

the service to which we are called by our blessed Lord has yet to be appreciated. The urgency of the hour has yet to be understood. Our joint and several responsibility has yet to be brought home to each of us. The money power of the Church must be used without stint." Now, how can the proper sense of responsibility be imparted, and this practical result accomplished, in a more effective manner than by instilling into the hearts and minds of our Sunday school children the precepts and examples of the New Testament, and cultivating in them the habit of systematic and proportionate giving?

The child who is so educated as to begin by giving for missions some fixed share of his own little store, as, for instance, one cent out of every ten cents, will naturally expect to give one dollar out of every ten dollars, and will gladly go on to increase the amount proportionately, as dollars and years multiply. Hence, if parents would but make to their children a regular monthly or weekly allowance, however small, or a stipulated sum for some slight work, or little service faithfully and regularly performed, and then give wise counsel concerning the proper use and disposal of the store, clearly pointing out God's right and claim to some portion thereof, it would not only be a good investment in the direction of cultivating habits of self-help and frugality, but also it would, as years go on, produce a large increase in the amount given to the Treasury of God.

2. *Because of the reflex benefit to the children.* If, as is universally acknowledged, it is true as a general adage that "It is more blessed to give than to receive," how much more rich must be the blessing when the giving is specifically directed to the promotion of the honour and glory of God.

Yea, the giving to the missionary enterprise is a high and holy act. No other work is so pure in its unselfish love and wide beneficence. No other work so opens and enlarges one's heart. No other work so takes one out of himself and shows him what it is to live for others. Its very life and spirit and glory is, that it raises one above the petty doings of life; that it takes one out of the range of the common business aspect of the world; that it forces upon the memory the truth that there are purer motives than "What shall I gain by it?" nobler work than to inquire "What shall I eat?" or "What shall I drink?" or "Wherewithal shall I be clothed?" Ay, and does it not lead to words that which is the sum of all that man owes to his fellow-man—even to love the whole world as his Master loved it, who gave His life for it?

A CLERGYMAN met a man who was declaiming against foreign missions. "Why," asked the objector, "doesn't the Church look after the heathen at home?" "Oh, we do," said the clergyman, quietly handing the man a tract.

OUR PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

No. 56.—ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, ST. JOHN, N.B.



THE Fiftieth Anniversary of St. Luke's Church, St. John, N.B. was marked by special services December 23rd, 1888. Archdeacon Coster, curiously enough, preached the inaugural sermon on Sunday morning, December 23rd, 1838, and on the same day of the week and year, but just half a century later, the present rector preached an historical sermon at the morning service, in which he reviewed the past fifty years of church and parish life. Since then an exceedingly interesting "Jubilee Souvenir" of 200 pages, profusely illustrated in photogravure, has been published, from which we glean a few historical facts concerning this prominent and important parish.

Grace Church, Simonds street, the predecessor of St. Luke's, was first opened for public worship, August 16th, 1829. It was a very humble and unpretentious structure. "Little Grace Church" it was affectionately designated. It stands pre-eminent, however, in provincial ecclesiastical history as being the first church in Canada to hold continuous evening service (served in the evening), and as the first consecrated free Church of England in New Brunswick.

For the first four years after its opening it enjoyed the pastoral ministrations of the Rev. Benjamin G. Gray, D.D., Rector of Trinity Church, St. John, and of his son the Rev. J. W. D. Gray, Curate of Trinity Church. Service was held every Sunday evening at 6 o'clock. The younger Dr. Gray—an Honorary Canon also of Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton, and one of the Bishop's Examining Chaplains—was in many ways a remarkable man, and one who exerted a powerful influence both as pastor, preacher, speaker, debater and as a theological and controversial writer. The "Jubilee Souvenir" contains a short but comprehensive and suggestive analysis of his life, character and labours. In the history of Trinity Church, St. John, which, by the way, will reach its centennial this year, there has been no more marked, nor prominent a personage than the younger Dr. Gray.

In 1833 the Rev. Gilbert L. Wiggins became Rector of Grace Church, holding Sunday services morning and evening. He was the first native-born ordained minister of the Church of England in New Brunswick. Owing to the frail state of his health he was unable to perform, at least to his own satisfaction, the arduous and constantly increasing duties of the parish, and after a brief rectorship of three years he reluctantly resigned, a painful necessity, deeply regretted by his people, who held in grateful remembrance the gentleness and de-