

Pastoral Letter.

TO THE MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH:

The year, whose report this letter introduces has not been marked in any special way. The work in the various branches of the Church's life has gone on quietly and successfully, each branch indicating signs of increased vigour and efficiency. Most cordially do I appreciate the help given in different ways in carrying on the work of the congregation, and it is not a little to be able to say that in all the work there has not been a single note of discord. A specially gratifying feature is the year's experience in the large and most regular attendance of young men at the Sunday afternoon Bible-class; it speaks well for the future of the congregation, and my earnest prayer is that these young men, whose lives I shall watch with the deepest interest, are getting something from our meditations together that will help them to do their part nobly in life's battle. Wherever they may be placed, may they one and all be able to say:—"I am not ashamed of Jesus Christ and His gospel."

To the members of the Choir, who with unwearying faithfulness contribute so much to the beauty and helpfulness of our service, I am deeply indebted, and to Mr. Johnson for his earnest and untiring endeavours in connection therewith.

In one or two things there is cause for admonition and room for amendment. Some of our members are very irregular in their attendance at Church, the slightest of excuses seeming to justify absence, and I would remind such in the kindest way that their careless irregularity is not only a spiritual loss to themselves, but is detrimental to the whole congregational life. Again, some of our members are very careless and irregular in the matter of communion. Pray, think seriously of this and let no light matter lead you to slight or disobey the Master's own invitation, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

The number of those contributing to the Missionary work of the Church is still disappointingly small. I do wish each member of the congregation would earnestly ask "Does Christ not wish—not need—my help in His work?" "Can I be happy in the consciousness that my name is not amongst the fellow-workers with Him?"

One thing more. The deficiency in the ordinary collections is

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