

Declaration of Indulgence. On the accession of William and Mary he went into retirement, and died in 1711. He was buried in the early morning at Frome, in accordance with his own desire, and at the service his friends involuntarily burst out into the beautiful words of his morning hymn. The good Bishop wrote many other hymns, but nothing can be compared with those I have mentioned. "Had he endowed three hospitals," says James Montgomery, "he might not have been so great a benefactor to posterity."

I now pass on to speak of English hymnody in the eighteenth century. We here meet the full stream of Christian poetry. Up to this time poets in distant parts, the Protestants of Germany, the Roman Catholics of France and Italy, had enriched and ennobled with many a hymn the public services of the Church, but the fountain of Christian poetry had not yet risen in England. It was partly chilled by those terrible metrical psalms, which bound, as by iron fetters, minds which would soar towards their God; and partly by the idea that nothing might be sung outside the range of Holy Scripture. But the heaven was at work, and as the outcome of spiritual life, in what was then called the Independents, we have the first kindling of the flame, the first vigorous effort to supply a great and pressing need.

The name which stands out here, first and foremost is Isaac Watts, who is not always held in the high estimation he deserves. No doubt this has arisen from his name being ever associated with some quaint and popular songs for children. He was born in Southampton in 1674. His father was a rigid Nonconformist. At four years old he began to learn Latin; at sixteen he went to an Academy in London, and he says himself "I was a maker of verses from fifteen to fifty." It is almost needless to say that many of Watts' hymns are found in all hymn books. In many respects they are noble and wonderful,—wonderful in their clear English, and in that ring which awakens and touches the heart. Of the well-known hymns we would mention:

"There is a land of pure delight
Where saints immortal reign."

And:

"When I can read my title clear
To mansions in the skies."

And:

"Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,"

a favourite with the late Archbishop Tait, and that best of all:

"When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died."

Next we come to Philip Doddridge—another Independent minister. To him we are indebted for the grand Advent hymn:

"Hark! the glad sound, the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long."

And:

"Ye servants of the Lord
Each in his office wait."

And the great Sacramental hymn:

"My God, and is Thy table spread."

This hymn was added about the year 1791 to the supplement of the New Version, at the end of the Prayer Book, by a dissenting University printer. And strangely enough, it has been thought too extreme in its doctrinal statements for some compilers of Church of England hymnals.

(To be continued.)

True repentance consists in the heart being broken for sin and broken from sin. Some often repent, yet never reform, they resemble a man travelling a dangerous path, who frequently starts and stops, but never turns back.

News from the Home Field.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

Wanted items of Home Field news week by week from this diocese. Who will send such items to us? We know The Church is not dead, but very little information appears in the local press, and very little is furnished to ourselves of the Church's doings, to our regret and we think injury of The Church.

Diocese of Fredericton.

ROTHESAY.

The Lord Bishop of Fredericton visited Rothesay on Loyalist's Day [May 18th] and held a Confirmation in St. Paul's church in the evening. There were 23 candidates in all, 9 male and 14 female, six of the former being members of the Rothesay Collegiate School. The church was filled to the doors with a very attentive congregation, and the offerings taken up without notice for the Incapacitated Clergy Fund amounted to about \$12.

THE ROTHESAY COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.

On Friday morning, 19th May, His Lordship paid an informal visit to the College, and was shown over the houses and grounds by the rector. After inspecting the dining room and school rooms the whole school, over 50 strong, turned out on the parade ground armed with the new belts and rifles lately imported from England for drill purposes, and were put through a number of movements and exercise. At the close the Bishop addressed the boys in line, expressing his pleasure at what he had seen, and specially commending them for their promptitude in discipline and drill, pointing out at the same time that the body largely influenced the mind, and that a prompt upright body helped towards a prompt upright mind. After congratulating the Rector upon the marks of discipline, His Lordship left to catch the 10.49 train for town followed by three rousing cheers and a tiger from the whole parade.

ST. JOHN.

The sixty-seventh anniversary of the organization of Trinity Church Sunday school was celebrated on Sunday, 21st May inst. In the evening a special service was held. All the children of the school were present. Rev. Canon Brigstoeke preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion and in commemoration of the event.

St. Paul's.—The Rector, Canon DeVeber, is slowly recovering from his very serious illness, and it is hoped will be able to attend a service in his church on Trinity Sunday, although it is not likely that he will for some time attempt to officiate.

The Rev. A. A. Bryant, of London, England, and formerly of the Diocese of Newfoundland, is at present in charge of the church and parish.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE.

Thursday, May 25th, was a red letter day in the history of the Church of England Institute, St. John, when it entered on the occupation of new rooms in a very advantageous situation in Germain street, with due ceremony. The new rooms comprise two storeys; the upper one, being taken up with a large hall, or assembly

room, and the other rooms for committee work; and the ground floor being divided up, so as to provide a store in the front, which has been taken by the Committee of the Depository of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge for the sale of their publications, as well as a Depository for the Bibles of the New Brunswick Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and other rooms for the Library, Reading room, and Council room.

The formal opening comprised a special service at 5 p.m., at which the Bishop of the Diocese officiated—delivering the address—as well as the Rev. Canon Brigstoeke, president, and a company of Trinity Church choristers, all duly vested in their respected vestments. The service was well attended by the members, and formed a fitting commencement of a new departure in the Institute's work. At 8 p.m. the President, and Council, with the kind aid of the Committee of Management of the Ladies' Association held a reception, which was largely attended, the rooms being crowded to excess. A good programme of instrumental and vocal music was provided for the entertainment of all present, which was followed by refreshments.

It may be added, that for the last seventeen years the Church of England Institute has carried on its work with much perseverance, and good success, and promises now to enter upon a future of greater influence and extended usefulness.

DEANERY OF ST. JOHN.

The Chapter of the Deanery of St. John held their quarterly meeting at Trinity Church, St. John, on the 23rd May inst. There was a celebration of the Holy Communion at 9.30 o'clock, followed by a deep and masterly sermon to the Clergy by the Rev. Dr. Williams. The meeting for general business followed and was held in the school house. An introductory paper on the Pastoral Epistles was read by Rev. J. de Soyres. Then followed the reading of a portion of St. Paul's first epistle translated from the original and a general discussion by the clergy present. Rev. Canon Brigstoeke, Rural Dean, read a paper on "How Best to interest Boys in Christian Work," and in the short time remaining before lunch it was briefly discussed. A resolution was adopted that the paper should form the topic of discussion at the next Clerical Association meeting.

MONCTON.

The Deanery of Shediac met here on the 15th May, when the Rev. Mr. Burt, the new rector at Shediac, gave an interesting address on "The Training of Children."

The choral service in St. George's Church at the opening of the S. S. Conference was very fine. There were twenty-two clergymen in the procession, which was very imposing. Rev. V. E. Harris, of Amherst, preached the sermon on "The Training of Children." The Conference met in the Y. M. C. A. hall. The ladies of St. George's Church provided dinner in the schoolroom for the visiting delegates.

CHURCH OF E. S. S. CONFERENCE.

The third annual Conference of the Church of England teachers of the Diocese of Fredericton met at Moncton on Thursday, 18th May. The session throughout was one of the most successful and satisfactory yet held, all discussion being carried on with spirit and enthusiasm, and delegates evincing marked interest in the proceedings. There was a celebration of Holy Communion in St. George's Church at 8 o'clock in the morning, and the Conference proper assembled at 10 o'clock in the Y. M. C. A. hall.