

Church Work.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

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JOHN D. H. BROWNE, } P. O. Box 64, HALIFAX, N. S., } EDITORS.
EDWYN S. W. PENTREATH, } MONCTON, N. B.

"The Communion of the Church of England, as it stands distinguished from all Papal and Puritan innovations, and as it adheres to the doctrine of the cross."—
From the will of Bishop Ken, A. D. 1710.

INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE.

"THIS subject must not be allowed to go to sleep—the spiritual welfare of many thousands is too solemn a matter to remain in abeyance." These words of *Church Bells*, in reference to a Bishop for East London, appropriately express the humbler wants and work of the several dioceses of this Dominion.

A few months ago, we ventured to say something on this subject, and from the expressions of approval received, we know that a very general feeling exists not only among the clergy, but also among the Christian laity, that the Church is suffering a great loss of membership, and a compromise of Church principles, by the the visitations of our Bishops occurring only triennially. This custom, which we admit is canonical, and which was doubtless quite sufficiently often three hundred years ago, or even now, perhaps, in many places in an old settled country like England, becomes altogether inadequate and insufficient in this New Dominion, where the Church is often smaller

than the sects around her, and where families are ever on the move; and thus many children of Church parents are lost to the Church, while many others from the denominations, who desire it, have no opportunity of gaining an entrance into her fold.

We know somewhat whereof we speak when we assert that in the great majority of parishes an annual visitation of the Bishop would double or treble the Church's membership, bringing in many from without, while it would add increased spiritual life and zeal to those already members.

There are two very important considerations which are the argument for an increase of Episcopal visitations—one is of doctrinal importance, while the other refers mainly to the general welfare of the Church, particularly as it has to do with parochial work, and both are of personal interest and benefit to the clergy as well as to the laity. The last shall be stated in the language of *Church Bells* in the article already referred to, as it is sufficiently applicable for our purpose to most, if not all of our dio-