

For one, I was glad, as all knew him to be a man of moderation and gentleness; and every one felt sure, that coming to the fatherly rule of our Bishop, after having experienced the not very pleasant domination of a set of tyrannical despots called deacons, he would alter the tone of the really "Presbyterian" *Witness*. I even thought of subscribing myself; but to every one's wonder, after a short time it was found to be in the old hands. For a little while the affair was enshrouded in a mystery as great as that which surrounded the editorship of the *Churchman's Calendar*; but at last we were informed that the cause of the trouble was, that the Reverend Jupiter and the Reverend Vulcan who forge and hurl the bolts of the Thunderer insisted upon revising and correcting the newly-appointed Editor's articles, and to this, he, very properly, would not submit. Now, here was a very decided attempt to exercise the "Veto," against which these people are continually raising an outcry, when asked for by the Bishop. I think your readers will agree with me, that such conduct is at least very inconsistent, though it is no doubt truly "Evangelical."

Believe me, yours very truly,

J. A.

CHANT AND HYMN BOOKS.

MR. EDITOR,

In the last number of your magazine, you were good enough to speak of certain "Psalters," fully pointed for chanting, and you recommended Elvey's or Mercer's. I agree with you that both are good, but I think Mercer's book is to be preferred for several reasons; (1), it can be had in several sizes; (2), it contains the glorious old "plain song," for morning and evening, as used in Westminster Abbey; (3), it has the *old* music for the Holy Communion, used in all ages and in every branch of the Church; (4), it contains the music for the burial office; and (5), it is cheaper than Elvey's. If the choir-master would get out Mercer's book, his choir would have every thing they require for ordinary use. For hymn tunes one cannot get better than "Hymns Ancient and Modern," the music of which I am informed is used in Fredericton Cathedral.

I have written the above on the supposition that the modern chant is to be used; and I suppose that it is best known in the province. But I would humbly submit that, for real use, the old Gregorian chant is the best. It was my lot when young to attend for years a church where the psalms and canticles were regularly sung, and the Litany and Responses and Communion Office intoned to the music of the "Helmore's Manual of Plain Song." I have never heard any other kind of music to be compared with it, for simplicity and grandeur. Certainly, in the churches which I have attended in my travels, where the congregations have most joined in the chanting, Helmore's book has been used. To those who are not already acquainted with Helmore's "Manual of Plain Song" I would take the liberty of recommending it; next to that, and one perhaps which will be more generally appreciated, I would suggest Mr. Mercer's book, for the reasons above given.

Yours very faithfully,

A. F. S.

THE CHURCH'S 'TREASURES.—S. Lawrence was requested to give up the treasures of the Church in Rome, which were in his keeping as Archdeacon. He said: "Let me be sent back with waggons, in which the treasures of the Church may be brought away." Avarice opened her jaws; but Wisdom knew the part she was playing. An order was given for as many waggons as he asked; and in proportion to the number of carriages that he required, the cupidity of the persecutors was excited, and their appetite for spoil increased. S. Lawrence filled the waggons with poor persons, and with them he returned to the heathen tribunal. "What means this?" was the immediate cry. He answered, "These are the treasures of the Church."—*S. Augustine's Sermons*, No 303.