

*BURNT OUT.*

Last month's issue of *CHURCH WORK* was ready for mailing in the first week of the month, as our custom is. But on Saturday, Sept. 6, the Rectory of Trinity parish, Digby, the residence of Rev. John Ambrose, the editor and proprietor of *CHURCH WORK*, was burned to the ground, with most of its contents, the latter uninsured. Amongst the few things saved, however, was the remainder of our monthly not yet mailed,—hence the delay in mailing the papers for the Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, P. E. Island and Newfoundland, as also those for the North West part of the Dominion, the United States and Great Britain.

This is the second time in which *CHURCH WORK* has been burnt out, but like the Phoenix, has risen from the ashes, with renewed vigour. Judging from almost weekly letters of strong commendation and increasing confidence from our subscribers, we feel that our paper is supplying a felt want, and therefore are emboldened to ask our friends to help us to extend our circulation, and also to assist us in our proposed design to admit advertisements, increasing its size and means of support.

One grain of love to God and likeness to Him will outweigh, in its power to enrich, a whole California of gold.

*THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.*

Christian unity for which all true followers of Christ are praying can be obtained only through the survival of the fittest.

As the fisherman's net is upborne in the waves only by its floats, so any system for the spiritual catching of men can only be kept afloat and useful by the gospel truths which it teaches.

All heresies were at first floated by a portion of catholic truth, heavily weighted, however, by error—more or less. But as truth, when connected with error, gradually becomes corrupt, so the floating power of truth in such a combination is gradually lost, and—by its natural "Downward Grade"—any gospel net, so contrived, inevitably sinks and is lost. Many such nets have gone to bottom since the time of our Lord's warnings and those of St. Paul and St. John and the primitive Fathers against false doctrine, heresy and schism.

Nevertheless, in our day there are many who in our Church would have us seek for unity by assimilating her ancient system to those of ancient or modern names, or in other words, by removing from our gospel net the floats or ancient truths which are not found in the nets around us. We are, for example, advised to cut off the three Creeds,