the fit order of all the appointments in the new Church shewed that the truths taught, and held by, true Churchmen were not in vain.