

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

CAPE BRETON.

CHARLOTTETOWN.—His Lordship the Bishop, who is visiting the various parishes of this island having candidates for the gift of the Holy Ghost through the Apostolic rite of 'Laying on of hands,' after Morning prayer at St. Paul's, Charlottetown, last Sunday preached a forcible sermon from the text: 'Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment,'—1 Cor. 10. In which he claimed due recognition of the Parish Priest as the representative of the Blessed Lord, not a servant paid to execute certain orders of the laity. At this service the Rev. William Hamlyn was inducted Rector of this parish, hence the pointing of the sermon.

In the evening the Lord Bishop confirmed twenty candidates at St. Peter's Cathedral. The incumbent, Rev. James Lounson, presented the candidates, the Rev. T. H. Hunt, carrying the pastoral staff acted as chaplain to the Bishop, who was attended also by cross bearer and two acolytes vested in purple. Not only was every available seat occupied but crowds had to stand during the services. The address to the candidates is spoken of as one of the finest ever heard in the Province. Of the candidates seven were males; the average age 21½ years. Six had been dissenters, four baptized during the past year. Immediately before the concluding blessing his Lordship dedicated to the service of the altar, an exquisite chalice made of the jewellery of the late Mrs. Hodgson, and presented to the church by her husband, Mr. Edward J. Hodgson, Q. C. It was a happy coincidence that the occasion was the first anniversary of the death of the lady, to the example of whose life his Lordship referred in beautiful and fitting terms.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

SUMMERSIDE.—Wednesday, Oct. 15th, was a day to be long remembered in the history of this parish. The Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island came on the mid day train from Charlottetown and at once proceeded to the house of Mr. H. C. Green, whose guest he was. By 3 p.m., a very large congregation had assembled in the body of St. Mary's Church, the galleries being also well filled.

A few minutes after, the Bishop entered the church from the vestry, bearing his pastoral staff, preceded by the Rev. C. F. Lowe, Rector of the parish, and took his place in front of the Episcopal chair, which had previously been placed in proper position within the chancel.

After the opening hymn the candidates were presented to the Bishop by the Rector, who was at once requested by His Lordship to read the preface to the service. The solemn question as to renewal of the Baptismal vow was then put to the candidates by the Bishop, and the answer came heartily and audibly from them all—*Ido*.

Then came the words, 'Our help is in the Name of the Lord,' and each one felt that it was true. The short but impressive service then proceeded until the end of the prayer for the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit, when a hymn was sung—after which, in impressive tones, the Bishop recommended the candidates to the silent prayers of the congregation, after which they severally knelt before their chief pastor to receive from him, as he stood, the Apostolic rite of 'Laying on of hands.' Returning to their seats the candidates remained kneeling until the service proper being ended the Bishop pronounced the blessing.

A third hymn having been sung, Dr. Courtney delivered an address to those who had that day been confirmed. In masterly and eloquent

language, yet withal most affectionately did he beseech those assembled in God's name to lead faithful and consistent lives for their Master Christ. He showed wherein each and all differed from the creatures of God's lower creation and said that the reality of the soul of man could be felt by none other than the man himself. Confirmation to the materialist was nothing; to each one of them that day it was an intensely real thing. The Hand of God had that day in effect been laid upon them—they were always to remember that. Keeping this in mind he would earnestly exhort them to lead busy lives, careful lives, and lives of utter selflessness. Enlarging upon these three words—'business, carefulness and selflessness,' the Bishop concluded with the hope that as he and they parted that day, perhaps never to meet again in this life, yet they might hereafter come to the joys of heaven with him, and all those who manfully fight here the battle of life, and show earnestly the warrior spirit for the God man Christ Jesus.

ST. ELEANORS.—St. John's—At 7 p.m. a second service was held in this church in the presence of a very large and attentive congregation. The church was very tastefully decorated for the joyous and deeply solemn occasion. In addition to the 27 presented in Summerside (13 males and 14 females) there were confirmed in this church 12 males and 11 females making in all a total of fifty persons confirmed in this parish, 25 of each sex. Four males and one female had previously the same day received the Sacrament of Baptism.

The same service, hymns and order were followed here as in Summerside, although the address to the candidates was entirely different.

The Bishop began by saying that he had been led to think that everybody came into the world to form a character. What that character should be, whether good or evil, rested in a great measure with the man himself. Confirmation reminded them of this. Continuing and enlarging, Dr. Courtney drew a vivid word picture of 'character building,' quoting words he had lately read: 'Perform an act, and you form a habit, continue the habit and you form a character.' As it is hard to form a character for good—so is it difficult to unform a character for evil. With powerful touches the speaker drew a graphic description of a man whose besetting sins were drunkenness and cursing—showing how hard it was to undo the mischief of those sins. With loving words of fatherly counsel the Bishop besought those present to form the habit of constant prayer—regular church going—careful reading of the Bible—earnest and regular Communion. The interest, was truly wonderful, and all went home that day feeling that God had been with them of a truth.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

ST. JOHN.—A meeting was held Monday evening, Oct. 20th, in Trinity schoolhouse under the auspices of the Church of England Sunday School Teachers' Association. Rev. Canon Brigstocke presided, and there was a large attendance. The chairman outlined the aims of the Association and told of the work it had accomplished. Before closing Canon Brigstocke condemned the practice of ministers pandering to public taste and preaching to catch public favor instead of endeavoring to inculcate definite religious truths. The Rev. Mr. Lloyd, of Rothesay, followed in an excellent address, in which he made a strong plea for earnest work on behalf of the Sunday schools. He gave some good sound advice which will materially help the teachers in their work, and pointed out to parents their duty as regards the Sabbath school. The Lieutenant Governor was then introduced and he made a very pleasant address, and told of some of his

experiences when for fourteen years he was a teacher in St. Luke's school, Portland. At the conclusion a collection was taken up in aid of the Association and a prayer was offered by the chairman.—*Globe*.

PERSONAL.—Rev. A. J. Reid, who has been curate of St. Paul's Church for the last four years, has resigned his position and accepted that of assistant to the Rev. John Langtry, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Toronto. Mr. Reid will enter upon his new duties on Sunday, Nov. 16th.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

LAOCHINE.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 19th, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese made his first official visit to the Parish of Laochine, since the appointment of the present Rector. The occasion of his visit at this time arose from the fact that nineteen candidates had been prepared to receive the Apostolic rite of Laying on of Hands.

Four vases of beautiful flowers were placed on the Holy Table, which gave the chancel a bright and cheerful appearance. The Church was crowded to overflowing with an attentive congregation, chairs having been brought from the church hall and placed in every available corner for the accommodation of those who could not find sittings in the pews.

The services were as follows: At the eleven o'clock the choir and congregation sang the hymn, 'O happy band of Pilgrims.' This was followed by Morning prayers to the end of the third collect, after which came that beautifully appropriate hymn, 'My God accept my heart this day.' The Rector then descended to the centre aisle, the candidates for Confirmation standing in the two front pews of the nave on each side of him, and formally presented them to the Bishop, who had advanced toward them as far as the chancel steps, with the words: 'Reverend Father in God, I present unto you these persons present to be admitted to the Apostolic rite of Laying on of Hands.' The eloquent though simple address of the Chief Pastor to the class was full of fatherly love, earnest, practical and common sense advice and warning on the great importance and solemnity of the steps they were about to take. The address ended the Bishop returned to the Holy Table and at the proper time the Rector led each candidate severally to the altar rail and knelt there with each person while the solemn rite was being administered. At the end of the Order for Confirmation all with one accord lifted up their voices in those grand lines beginning with, 'Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire.' The Holy Communion was celebrated to which all those who had just been confirmed admitted as well as a large number of others. During the Communion service was sung the hymn, 'And now, O Father mindful of the love.' The Bishop preached a most impressive sermon on the words, 'I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest keep them from the evil.' Before delivering his sermon his Lordship alluded in most feeling terms to the fact that this was his first visit since the Rector's appointment. His advice to both pastor and people evinced a keen insight into their respective duties, and an unmistakable appreciation of the relationship that ought to exist between priest and parishioners.

The evening service was well attended notwithstanding the fact of disagreeable weather. The Rector addressed those who had been confirmed on the subject, 'The consecration of the heart to God in the confirmation vow,' the text being, 'My son give me thine heart.'

Thus ended a day the remembrance of which, we pray, may never be blotted out from the minds of those who partook of its blessed privileges.