

The Church Guardian,

A Weekly Newspaper published in the interests of the Church of England.

NON-PARTIZAN! INDEPENDENT!
It will be fearless and outspoken on all subjects, but its effort will always be to speak what it holds to be the truth in love.

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR
REV. JOHN D. H. BROWNE, Lock Drawer 29, Halifax, N.S.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR:
REV. EDWYN S. W. PENTREATH, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

LOCAL EDITOR FOR NEW BRUNSWICK
REV. G. G. ROBERTS, Fredericton.

A staff of correspondents in every Diocese in the Dominion.

Price, ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF a year in advance.

The Cheapest Church Weekly in America. Circulation double that of any other Church paper in the Dominion.

Address: THE CHURCH GUARDIAN, Lock Drawer 29 Halifax, N. S.

The Editor may be found between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., and 2 and 6 p.m., at his office, No. 54 Granville Street, (up-stairs), directly over the Church of England Institute.

The Associate Editor can be found daily between 9 a.m. and 12, at the Branch Office, 493 Main Street, Winnipeg, opposite City Hall.

THE OLD YEAR.

OLD YEAR, Old Year, slowly dying, what hast thou to say with thy expiring voice! Thy utterance is feeble and tremulous, but thy words are mighty as a message from God. Every morning of thy ceaseless round shook for us celestial manna from its wing, and the angel's food has lain all around our camp. Our treasure was ours while it lasted. But the sweep of thy relentless stream has carried it away, and all that we can do is to stand upon the shore and look regretfully after it, and weep as it disappears in the distance. No power in earth or Heaven can now restore it to our possession. Speak to us once more, ere thou, too, glidest into the relentless past, and becomest of those days of earth which are but a shadow. Speak, and we will hear and hearken."

"O, children mine, I gaze with sorrow upon the months, weeks, days, hours, minutes, moments, that have gone since I sprang into light. I review the whole earth which has been partaker of my being, and I ask myself whether it has become in any sense better during its time of probation. I see wars and rumours of war; wholesale slaughter and vile assassination; Christian nations bathed in each other's blood; Christian brothers robbing each other of his birthright, defrauding and ruining one another. I see legislatures vainly endeavouring to rule without God. I see churches striving to evangelize heathendom, while their own heathens paralyze their efforts. I see much apparent zeal for outward religion with little inward reality. My seasons, civil and ecclesiastical, have come and gone; my voice has been raised in warning, encouraging, blessing; my sacred round of holy teaching has once again been duly kept. I have sought to draw your hearts and consciences to view the dread lessons they would inculcate; and I tremble as my breath grows shorter and my voice weaker, as I sink to my hours of death, that my loving opportunities have been so sadly neglected. But, children, ye have asked me to speak to you. What, then, have ye done yourselves to make my hours more profitable? Have ye first made your own calling and election sure? Are ye reconciled to God? Have your own robes been washed white in the blood of the Lamb? If so, then how have ye shown your membership in Christ?

What have ye done for the cause of Missions? How much have ye lent unto the Lord for use in the Home Mission field? Is any struggling country Parish the stronger for your mite? What have ye done for Foreign Missions? Has your prayer

been offered and your share given for the bringing in of the heathen to the fold of CHRIST? How much better is the world of Idols for your self-denying generosity? What have you done to support the various religious agencies at your own doors? How much or how little encouragement has been given to your own pastor in his efforts to win souls and bodies to CHRIST? Have you stood idly by and seen him work his heart out in the vain endeavour to do alone the work of you all? Have you rallied to his side in his society work, in his schools, in his visiting, in his ministrations, and where you could have you put your hand in his and with the warm grasp of unselfish love bade him count upon your aid? What have you done for CHRIST's poor? Have you driven them away with hard words and harder thoughts, and grudged to them the dole unwillingly bestowed? What have you done for your own Church? She is the representative to you of Christ and His gospel. Have you studied her, prayed for her, helped her, fought for her, believed in her glorious mission, borne obloquy and scorn for her sake and His, who is her divine LORD?"

"Children mine, search your hearts ere my last breath passes. Reckon up your mercies, count your sorrows among the number, grieve with a holy sadness for your lost opportunities, implore a gracious and forgiving God to blot out your iniquities and hide His face upon your sins. Receive my successor with Hosannas, that you may bid him depart with Hallelujahs. Make up for lost time. I go, for my time is come, but ere I close my eyes to time, I give ye Heaven and Earth's greatest mystery, the Incarnate Son of God, "O, COME LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD."

"PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO MEN."

ALTHOUGH we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents, yet we have ever sought as far as possible to prevent personalities in our columns, being fully persuaded that the curse of our Church in the past has been the rancorous controversies which have so frequently disfigured our Church press.

We formed the determination when starting the GUARDIAN to do nothing to encourage party animosities, or to assist in perpetuating religious quarrels, within the Church. Having long felt that but for differences among ourselves we would be immensely stronger than we are in Canada, and that nothing could justify their continuance, we have had no disposition to assist those who would keep them alive. This paper was brought into existence not for party purposes but for the good of the whole Church. The Church of England is wide enough to include all shades of opinion consistent with a belief in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. And it will be found that very many of the disputes and misunderstandings might easily be avoided, if both sides were willing to examine calmly and with candour the whole question at issue. Often it is a question of the meaning of words, one side attributing to the other motives and views which are not intended and not held. For ourselves we would do nothing in any way to injure the Church or any of her members. We are most desirous of helping to extend her influence and work, and to draw our people's hearts more closely and warmly together. We want to see more earnest zeal and ardent love for souls, and more activity in doing the Church's work. If only the Church is placed before the people in her true light, she cannot fail to attract, and to grow in

favor with all degrees of men, and it will be our aim to advance her interests at all times, and to display her Catholic position to the world. Now in the Christmas Season, when peace and good will have been ushered in by the Birth of Christ, let us who bear His name put from us all bitterness of spirit and all unfriendly and unbrotherly feelings, and at the cradle at Bethlehem renew our vows to the Dear Redeemer, Whose Incarnation means so much for us here and hereafter. Let us at this time forget the past and live as brethren for the future. If only we are true to ourselves, our Church and our God, the differences of the past will have no place in our lives in the coming future. The world is full of infidelity, scepticism and irreligion. There is much for the individual Christian and for the Christian Church to do, and the winning and holding the world for Christ can only be accomplished by united, earnest work on the part of all. If there are unseemly divisions in the Church Satan will prevail, and our Blessed Lord's name will be blasphemed, but if the Church is united, no power on earth can overpower her or check her onward march.

WHO WILL RESPOND?

We may perhaps be allowed to say a few words upon a subject which to some extent concerns ourselves, but has principally to do with the Church's work. A short time ago, after the New York *Guardian* had made an appeal similar to the one we now make, it was able to print the following, which tells its own story:—

"A noble-hearted layman, who does not wish his name published, sends us his check for fifty dollars, to pay for twenty-five copies of *The Guardian* to be sent to Missionaries of the Church. For this substantial approval of the work which *The Guardian* is doing, we beg to return to the generous donor our most grateful acknowledgments."

Now we want to ask why some of our Canadian Laity cannot be moved to do a like good deed? We ask it not for our Missionaries, who we know would wish to pay their own subscriptions, but on behalf of a deserving class among their people. We regret to say, while we have very many quite touching requests for the paper from widows and persons advanced in years who find themselves unable to pay for it, we are not in a position to send it gratuitously to them, and so are compelled to refuse them what would help to give comfort to their widowed or aged days. We have nothing to complain of in the treatment we have received from both clergy and laity. Notwithstanding we were compelled while improving the paper to raise the price, our circulation is quite as large, in fact larger, than ever, and constantly increasing. But we now make an appeal on behalf of the class of persons to which we have referred, and ask those who appreciate our work and have the means, to put us in possession of sufficient funds that we may be enabled to add to our lists quite a considerable number of highly respectable people, whose cases we are well acquainted with, who cannot themselves afford the outlay. We should hope there were many among our readers who themselves value their Church paper, and who will be ready to assist in placing it within the reach of those who cannot otherwise get it. We promise on our part to be as generous as our subscribers, and will therefore gladly lose half the subscription on each paper, so that for every seventy-five cents sent us we will forward a copy of our paper for a year to persons to be named by the donors, or to those by whom we know it will be greatly appreciated.