

EPISCOPACY.

"They all"—(i.e., the early Fathers)—"concur in proving the one point in question—that none can preach except they be sent; that none was permitted to become the teacher without authority from those to whom the power of ordaining had been committed; that the primitive Church, in its first ages, adopted the very system which has been handed down from the days of the apostles to the present hour, and is maintained in its greatest purity by the Episcopal Churches—that should be, in every Christian society, the teacher who ordains; the teacher who joins the ordainer, but without him has no power to send the labourer into the vineyard; and the teacher who assists the former, and is the candidate for the higher offices in the Church of God. Thus it is that primitive antiquity confirms the general truth. All societies must have some government, and the principle of Episcopacy, rightly considered, will be found to pervade every system of polity that has ever been adopted by mankind. Among the Christian Churches it is called bishop, priest, and deacon; or ruler, teacher, assistant. It corresponds with the polity of the patriarchal government, the father, the first-born, and the younger children—with the high-priest, priest, and Levite of the Mosaic orders—with that of the Jews after their dispersion, in the apostle who visited their synagogues, the elders of the synagogue, and the chazan, or ministers—with that of the Romans in their Pontifex Maximus, the pontifices, and the lower priesthood—with that of the Presbyterians, in the moderator, presbyter, and the coadjutor. It is the language of nature; of Scripture, and of law, and there should ever be in every society, Church, kingdom, or family, the authority to rule, the active agent to administer the plans of the ruler, and the assistant to the two in all things. I mention these things because I believe that Episcopacy must be the chief means of union among Christians; that as Popery is the perversion of Episcopacy to despotism, and Presbyterianism the perversion of Episcopacy to the destruction of all authority; the government of Christians by bishop, priest, and deacon, according to its outline in Scripture, and its completion in Catholic antiquity, ever is, and ever will be, the best bond of union to a conscientious clergy and a divided people. Episcopacy was the offspring" [of Holy Scripture] "of the best and purest ages, when Christians were more wise, more holy, more united than any subsequent age. It preserves the Church from the usurpations of the Papacy, and the confusions of the rabble-democracy of sectarianism. It is worthy of our admiration and support, for it commends itself to our consciences, as Scriptural; to our reason, as useful; and to our desire for happiness and repose, as the blender into one holy union of order, peace, and truth."—*Ecclesiastical and Civil Hist.*, vol. 1, pp. 73-4, by Dr. Townsend, 1847.

SPONSORS.

The Church Times (Milwaukee).

A query made to the Bishop, by a parishioner, during the month: Does the Church regard favorably, and as satisfactory, the acceptance, as sponsors, in Baptism, of those who belong to other Christian bodies than our own?

Answer: Most certainly not. It is a double act of injustice. First, to those good people who are asked to take vows of sponsorship which they cannot conscientiously perform. No good

Methodist or Baptist, for instance, if at all true to his or her own convictions could be acting otherwise than falsely in making such promises, concerning the Christian training of the child about to be baptized. Nor would any loyal or devout dissenter be apt to believe in the doctrine of Baptismal regeneration, as laid down and taught in our office of Baptism. Secondly, a gross action of injustice is done the child, placing it at once in the atmosphere of unreality, inconsistency, uncertainty, and untruthfulness. There must be something radically wrong in the theological training of a clergyman who would undertake to allow these solemn vows and promises of sponsorship to become so much of a mere sham. All the solemn obligation and injunctions of that office are strictly intended for those within the Church's pale. A devout sponsor is one who is baptized, confirmed, and a communicant within our own pale. The Church counts none other as fit to be a spiritual guardian of her children, all of whom are to be trained strictly in her own ways, and in no other.

News from the Home-Field.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

YARMOUTH.

The Lord Bishop of the diocese visited this parish on June 14th and confirmed 31 candidates in Holy Trinity Church. The Church was crowded, and the utmost attention paid to the earnest and practical address of his Lordship before the "Laying on of Hands." The candidates were presented by the Rev. T. S. Cartwright, rector; their number evidencing the good work that is being done by him.

THE COTTAGE HOSPITAL FOR SPRINGHILL.

MINES, NOVA SCOTIA.—The many friends and contributors who are interested in the above work will be glad to hear that an acre of land has been purchased and building operations commenced. The foundation is nearly completed, and Tuesday the 28th of June has been fixed as the day for the laying of foundation stone. A sale and tea will take place in the evening. The offerings at the service and the whole proceeds of the sale will be devoted to the purchase of splints and surgical instruments for the Operating Room. Friends at a distance may send their offerings to be placed upon the foundation stone. A first class operating room is of paramount importance in a place when mining accidents frequently occur. Contributions for this purpose should be sent to

REV. W. CHAS. WILSON,
The Rectory,
Springhill Mines,
Nova Scotia.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The 20th meeting of the clerical association was held in the parish of Port Hill, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 14th and 15th.

The rector Rev. H. Harper met the visiting clergy at the station and had them conveyed to the homes of very hospitable parishioners.

At 7 p.m. a largely attended public meeting was held in the beautifully finished church of St. James, the large number of men being especially

noticeable. The singing was unaccompanied and went splendidly.

After prayers, addresses were delivered by the following:—Rev. C. F. Lowe of Summerside spoke on "Consistent Christian Life," Rev. W. Hamlyn of St. Paul's, Charlottetown took for his subject, Gen. xxxii 17 "Whose art thou? Whither goest thou? Whose are these?" Mr. Forbes rector of Alberton spoke on the "Holy Communion."

The offertory was for the "Clergy Superannuation Fund."

A 8 a.m., the following morning, a goodly number assembled for Holy Communion, at which Mr. Hamlyn officiated.

Subsequently the business meeting was held under the presidency of Rev. J. Forbes, and many things discussed of importance to the Church in P. E. I. It was decided to leave arrangements for next meeting in the hands of Rev. C. F. Lowe, secretary, who has invited the brethren to meet in St. Eleanor's early in September.

ST. ELEANOR'S AND SUMMERSIDE.

A largely attended public meeting was held in St. Eleanor's a few days ago. Rev. C. F. Lowe rector in the chair. The beautifying of St. Eleanor's Church was discussed. It was proposed to place a new stained glass window in the East end, to paint the walls and ceiling of the chancel and otherwise decorate this strongly built and convenient House of God. Mr. William Andrew, senior warden made an enthusiastic speech in favour of the improvements and while some did not acquiesce, the general feeling of the parish is in favour of this; and also to build sheds for horse-shelter during the time of divine service. A committee is at present watching for a favourable opportunity to buy ground for sheds and also for a parish hall and it is hoped that before another Easter meeting the improvements will have been carried out. The account show a balance in hand of \$94.37. A splendid new Sunday school library has been bought which is highly appreciated by these intelligent people. The Sunday school has been closed for a few Sundays on account of diphtheria in the village, now happily gone and things are now once more in proper working order.

SUMMERSIDE.

The new guild room built near the church is now almost completed and will be most useful in many ways. Rev. R. F. Brine is staying with his daughter Mrs. D. Rogers, but has not yet assisted the rector on account of his weakly health. Parochial affairs here as in St. Eleanor's are flourishing, the balance at Easter being \$18. This, with so many removals is an excellent showing.

Rev. Mr. Dobie is living a retired life in this town and though receiving many offers of work, is disinclined to accept.

ALBERTON.

Rev. J. Forbes the hard working priest of this parish has nearly completed the new church finely situated in the very centre of this growing place. It is one year ago, since the foundation stone was laid, the places were all drawn by himself, the carving by his own hands, a neat saving to the parish. It is gothic in style and will be, when finished, by far the prettiest and best appointed country church on P. E. I.

This fine church is to be opened on Sunday June 26th when sermons will be preached by Revs. Messrs. Hamlyn and Lowe. The 3rd preacher is not yet announced. A finely stained East window has been donated by a friend in