

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

Gathered specially for this Paper by Our Own Correspondents.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.—Anniversary of the Bishop's Consecration.—The anniversary was observed by special celebration of the Holy Communion at the Bishop's Chapel on March 25th, at 8 o'clock. At 10 o'clock his Lordship celebrated Communion at the Cathedral, and a large body of worshippers assembled to ask God's blessing on the Bishop's work, and to offer their congratulations to his Lordship.

ST. PAUL'S.—We believe that Rev. Mr. Jones has asked for time to consider the call to the rectorship of St. Paul's.

PETITE RIVIERE.—Before Lent came in we finished a series of services of sacred song in this parish, which have resulted in a greater interest being taken both in the work of the Church and services in general. We commenced Lent in a solemn manner. Services were held in three of the principal out-stations on Ash Wednesday; all music and singing was left out, except one penitential hymn. There was a good congregation at each place, who listened most attentively to the call of the Church at this solemn season.

Since the beginning of the year, two fresh families, who have for many years been wandering from the fold, have acknowledged their baptismal right in Broad Cove.

In Vogler's Cove five persons have been added to the list of communicants; this in spite of a long series of revivals among the Dissenters.

There will be two week-day services held during Lent, at which the following subjects will be dealt with:—1. Prayers. 2. Bible Reading. 3. The Church. 4. The Sacraments. 5. The Ministry. These will end (D.V.) on Friday before Holy Week, giving that season for a service every day, and an address on the Passion and suffering of our Blessed Lord.

We are beset with Dissenting influence in this parish, which is at all times hard at work in proselytizing. As a specimen of this work I quote the following from *The Wesleyan*:—

"Special services at Broad Cove, New Italy, Petite Riviere circuit, have resulted in a gracious ingathering in each place and the spiritual quickening of members. Bro. H. rendered some valuable assistance."

With regard to the "gracious ingatherings in each place," I may remark that in Broad Cove not one was gathered in, while in New Italy two young women professed to be converted, one of these a married person, and all her life long a consistent Lutheran, having been baptized and confirmed in that faith; but her husband and his parents being Dissenters, she was awkwardly placed, and probably found it better for peace sake to conform to a creedless sect.

In another case, a little farther west, an old man professed to be converted, and only a week after put a neighbor in trouble and expense by putting him into the hands of the law, which resulted in no gains to himself or any one else, but caused envy, hatred and malice. This could have been avoided by a kindly, Christian interview.

Thus, if we dare conclude from reports in papers, one would be led to believe that such "gracious ingatherings" might mean a loss to the Church; but it is the opposite, thank God!

Such exaggerated reports are woefully misleading, and might shake the confidence of Church people were they not known to be without foundation. There are some who have joined the ranks of the creedless longing to return to the one fold, but who fear the scorn of man. May God give them grace to cast off such fetters. If one might judge from results,

it would be safe to say that the Church is doing its work well.

From all pride, vain-glory, heresy and schism good Lord deliver us!

VALE COLLIERY.—The monthly service held here on the Feast of the Annunciation was attended by double the number of people we had present a month since. The singing and chanting was excellent. Six new subscribers were obtained for the CHURCH GUARDIAN. The next service is appointed for Maundy Thursday.

PUGWASH.—The debt on the new church in this parish has been very much reduced this winter, and it is earnestly hoped that the coming summer will see it all wiped out, and the interior painted, &c., and made ready for consecration.

CORRECTION.—In the article headed Pleasant River, which appeared in our columns on the 24th March, we are desired to make the following corrections, viz.:—On the first line, substitute the word "An Ash Wednesday service," instead of "On Ash Wednesday. The church had been consecrated in May last, and regular services have been held ever since, but this was the first time that an Ash Wednesday service had been held in that church, or indeed in the whole settlement. Also substitute 78 for 28 communicants; and add that last year 47 persons were confirmed.

CAPE BRETON.

LOUISBOURG.—Rev. T. Fraser Draper begs to return thanks to T. B. Aikins, Esq., Halifax, and an unknown friend, for donations of \$5 each towards the Louisbourg parsonage building fund.

NORTH SYDNEY AND SYDNEY MINES.—During Lent services have been held in these parishes on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, at 7:30, with addresses, and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings a celebration of the Holy Communion. The Sunday services continue as usual. During Holy Week there will be a service, with sermon, every evening. On Good Friday there will be four services, at 9, 11, 3 and 7:30 o'clock respectively. The services hitherto have been very well attended.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

RICHIBUCTO.—The Rev. W. L. Currie, before leaving his former parish of East Passage, Cole Harbour and Cow Bay, N.S., was presented with an address expressive of the sincere regard and good-will of those amongst whom for nine years he had most earnestly and faithfully laboured, and testifying to their high appreciation of his ability as a preacher and worker. The address was accompanied by a purse of \$100. Mr. Currie made a suitable reply.

ST. JOHN.—*Presentation.*—On Wednesday evening, the 24th March, the members of the Bible Class in connection with St. Paul's Church (Valley) took the curate, Rev. C. B. Kenrick, M.A., by surprise at his lodgings by presenting him, through Mr. James N. Rogers, their senior member, a very handsome ebony cane, silver-mounted, and name engraved upon it. Mr. Kenrick replied in very suitable words. Having resigned his position here, he will leave shortly for a new sphere of labor.

ST. JOHN.—*Trinity Church.*—Trinity Church has lost two of its members during the past week. One was Mrs. Walter Magee, who quietly fell asleep on Saturday, March 20th, very suddenly, to the great grief of her much beloved husband and parents. She was a young lady much esteemed by all who knew her. The other was an aged member who had been ill for some time past. Mr. Francis W. Pickman passed away to his eternal rest on the Sunday

following, March 21st. Much sympathy is felt for those thus bereaved, not only among the members of Trinity Church, but also among many of the residents of St. John.

MONCTON.—We are pleased to hear that the efforts of Mr. A. A. Rankin, the energetic organist of St. George's Church, to procure a boys' choir is meeting with good success. Some fourteen boys have most wondrously been found with fairly good voices, some indeed with very good, and by dint of constant practice for many weeks past, they are now able to occupy the choir stalls during the special Lenten services on Tuesdays and Fridays. By persevering in the practices, it is hoped that they will soon be sufficiently confident to undertake the Sunday services. Great praise is due to Mr. Rankin for his painstaking efforts. The old ignorant opposition to boy choirs is rapidly dying out everywhere, and we hope this example of Moncton will be imitated by many other parishes. Owing to stormy weather and household duties, ladies are constantly hindered from attending the practices and services of the choir. Once boys are trained, neither home nor weather ought to keep them from regular attendance. Well done, Moncton.

SALISBURY.—We understand that the Rector of Petticoe, the Rev. C. Willis, is about to open a Mission Hall in this village, where the service of the church will be regularly held.

Salisbury is an important place, situated at the junction of the Albert and Intercolonial Railways, and has hitherto had no church or place of worship.

We wish the energetic rector and his curate good luck, in the name of the Lord.

WESTFIELD, King's Co., N.B.—Rev. A. V. Wiggins having resigned this parish through ill-health, the churchwardens are desirous of corresponding with clergy willing to fill the place.

BISHOP'S COLLEGE, LENNOXVILLE.

DIVINITY DEGREES.

To the Editor of THE CHURCH GUARDIAN:

SIR,—As the question of granting by Provincial Parliament to the Montreal Diocesan Theological College the privilege of conferring degrees in Divinity is now under discussion, it may be interesting to your readers to know that a special meeting of the Convocation of the University of Bishop's College will be held on the 28th April next, for the purpose of taking action upon a scheme submitted by the College Council for modifying the present statutes of the University with the express view of extending to all the clergy of the Province of Quebec, wherever educated, the privileges now enjoyed in respect to degrees in Divinity by the Alumni of Bishop's College, the Church University of the Province.

Many of your readers are graduates of the University and members of Convocation, and may wish to weigh carefully the proposed scheme before attending the meeting. I venture, therefore, to ask you, as the Church paper of the Province, to give the matter wide circulation by printing it *in extenso*.

The scheme has been drawn up with great care, and is the result of the anxious thought of many years, although only now brought prominently forward. It has been submitted to the two Bishops of Montreal and Quebec, who are jointly responsible for the appointment of the Professor of Divinity in Bishop's College, and for the course of study in Divinity therein, and it has received the approval of both.

The promoters entertain the hope that this