

any gift of God's Holy Spirit, unless you seek it with a properly disposed heart. You must draw near to Him, truly penitent for your sins, and earnestly desiring God's forgiveness, believing with all your heart in our blessed Saviour, and wishful to give yourself up entirely to His service. This is your part in this sacred ordinance—I am now speaking to those amongst you who have never been confirmed—to renounce the service of sin, and openly to make choice of the service of God, offering to Him your heart and your life."

News from the Home Field.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

ANNAPOLIS DEANERY.—The Annapolis Deanery met at Weymouth on the 12th and 13th of this month. The first evening was given to the Sunday School Association, this being the second meeting of that Association, having been formed at Bridgetown in August. Owing to the weather very few delegates were present, but there was a satisfactory congregation at each of the services. After Divine service Mr. deBlois gave a short sketch of the work which the Association was required to do. When the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved and business finished, a very interesting paper on "The Work of the Sunday School Teacher" was read by the President. Mr. J. Warner, of Middleton, then addressed the congregation on Sunday School work. During the singing of the hymn the offertory was taken for the Association, \$4.62.

On Wednesday service was held in St. Peter's in the morning and St. Thomas' in the evening, at which the various clergy assisted, the morning sermon being preached by Rev. J. Warner from the text, "I pray thee have me excused," St. Luke xiv., 18. In the evening the Rural Dean delivered the sermon, choosing as his text Hebrew vii., 25, "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing that He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

The business of the Deanery was discussed by the clergy in the afternoon at the Rectory.

HALIFAX.—*Personal.*—Rev. J. O. Ruggles, of Halifax, has been elected almost unanimously as Clerical Secretary of the Diocese of Nova Scotia. Rev. Dr. Partridge, the present incumbent, leaves for Fredericton, N.B., shortly after Easter. Mr. Ruggles, who served with marked success for over 25 years in various parts of the Diocese, was, owing to failing health, superannuated some six or seven years ago. One of the most deservedly popular clergymen in the Diocese and a thorough business man, his appointment has given universal satisfaction.

Diocese of Fredericton.

ST. JOHN.—The Rector of Trinity Church here, the Ven. Archdeacon Brigstocke, D.D., is, we see from notice in another column, looking out for a clergyman to help him during the absence of his curate.

RICHIBUCTO.—The Rev. H. Hackenley, Rector of St. Mary's Church, Richibucto, has sent in his resignation, to take effect in April next.

BETTER walk as a slave, with royalty of soul and God's companionship, than remain free, with a soul empty of all manliness, and be led of the devil.

Diocese of Quebec.

(From *Diocesan Magazine*.)

SHERBROOKE.—Report of Church extension in the District of St. Francis, by the Venerable Archdeacon Roe, D. D. :

Instead of the usual report of advances made during the year past, I propose to give in this paper a succinct account in one view of the whole extent of Church expansion in the District of St. Francis during the last quarter of a century.

The story will, I hope, be of interest, and I am sure it will be found full of encouragement. Moreover it is well to record the facts here thrown together, before the actors in the drama have passed away and they are lost beyond recovery.

I have said, a quarter of a century, but I will make the review to cover somewhat more than twenty-five years, so as to include the whole term during which I have been a personal witness of the work done and have shared in it myself.

The period will begin then with January, 1868, and close with December, 1894, and will cover exactly twenty-seven years.

In January, 1868, there were in the District two Parishes and fourteen Missions. Of these Missions, however, two certainly, and I think three ought fairly to be counted out and reckoned among those since formed. *Stanstead*, which was then a Mission of the Colonial and Continental Society, died out in their hands and was abandoned by them. It was revived by the gratuitous labours of Professor Tamba working from Bishops' College; and, under Canon Thorneloe, in 1875, it was taken up as new Missionary ground by the Diocesan Board. *Durham*, too, at that time, a single feeble Station, served gratuitously by the Rector of Three Rivers, died financially with his death, and some two years later was taken on by the Board as a new Mission. *Georgetown*, also died out as a separate Mission, when they lost the Rev. F. A. Smith with his commutation of £100 stg. a year, and was annexed to its more robust neighbor *Magog*. So that in point of fact, in 1868, there were in the district two Parishes and eleven Missions. There are now eight Parishes and nineteen Missions, counting in East Sherbrooke as one.

That is, the separate cures with resident Clergy have more than doubled in twenty-seven years.

This, however, is a very inadequate measure of the progress made.

The thirteen Clergymen in 1868, served twenty-four stations in all; the twenty-seven Parochial Clergy, in 1894, supply seventy-five stations, with Sunday Services. The places supplied with Sunday Service have increased by fifty-one. The District in 1868 raised for the stipends of its Clergy, \$3,000; in 1893, it paid them \$13,550. In 1868, the contributions for all purposes were \$8,000; in 1893, they amounted to \$28,500.

In these twenty-seven years, thirty-five new Churches have been built, and twenty-two Parsonages provided. Parsonages are not so easy to provide as Churches; there were then three nominally, really but two in the District; there are now twenty-three. Practically, all the Parsonages in the District have been provided in these twenty-seven years. In 1868, the idea of sending money away to help Foreign Missions was not a matter of "practical politics"; in 1893 upwards of \$1,300 in cash was sent away from the District to help Domestic and Foreign Missions outside the Diocese.

These facts are proofs that cannot be gainsaid of a progress which is of the most substantial character, and in the highest degree encouraging. Considering the fewness of our Church people, the smallness of our means, and the very contracted limits in point of numbers

of our Mission field,—I doubt whether it can be paralleled.

Leaving figures, I will now try to tell the story of this truly remarkable expansion in narrative form; and if I am compelled to speak more or less in the first person singular, I hope it may be forgiven inasmuch as to take the lead in this work came to me in the providence of God.

In 1866, the Rev. Charles Hamilton, now Bishop of Niagara, joined me at St. Matthew's serving the Church gratuitously. In the summer of that year, Bishop's College suffered the heavy loss of the Rev. G. C. Irving, Rector of the School, who was drowned at Riviere du Loup. In the emergency to save the school from collapse, I was called upon to take Principal Nicolls's work for that winter in the College and so set him free to give himself to the School. While there I was naturally led to look into the work of the Church in the District, in which I thought I saw openings, if we only could occupy them, for an extension of that work on a large scale. Without any thought of its leading to any thing, I poured out my heart on the subject in a letter to my friend, Mr. Hamilton, and he showed the letter to Bishop Williams. The result was an urgent call from the Bishop to give myself for three years to the work of extension I had roughly sketched out. The scheme was submitted to the clergy of the district and was accepted; but difficulties arose and it fell through.

I then made up my mind to resign St. Matthews, and throw myself into the work in this District as one of the Missionary Clergy. The mission of Melbourne and Richmond happened to be vacant,—shut up, indeed, for eight or nine months owing to financial troubles. I applied for it and was appointed to it in January, 1868.

1. The opportunity for more extended work soon presented itself. Early in 1868, the Rev. S. S. Wood, Rector of Three Rivers, but resident in Durham, died. His stipend as Rector was derived from the British Government and ceased at his death, and the Diocesan Board could not then take Durham on its list. The Incumbent of Melbourne, under these circumstances, as the nearest clergyman, naturally took charge of the Orphan Mission. He carried it on for eight months, meantime organizing it as a permanent Parish. The people were induced to contribute liberally for the support of the future clergyman; the other necessary funds were obtained from private friends in Quebec; and finally a zealous young Deacon was found and put in charge. The history of the Mission under Frederick Carr, Ernest Willoughby King, George Harding, Alexander Hume Robertson and the present Incumbent is most interesting and instructive and ought to be written before the facts are lost. Durham,—on the very point of perishing in 1868,—became a Rectory in 1885, and remained so for six years; but, owing to losses from emigration, it was forced to fall back without loss of honour into the ranks of the Missions, of which it is to-day one of the most healthy.

(To be continued.)

Diocese of Montreal.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF MONTREAL DIO. WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.

On Tuesday, Feb. 19th, the members of the M. D. W. A. met in Christ Church Cathedral at 11 a.m. Bishop Bond gave an impressive address on the circumstance of the disciples of John going to our Lord with the question: "Art Thou He that should come, or do we look for another?" Our Lord's answer was a reference to His works; and so, the Bishop said, the world has the right to ask professing Christians the question, "What dost thou work?"