

limit or prescribe the operations of the Spirit of God, but should rather stir up our faith, that so it may be said to us 'According to your faith be it unto you.' Until our blessed Lord comes back, we can plead before God the promise in the book of the Prophet Joel, and earnestly pray for those 'times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord' spoken of by St. Peter, only a few days after the outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost. All we have to remember is that the Church is the Body of Christ, and that the indwelling of the Spirit in her is entirely different from His presence in the world, and His dealings with mankind in general. When God has prevailed to perfect His Church—His election—then will the way be prepared for the further manifestation of 'the manifold wisdom of God'—of 'the exceeding riches of His grace' in Christ Jesus to all mankind, and throughout all creation.

For Thee, O Lord, we long, for Thee we wait:
Have mercy on us in our low estate,
And while the world with sin and death is rife,
Thou art the Resurrection and the Life.

—A.B.C. in Family Churchman

THE SOCIAL PROBLEM AND CHURCH UNITY.

Prof. Charles W. Shields, D. D., in *The Century*,
New York, September.

The situation of Christian denominations in modern society in that of a wrangling army among invading foes. It is no petty quarrel before the onset, but a bitter feud in mid-battle. Surely, if social ills are fast coming to a crisis, it is folly to ignore them; and if organized Christianity is their only perfect remedy, it is madness to withhold that remedy.

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More Christian unity, the so called unity of the invisible church, does not meet the social exigency. The invisible unity of the wrangling denominations must become visible, potent, aggressive. They cannot rouse their common foes by attacking them single-handed or in scattered bands. They cannot cope with the social perils surrounding them, until they have some outward agreement, some concentrated leadership, and some concerted action; in a word, some organic unity. The untaught masses do not want a sectarian Christianity. How can the denominations teach them Christian brotherhood, when they do not themselves treat one another as brethren? How can they teach Christian spirituality, when they are scrambling for worldly place and power? At a time when the wildest notions of social problems are abroad, it is imperative that the denominations should as one Church speak with one accordant voice in the name of their common Head and Lord.

Such a true church unity is becoming intelligible and practical in American society. The long lost idea of our Catholic Church is sweeping the popular mind like a passion, and melting away all prejudices. It is no longer Utopian to look for an ecclesiastical unity which shall embrace dogmatic differences and allow them due scope and action. Such a unity once prevailed. In the New Testament Church there were no Episcopalian, Presbyterian and Congregational denominations, but only congregational, presbyterial and episcopal principles and instructions as duly combined in one organization. The Catholic and Apostolic Church might now return, if our congregations would associate in free presbyteries, our presbyteries commit their episcopal functions to bishops, and our bishops become conjoined in the same historical succession, whatever views might be held as to the need or value of that succession. The most extreme views of churchmanship, as well as the most varied forms of denominationalism, would be retained in such an ecclesiastical system.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

WALTON.—The Chapter of the Avon Rural Deanery assembled at St. Matthew's Church in the parish of Newport, on Tuesday evening, 26th August, when the following clergymen were present: Rev. W. J. Ancient, M. A., R. D.; Canon Brock, D. D.; Revs. F. J. H. Axford, K. C. Hind, M. A.; L. H. Fullerton, B. A.; J. M. C. Wade, M. A.

Canon Brock was the preacher at this service, using for his text Ps. xlv. 14; he urged upon the large and attentive congregation the thought of the beauty of our Liturgy, that the Church in her services was indeed decked in garments of wrought gold.

The Chapter assembled again for the Deanery service on Wednesday at 11 o'clock. Shortened Morning Prayer was said by Mr. Fullerton. The Dean was celebrant, assisted by Canon Brock, and the sermon (a very practical one) was preached by the Dean on the subject of 'Worship.' The business meeting of the Chapter was held in the Church during Wednesday afternoon, the Dean in the Chair. The meeting being opened in the usual way, the order of business was taken up; minutes of last meeting read and approved. The service for the ordering of Deacons was read. The Chapter decided to hold its next meeting at Hantsport in the parish of Falmouth, on the occasion of the opening of the new church there, on the festival of St. Simon and St. Jude, Oct. 28th; Dr. Partridge to be asked to preach the opening sermon. The subject for discussion, 'Having in view the advancement of the unity of Christendom, what should be the bearing of the Church and her clergy towards the sects and their ministers,' was introduced by a few words from Mr. Axford, followed by the other members of the Chapter. It was finally decided that under present circumstances no unity in practical work could exist, while socially every country should be shown.

On the motion of Dr. Brock, seconded by Mr. Wade, the following resolution was passed: 'That whereas the Synods of Nova Scotia and Fredericton have sanctioned the establishment of a Church school for girls at Windsor.

Resolved, 'That the clergy of the Deanery of Avon do all in their power in their respective parishes and spheres of labor to promote the success of such a school, by publicly advocating its claims; by urging persons to become shareholders, and by advising parents to send their daughters to this school.'

The Chapter then closed its session by the usual prayers.

A very successful Missionary service was held in the Church in the evening, when, after Evensong, addresses were given on Holy Communion by Mr. Wade; Board of Home Missions by Mr. Axford, and Household Religion by Mr. Fullerton.

The offertories at the various services was given in aid of the W. & O. of the Clergy Fund.

The thanks of the members of the Chapter are due to Mr. Hind for his kindness in providing conveyance from the railway station to Walton and back, as well as for hospitality by the way. And to those kind people of Walton who made us so comfortable during our stay among them. We all regretted exceedingly the unfavorable weather which prevented many from a distance from enjoying these special services.

TIDNISH.—The Rev. C. A. French, of Baie Verte, N. B., begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of \$1 from Rev. W. B. Rally, of Bothwell, Ont., towards a church for Tidnish. He also desires us to say that Rev. V. E. Harris, of Amherst, N. S., and himself as most anxious to commence the church at once, but they have not as yet sufficient funds. If friends of this new Mission would kindly remember the old

allege, *bis dat qui cite dat*, he gives twice who gives quickly, they would confer a great favor on a struggling feeble flock. The Missionary is in the field, and Tidnish is certain to become an important place in the near future, because of the Marine Railway. This Mission ought to be strengthened now. Are we going to waste another opportunity and let others take away the hold we have there to day? It is to be hoped this will not be the way we shall act. Mr. French is willing to work up the Mission, but he cannot build the church without outside aid.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

BAIE VERTE.—The Rev. C. A. French, the Missionary at this place, begs to acknowledge a gift of books from Rev. Canon Brigstocke, of St. John, N. B. He is most thankful to those kind friends who are aiding him in his work. Of course the establishment of three new missions involves a good deal of labor and anxiety, but labors are very much lightened and anxieties are lessened by the knowledge that friends of missions may be found in many a city, many a hamlet, and many a country-side.

ST. JOHN.—Trinity.—The Rev. A. J. A. Gollmer has severed his connection with Trinity Church. On Tuesday afternoon, 9th Sept., the superintendent, officers and teachers of the Sabbath school presented him with an address and a handsome travelling case as a slight remembrance of the pleasant associations which they had during the five years of which Mr. Gollmer had been curate.

The death of Mr. R. A. Gregory removes from the business life of St. John a very active, hard-working man. Mr. Gregory came to this country from Ireland when he was about thirteen years of age, and after he left school went to work; and since then he has never been idle. He knew the lumber business of St. John in all its moods and tenses, and worked at it from the pond to the mill. He has met with many ups and downs, but was never discouraged, and his industry, cheerfulness and hopefulness were most agreeable qualities of his nature. In addition, he was a very kind hearted man, and was always ready to assist any good enterprise. In Portland, where he lived many years, and where he was well known, he will be greatly missed. He had filled the office of a vestryman of St. Luke's Church for twenty years and has been one of the church wardens for the last five years. Mr. Gregory leaves wife six sons and two daughters. Three of his sons are in this city.—*St. John Globe*.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—There are no less than three vacancies in parishes in or near the city. The Rev. Geo. Rogers, B. A., Rector of St. Luke's for several years past, has resigned, having accepted a call to Brandon, Manitoba. We have not heard any names men ioned as his successor.

The Rev. J. Newnham, M. A., Rector of the Church of St. Matthias, Cote St. Antoine, has resigned, in order to take up work in Moosonee. Our Rupert's Land correspondent intimates that after some training to the hardships and peculiarities of that work, a higher position, presumably that of Bishop of the Diocese will be accorded him. It is said that the name of Mr. Almon, Rector of Yarmouth, N. S., has been sent in to the Bishop for appointment as rector. Mr. Almon did duty in the parish as *locum tenens* during Mr. Newnham's absence in England.

St. Mary's Church, Hochelaga, is also vacant through the resignation of Rev. J. Elgecombe, who has accepted a call to a parish in the States. The Lay Helper's Association is aiding in carrying on the work there; but the posi-