

Sampson it has been steadily gaining ground, until now there are 140 families in connection with the congregation, and 135 communicants. The Sunday-school has 162 on the roll. Since Mr. Sampson's charge, the larger part of the congregation is entirely new. The interior of the building has been very much improved, and new heating apparatus put in. The work has been carried on in a quite unassuming way.

HALIFAX.—St. Paul's.—The "Messiah" was sung in this church last Thursday, and although the weather was disagreeable, the old historic building was crowded. The singing was carefully studied. The offertory amounted to \$96, and was for charitable purposes; one-half was given to the St. Paul's Industrial School, and the other half to the Church of England Institute. Too much praise cannot be accorded to Mr. Porter, the organist, for the trouble he took on this occasion.

AMHERST.—A most successful parlor concert in aid of the church was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Douglas on the evening of the 27th ult., when the sum of \$30 was realized. It is the intention to hold another quite soon, and to be continued at intervals during the winter.

LOWER STEWYACKE.—Meeting of Rural Deanery.—The forty-second meeting of the Amherst Rural Deanery was held at this place on Monday and Tuesday, the 25th and 26th Jan. The members of the Chapter present were Rural Dean Moore, Rev. J. A. Kaulbach (secretary), Rev. V. E. Harris, Rev. J. C. Cox, Rev. J. Edgecumbe, Rev. J. R. Parkinson, Rev. Mr. Bent, and Mr. J. E. Warner, Lay Reader at Thompson's Stations. Two other members, who were expected to arrive on Tuesday morning, were prevented doubtless by the storm on that day from being present.

On Monday evening (Conversion of St. Paul) the Rural Dean preached a good and very instructive sermon on the Gospel for the Third Sunday after Epiphany, with especial reference to the healing of the centurion's servant. He also drew a lesson from the conversion of the great Apostles to the Gentiles.

Matins were said at Holy Trinity Church on Tuesday morning. On account of the storm, the congregation was small, yet the service was a hearty one. The preacher was the Rector of Pictou, Rev. J. Edgecumbe. The text, 1 Thess. i. 9, 10., was expounded with earnestness and much apparent feeling. The Holy Communion was celebrated, and a small number, in addition to the clerical brethren, availed themselves of this happy privilege. The celebrant was the Rural Dean, assisted by Rev. J. A. Kaulbach.

The members having all dined at the parsonage, the business of the Chapter was proceeded with.

Letters were read by the Secretary from the two brethren who recently removed from the Deanery—Mr. Brock, now President of King's College *pro tem.*, who expressed the highest satisfaction with regard to his present important position; and Mr. Sherman, now in charge of a parish near the city of Lawrence, Mass., where he is in convenient reach of medical aid, which he frequently requires.

The "Hodgson Memorial" for King's College was discussed, and a resolution to take some more prompt action with regard to it was passed.

The matter relating to the securing of a Travelling Missionary for the Deanery was duly considered; also the practical question of making more use of Lay Readers as aids to relieve our over-worked clergy.

The rubrics and the exhortation in the service of the baptism of such as are of riper years was then taken up and duly discussed.

The Rev. Mr. Parkinson, the new incumbent of Londonderry Mines, being present for the

first time, added much to the interest of the meeting by his wise and ready remarks, and especially by his very forcible, eloquent and logical address on Tuesday evening, on the subject of Infant Baptism and Confirmation.

The paper read in the evening by our painstaking and earnest Rural Dean, on the work of the Laity in the parish, was listened to with great interest, and cannot fail to have a good influence on those who heard it.

The offertory at each service was devoted to the Diocese of Algoma.

The next regular meeting of the Chapter will be held [D.V.] at Londonderry on the 8th and 9th of June.

RAWDON.—On the evening of January 18th the Rector was met by a number of his friends at the house of H. Canavan, Esq., at Hillsdale, where a very pleasant evening was spent. After tea, Mr. Ancient was presented with a purse containing \$32.25, and also with a few useful articles, amounting in all to about \$35. Several short speeches were made, all indicative of the good will existing between pastor and people. Votes of thanks were tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Canavan and the ladies, and the singing of the Doxology terminated a very enjoyable reunion.

On Feb. 1st the ladies of Centre Rawdon held a basket sociable at the house of Mr. Lewis Wier, which resulted in adding about \$26 to the new organ fund.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

St. JOHN, N. B.—Ladies' Association of the Church of England Institute.—The annual meeting of the Ladies' Association of the Church of England Institute was held in the rooms of the institute on Jan. 26th., the President, Rev. Canon Brigstocke in the chair.

The following reports were sent in by the various committees:—

The new member committee reported 13 members had left and that 35 were added, making a total of 197 members. All subscriptions were reported to be paid up.

The public hospital committee reported having made regular weekly visits to the patients, with reading and prayer; also, on Christmas day, a gift of fruit and jellies.

The marine hospital committee reported weekly visits paid to the sailors, and a substantial tea for them on Christmas eve.

The flower mission committee reported that an abundance of flowers had been sent weekly through the summer for the hospitals.

The charitable aid committee reported that books, papers and magazines had been collected and sent to the convalescent rooms of the hospital.

The book committee reported 104 volumes selected and added to the library.

The fancy work committee reported an Easter sale which cleared \$252.

The girls friendly home committee reported regular payment from the tenant. In May, about \$200 will be at the disposal of this committee for charitable purposes. The treasurer's account showed a favorable balance of \$45 after all book bills and other expenses had been paid. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Mrs. Thomas Walker, vice-president; Miss F. Symonds, treasurer; Miss Harriet Peters, secretary, and seven ladies as a committee of management.

As a centre of church work and as a means of education in literary taste and business habits, the Ladies Association of the Church of England Institute has done and is still doing good work among the Churchwomen of St. John.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC.

DIOCESAN BOARD OF MISSIONS.—We take the following from the Report of the Diocesan

Board of Missions to the Church Society for 1885:—

Abstract of the Revenue Account of the Diocesan Board for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1885.

<i>Dr.</i>	
To Stipends for 1885.....	\$21,580 87
" Pensions	883 19
" General expenses.....	252 42
" Balance	1,732 84
	\$24,449 32

<i>Cr.</i>	
By Balance from 1884.....	\$ 268 72
" Assessments received	10,051 02
" S.P.G. Grant for 1885.....	6,764 69
" S.P.G. " " Pensions.....	483 19
" Mission Fund, Church Society....	2,948 34
" Sustentation Fund, "	1,133 76
" Clergy Trust Fund, "	2,654 93
" Amount rec'd from Lord Bishop.....	144 67
	\$24,449 32

On comparing the above statement with that for 1884, it will be observed that while the expenditure for stipends has been larger during the year just passed, by nearly \$1,000, there has been a corresponding increase in the assessments received of over \$1,200. These are both, taken together, satisfactory results. The one involves the fact of some amelioration in the pecuniary position of the clergy; the other evidences appreciation of the work they are doing in their respective fields of labor, and faithfulness on the part of the various Missions in observing their engagements with the Board.

Your Board, having received half the surplus of the Clergy Trust Fund, has a balance of over \$1,700 with which to begin the year 1886. Had the grant of the S.P.G. been continued to the Diocese without reduction, part of this money might have been applied in dividing one or two of the most cumbersome Missions; but as the reduction amounts to the large sum of £300 stg., or nearly \$1,500, the surplus, it is feared, will be required to make up this deficiency.

The general condition and prospects of the Missions aided by the Diocesan Board are, on the whole, satisfactory. The reports of the clergy will make known to the Church Society details of successful work which form ample grounds for this statement. It would be invidious to single out the reports of any particular clergymen for commendation, since by implied comparison it would seem to cast a reflection upon others. Your Board, then, must content itself by asking members of the Church to take the trouble of reading those brief accounts of the past year's work for themselves, and endeavor to fill up between the lines all that is involved in those simple statements. But as main facts which are of value in forming an opinion of the progress of Missionary work in this Diocese, your Board would draw the attention of the Church Society to the following:—

The Mission of Cookshire has been self-supporting since the 1st July last, and the Mission of Drummondville since the month of April. The Mission of Dudswell also has ceased to receive aid from the Board since 31st March last; and the endowment fund of Hatley having become available, that Mission has been independent since 1st Jan. 1886. The Mission of Bury is now also a self-sustaining parish. Stanstead assumed the obligation of self-support a year ago, as well as Coaticook and Durham. The last mentioned parish, however, not being able, in the opinion of its Rector, to contribute at present a sum equal to the stipend which the new scale requires the Board to pay him, has suspended its connection with the Board, to be resumed, it is hoped, as soon as the congregations feel strong enough to make up the required amount. Coaticook was in the same position, but the Rector has consented that the