

ed by "Carol, sweetly carol," with a reading, "A visit to Bethlehem on Christmas Eve." "When Christ was born of pure Mary" was followed by a reading "Do you hear the bells aringing?" and "For Christ's sake," after which the carol "The first Noel that the Angels did say" was sung by two young ladies, the rest of the choir joining in the chorus. The Benediction was pronounced by Rural Dean Gibbons, the large congregation which attentively enjoyed the service dispersed to their homes, happier for the blessings of the Incarnation.

A tea meeting and fancy sale, held in the Temperance hall, on the 29th of December, realized \$111 for the Rectory Fund, which subsequent sales on the following day, raised to \$125.

On Christmas day morning service with Holy Communion was held here. Afternoon service with carols at West Green Street Church, which was tastefully decorated for Christmas, after which the missionary drove to Jordan Falls for the Sunday following, when a large congregation worshipped in the old Church, nicely decorated for the Christmas season.

A watchnight service was held in this church on New Year's eve, when the Rural Dean preached, from Genesis LVII: 8 and 9, to a large congregation. The new church in this place has been plastered and we hope to be able to finish it for service during the new year.

A hot supper at West Green street realized \$39.02 for the funds there.

**HALIFAX.**—The choristers in connection with St. Stephen's chapel (formerly the Bishop's chapel) were entertained by His Lordship Bishop Binney at his residence, Hollis street, on Thursday evening, 30th December. At the close of the entertainment His Lordship presented each of his little singers to their delight with a nicely bound volume as a Christmas gift, which was greatly augmented by the attentions bestowed by Mrs. Binney and her amiable family. The party came to a termination shortly before eleven o'clock.

**PICTOU.**—The last Sunday of 1886 was presentation day in St. James' Sunday-school. In the afternoon a number of ladies and gentlemen of the congregation assembled with the children. Some nice books and cards were distributed to the prize winners by the Rector, the Rev. J. Edgecumbe, who also gave the successful scholars and their fellow-learners wise counsel and kind words of encouragement. The scholars were also addressed by Messrs. C. Dayer, G. H. Elliott and W. F. Tanner. The children joined in a number of appropriate hymns, and the exercises throughout were very hearty and enjoyable.

It is reassuring to find the roll still increasing and the attendance good. The great work of the Sunday-school goes bravely on, and may God prosper it yet more and more.

**DIocese OF FREDERICTON.**

**CHATHAM.**—The religious observances of the Christmas Festival here began with a Christmas Eve service in St. Paul's at 7.30 p.m. Christmas hymns, etc., were heartily sung by the choir, and the Rector addressed the congregation on the prophetic testimony of the Holy Scriptures in reference to the Incarnation. The second service was in St. Mary's chapel at midnight on Christmas Eve. Evening prayer began at 11.15 p.m., and was followed, after 12 o'clock, by the first celebration of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day. The Rector gave a short address, and Christmas hymns and a special Te Deum, after the Benediction, were excellently sung by the choir. The third service was a celebration of the Holy Communion at St. Paul's at 8 a.m. on Christmas Day. The fourth service was held in St. Mary's Chapel at 11 a.m., immediately before which and during

the ringing of the church bell, the children of St. Mary's Sunday-school, under the leadership of Miss Gillespie, sang Christmas carols. The service comprised morning prayer, Holy Communion and sermon. The fifth service was in St. Paul's at 3 p.m., and consisted of evening prayer and sermon by the Rector, the usual Christmas hymns being sung very heartily by the choir. The offerings were in aid of the sick and needy. Both churches were appropriately decorated, and the services, notwithstanding the stormy weather, were well attended. On Christmas Eve, the Rector was the recipient of a beautiful and valuable gold watch from the congregation of St. Paul's, and on Christmas Day the Sunday-school children of St. Mary's presented him with a handsome testimonial of their goodwill.

**DIocese OF MONTREAL.**

**FRELIGHTSBURG.**—The festal services of Christmas tide in the Bishop Stewart Memorial Church were of a pleasing and profitable character. On Christmas eve the programme included, first, a bright and attractive service, with an appropriate selection of special music and carols; second, an illuminated tree of fair proportions, well laden with gifts from friends, dismantled by the aid of Wm. Hagan, Esq., and Miss Reid; and third, an ample supply of delicious cakes and coffee, the generous provision of Mrs. V. H. Krans and Mrs. Landsberg. The gathering was large, very enjoyable, and one to be remembered. The usual Christmas Day service on Saturday, with special music and Holy Communion, was well attended at 10.30 a.m. The Sunday service partook somewhat of the festal character subdued to a degree by the remembrance of the Proto-Martyr St. Stephen. The sermon was upon the scriptural aspect of unity, to be succeeded by others on like and kindred topics to which all are invited. On the New Year's eve, the closing minutes of the dying year were improved in the Memorial Hall by a brief service at 11.00 p.m. On Epiphany the Sunday-school held its winter festival. Our ample feast was provided by the ladies, and a short choral service agreeably rendered, with carols appropriate to the day, followed by other happy social enjoyments.

**MONTREAL.**—*St. George's.*—On New Year's eve Mr. R. R. Stevenson, who has so ably filled the position of choirmaster and organist for some years past, and who retires through pressure of other engagements, was presented by the members of the choir with an illuminated address, accompanied by a beautiful and very valuable watch. The Rector, Dean Carmichael, made the presentation and paid a well-merited compliment, and a true one, in saying that Mr. Stevenson not only aimed at making the boys efficient choristers, but also good churchmen.

**St. GEORGE'S Y.M.C.A.**—Rev. L. N. Tucker, on Thursday evening last, delivered a very interesting lecture before this society, his subject being "A Trip Through Rome." A number of really excellent stereopticon views, representing the ruins and the churches and famous buildings of Rome, were given in illustration of the lecture.

**DIocesan Women's AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.**—The usual monthly meeting of the Diocesan Women's Auxiliary Association took place on Thursday morning in the Synod Hall, Mrs. Canon Henderson in the chair. There was a large attendance of ladies. After routine proceedings, the Treasurer's report for the month was submitted. It was reported that mission boxes containing clothing and other useful articles had been sent to the diocese of Algoma and Saskatchewan and to the Shingwauk Mission Home, while three boxes had been reserved for use in the Diocese of Montreal, the whole amounting to \$315.

The President reported that there are now four parochial societies in Montreal and six in outlying places working in unison with the auxiliary.

An interesting report was read from the St. Stephen's Church Society. A letter was also read from Mrs. McLean, widow of the late Bishop McLean, of Saskatchewan.

The President then read the "monthly outlook" which touched upon points of interest, and the latest intelligence from the various mission fields in Africa, India and the North-west.

Mrs. James Day read an interesting paper upon "Mission Work in Africa."

It was decided that the annual meeting (the first anniversary) should be held early in February next, and a committee of ladies was appointed to make the necessary arrangements, after which the meeting adjourned.

**CORE St. PAUL.**—The Sunday-school of the Church of the Redeemer held its annual Christmas-tide celebration on the evening of the Epiphany. The children assembled in the church at 5.30 p.m., and, after a short service, marched into the Parochial Hall, where a handsome and heavily laden Christmas Tree awaited them. Before dismantling it, refreshments were served, after which the children heartily enjoyed themselves in games of different kinds until the time arrived for the attack on the tree. This was made by Messrs. Williams and W. Carver, and the gifts were handed to the children by Dr. Davidson, until all had been supplied but one, whose omission seemed extraordinary, as he was known to be the Doctor's "right hand;" and a good and attentive scholar. The reason was made plain, however, when he (Master Robert Carver) was called up and Dr. Davidson explained that wishing to mark his appreciation of his faithfulness outside of the Sunday-school, as well as his attention in it, Dr. Davidson had determined to add to the cost of what would have been his present from the tree, sufficient to procure a small watch, which he then handed to Robert Carver, with some words of appreciation. The members of the congregation present, and the Sunday-school, seemed heartily to approve of the act.

Though it was resolved that the tree would only bear "gifts" for the Sunday-school children, Mr. Williams found among its branches an envelope addressed to Miss Gilmore, the amiable and ever-willing organist of the church, which Dr. Davidson presented, saying he was ignorant of the contents, but could heartily endorse any act expressing appreciation of her faithful services. It has since transpired that the envelope contained \$10 in gold, the gift of the Ladies' Aid Society.

Another surprise followed in the presentation of an envelope addressed to the Doctor himself. It contained a loving address, accompanied by the sum of \$50, as a small token of appreciation of his services on the part of the congregation. Dr. Davidson expressed his surprise and thanks, reviewing briefly the history of the work in the mission, now for ten years under his control, and the many tokens of real spiritual advancement given.

The young people and children then enjoyed themselves for an hour more, and at ten o'clock a happy evening for old and young was brought to a close by the singing of the doxology by all present.

Thanks are specially due to Mrs. Warren, Mrs. Townsley, and other ladies of the congregation who supplied refreshments, and to Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Williams, Miss Sanders, Mr. Williams, Mr. W. Carver, and Mr. Amasa Sanders, for kindly assistance in preparing and trimming the tree.

We are obliged to hold over a number of items of Home Field news from the several Dioceses.