

OUTRAGE ON A PROTESTANT CHURCH IN IRELAND.—On Sunday evening last a dastardly outrage was committed at Athea, in the west of Limerick. The pretty Protestant Memorial Church of Athea is erected some two hundred yards west of the village, and in the midst of an ornamental shrubbery. It was built some twenty years ago by the late Archdeacon Goold, a popular and generous landlord, who was a pronounced Home-ruler and Nationalist at the time when such principles were not usual amongst those in high stations. He erected memorial windows in the little edifice to commemorate the various members of his family, and a lofty Celtic cross in the grounds was erected by the tenantry in memory of the only son of their landlord. The terms under which Archdeacon Goold and his family lived with his people may be learned from a short memoir, which states that—"Whilst the beautiful Irish cross stands beside the church as a lasting proof of Catholic gratitude and affection, the handsome bronze gates belonging to the Catholic Chapel of Athea are a testimony of the Archdeacon's love for his tenantry, being his gift to the people." It is not so very long ago since the daughter, Miss Goold, on her arrival in the village, was met by local bands and presented with enthusiastic addresses from the tenants of her late father's property. Miss Goold established the Athea knitting industry, and, besides, spent all her available resources in aiding those who claimed assistance from her. Yet it is the Goold Memorial Church which was singled out for a scene of desecration. The Memorial windows of stained glass were completely wrecked, and the sacred building strewn with their fragments. By this means entrance was obtained to the church and the seats knocked about. The Bible and Prayer Book which rested on the prayer-desk were ill-treated, and at last thrown out of the building and flung into the shrubbery. There can be no possible shadow of a pretext assigned for such a wanton and shameless outrage, unless downright and unmitigated blackguardism, for if there were one spot in the country which one would suppose would be sacred from outrage, that would have been the Memorial Church at Athea.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

We regret to learn that His Lordship has been obliged to seek medical advice in New York. We wish His Lordship a speedy return to vigorous health.

CONFIRMATIONS are shortly to take place in Colchester and Cumberland counties. Classes are being prepared and the Bishop's visit looked forward to with great interest.

SPRINGHILL MINES.—*Easter Meeting.*—The annual meeting took place on Easter Monday. The Rector's report showed baptisms, 54; marriages, 14; burials, 20. Considerable additions have been made to the parochial list and communicant roll. The churchwardens presented a satisfactory financial statement. By economic management and great self-denial the necessary work of the Church having been done by enthusiastic members, thereby saving expense, the finances had considerably increased in the past eight months, since the coming in of the new Rector. All outstanding bills were paid and running expenses promptly met each month. About \$400 worth of debt had been liquidated during the past seven months, leaving still a debt of \$1200 which the congregation were straining every nerve to quickly liquidate, for a new church is becoming a necessity in Springhill. Messrs. Payne and Robinson were re-elected wardens. The following vestrymen were elected:—Capt. Bowen, Dr. Byers, Messrs. Mattinson, Alloway, R. H. Langille, Booth, Facey, Howard, Kitchell,

Booker, Ridgway, and Alex. Clarke. Mr. Howard was elected Vestry clerk. The following committees were appointed:—*Pit*, Messrs. Geo. Wallis, Payne, Booth and Kitchell. *Envelope*, Messrs. Robinson and Langille. *Cathedral*, Messrs. Lackie, Howard, Payne and Facey.

Votes of thanks to Churchwardens, Organist, and choir were unanimously passed.

FAIRVILLE.—Another Lent has come and gone and it has been, we hope, a season fruitful of much good to the souls of all who have followed the Church's teaching and example.

In this quiet parish of Fairville much has been done by Pastor and people during Lent in the way of voluntary labor by the men and young people. It is very manifest that a very deep spiritual life is gradually being formed in the parish, showing plainly that God is blessing abundantly the earnest and arduous labors of Pastor to the flock.

The Lenten services held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and Tuesday and Friday evenings until Holy Week and daily morning and evening services have been well attended. On Good Friday the services were Ante-Communion and Litany with lection, and promptly at 12 o'clock the three hours devotional service begun, so great was the number of faithful ones attending this service that extra seats had to be provided, so deep the devotion that not one left during the entire service. Words are inadequate to fully describe this service. To realise it one must needs have been there.

The exquisite pathos of the Pastor's words in his addresses on the seven last words of Christ. The solemn stillness of the three minutes' silent prayer, the rich melodious hymning forth of appropriate music, as well as the united voices in prayer and Psalm gave the service a reality such that touched the hardest hearts, and many were moved to tears and sobs which were distinctly heard. So deep and manifest was the interest felt that at 7.30 the Church was again crowded to listen to another sermon by the Pastor, and an urgent appeal to the faithful to prepare for their Easter Communion. So deep was the impression that it will long be remembered in this now happy parish. The effect has been most marvellous, and on Easter Day nearly 100, a number unprecedented in the history of this mission, assembled at 8 and 11 o'clock and received the blessed Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood at the hands of their much loved Pastor, Rev. J. C. Titcombe. The Church decked in her festive garb by willing hands of Pastor and people added much to the dignity and grandeur of the services enabling all to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" Wonderful to relate, not one of the large congregation at the 11 o'clock celebration left the Church, although the service was very long, until that divinely instituted service was completed. The Pastor preached again at this service from the words, "The Sun of Righteousness is risen."

The Church was crowded again in the evening. The Incumbent being worn out by the great strain and also suffering from a cold on his chest, was assisted by the Rev. R. Mathers who preached an excellent and practical sermon from the words "Peace be unto you," St. John xx, 19. The chancel, brilliantly illuminated with many tapers, showed the decorations with a most striking effect.

The new seven branch candlestick, an Easter offering, added much to the appearance and grandeur. That God's blessing may still continue to the Church of the Good Shepherd as well as to the whole Church, is our earnest prayer.

ALBION MINES.—Easter was a glorious day. Our congregations were large; the offertories and the number of Communicants the largest during the year. Mr. Churchwarden Ruther-

ford expended a large amount of time and taste in adorning our chancel, which never looked so well at this Festival. A lovely cross of flowers provided by Mrs. Poole and Miss Rutherford stood on the retable, while growing calla and geranium plants were placed on the chancel steps.

Our volunteer organist, Miss Johnson, received a nicely filled purse, and at the Easter meeting the Choir generally were voted a well deserved resolution of thanks, as were the outgoing Churchwardens, Messrs. Rutherford and Kennedy. Messrs. Poole and Ward were elected Wardens for the current year, and the Vestry was filled up so that the members are now Messrs. J. Maxwell, G. M. Appleton, Jno. Smith, Lewis Johnstone, M.D., W. G. Miller, William Moore, Harry Lewis, R. E. Dawson, Inglis Johnston and George Davidson. Our Vestry Clerk of twenty years' service, Mr. Wentworth, was again re-elected; as was also the sexton, John Mailman, who has served the Church faithfully for several years.

PICTOU.—The services in St. James Church on Easter Sunday, were exceedingly well attended. The rector, Rev. John Edgecumbe, officiated and delivered very able and eloquent sermons on "the Resurrection of Christ." His arguments were powerful, convincing and unanswerable. The singing by the choir was beautiful in the extreme, and the hymns and anthems were particularly well suited to the day. At the close of the evening service, Mr. Edgecumbe referred to the meetings held during Lent, spoke of the good that had resulted from them, not only to himself but also to those who took the opportunity to attend them. He was highly gratified to see so many, especially young people, at the Holy Communion on Easter morning, thus testifying their allegiance to a risen Christ. The number that partook of the Lord's Supper was the largest Mr. Edgecumbe had ever seen during his whole ministry in Pictou.—*Com.*

NEW GLASGOW.—For the first time we have a white frontal with a white reredos and banners for Easter. The ornaments and inscriptions are in old gold. There are the chaste work and kind gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Patton and Miss Harris. The ladies are sisters of the excellent Vicar of Amherst.

LIVERPOOL.—The Frontals for altar, desk, and pulpit, given by the Willing Workers of Trinity Church Sunday-school to the Parish church, arrived in time for the white set to be used on Easter Day. They are all very handsome of rich corded silk, and it is thought that the materials used must have cost the full amount of the money sent \$180, and that the exquisite work which has converted these breadth of silk and lengths of fringe into such suitable adornments for the House of God, is the free gift of those devoted sisters of the Church and members of the Church Extension Association, England, who kindly filled out the order sent by the Willing Workers.

There are three sets of Frontals. White, as noticed before; Green, for general use; and Violet, for Lent and Advent. There is also a beautifully embroidered Super-frontal of a shade that can be used with either of the other colors. We have had for some years a handsome ruby velvet altar cloth, so that now we are provided with altar coverings appropriate for all the Church's seasons.

The same little band of Sunday-school children sent to England a few days ago nearly two hundred dollars for the purchase of carpets for the chancel, dossals, and Communion linen.—the "fair white linen cloth" used in the highest worship of the Church. It will be seen by the two amounts of money named that the work of the children in the past year, aided as it has been by kind friends, has been by no means unfruitful.