

liturgical form, embracing the five great elements of confession of sin, prayer, acknowledgement of the faith, instruction in the word and praise, the music of the Church grew in importance, in perfection, in universal use, and the choral service of the cathedral, grand, solemn and impressive, with pealing organ or full orchestra and choir of well trained voices, came to be the embodiment of what pious devotion deemed to be worthy of the worship of the great God.

Our own Church of England has retained this pattern of a service largely enriched with the aid of music, and has made provision for it. Not only is space provided at every morning and evening prayer where an anthem may be sung where there is a choir, but it is undoubtedly contemplated that the Canticles and the Psalms of David should be chanted as they were of old, with musical accompaniment; and if you look carefully through the rubrics, you will observe how often the alternative is offered in various parts of the service of saying or singing, such as the creeds and the *Ter Sanctus* and *Gloria in Excelsis* in the Communion office. The Church of England, during the last three hundred years, has been, and is still, with increasing copiousness, accumulating rich and vast treasures of sacred music, the product of her own pure and scriptural services, unequalled for its lofty beauty and its fitness worthily to express the praise of God. Nor is this recourse to the aid of music in religious exercises confined to our own Church amongst Protestant bodies. It is very noticeable that wherever a revival in religious earnestness has taken place, and people have been aroused out of their deadness and torpor as to spiritual things, fervent and hearty singing has had much to do with it. In the great movement of the last century, which resulted in the separation of the Methodist body, you are aware how great a power was exercised by its two first leaders, John and Charles Wesley, through their great gifts in music and hymnology. The beautiful, scriptural and fervent hymns of Wesley to this day hold a moving power that it is difficult to estimate over the religious feelings of men. In the great revival crusade which has been preached during the past few years by the two evangelists who are so well known on this continent and in Europe, it is as much the sweet singing of his inspiring sacred songs by the one, as the fervid and practical appeals of the other, that has laid hold on men's souls, and drawn them in tens of thousands to listen to the message of salvation. Indeed, the arousing of the churches out of a state of apathy into new spiritual life, and the largely increased and improved use of music in their services, which are characteristic of to-day, seem to be essentially connected as mutually operating one on the other as cause and effect.

The spirit aroused to devotional emotions yearns to find expression in the uplifting of the voice in song and hymn of praise; and the hearty uniting in this joyous exercise by the great congregation has the electric effect of kindling and lighting up the flame of devotion in the heart.

Thus it is we find that church which has longest disallowed what they deemed the profane introduction of sounding instruments into their precise and grave worship, now contending for the liberty to use organs in their churches. Thus it is we find the congregations of the Methodist body around us importing into their worship services taken out of our matchless Liturgy, music composed for the canticles and anthems of the Church, chanting that venerable triumph song of the ancient Church, the *Te Deum Laudamus*, and vying with us in the attractiveness and elaborateness of their musical services.

The same process is going on in our own Church. The undeniable quickening into new spiritual life which is taking place among us is marked by a new and increased attention to the vast field of Church music. Services which were cold and dreary and formal are assuming a new and bright garb, rendering then cheerful, joyous, and attractive, by introducing hearty, inspiring singing. The greatest musical composers of the day are devoting their talents to enrich our store of Church music, as though they had discovered a new field, the grandest and noblest of all, for the exercise of their sacred art. And on the other hand, I must avow the result of my own experience that visiting the churches of my diocese I find it a very general rule that where there is plenty of singing, bright, earnest, hearty, there will be a large congregation, interested, responsive, devout.

And is it not natural and right that it should be so? Music, the gift to excel in it and the power to enjoy it, we must recognize as one of the good gifts of God, given to us to make life joyous, capable of being largely employed to promote His glory.

Music is the universal language with which man has been endowed. To all who have ears to hear, its sounds speak with the same voice to all alike, in all lands, of all tongues, in all ages, to all sorts and conditions of men. And there is no state, feeling or emotion of the human heart which its sounds are not capable of expressing; the fiercest passions and most turbulent desires; the gloomiest despondency and wildest affright, as well as the holiest calm;

the gladdest joy and sweetest repose; the martial triumph of conquest and inspiring call to battle, as well as the soft alluring to love; the sadness of the contrite soul; the sorrow of the bereaved; the earnest, pleading of entreaty; the whispering of devotion; the exultation of praise and victory; even the humorous and jocose side of human nature; all the phases of human feeling find their richest expression in music.

It follows from what has been said that the music of our churches to be all this, must be both congregational and rendered from a sincere affection of the heart, in that worship which is in spirit and in truth.

It is not the chastest music most exquisitely rendered by swelling organ and surpliced choir, listened to with delight by a critical audience, that will embody the ideal of the fitting homage of God—that will cause the glory of the Lord to fill the House of God, or animate the congregation with the zeal of true devotion to Him, but that which spontaneously rises from the hearts and voices of the whole body of worshippers in one consenting chorus of praise. Aim, brethren, at congregational singing, led worthily by your most efficient choir.

And seek that your services may not be merely a display of superior talent or a sensuous delight that ministers to the glory of man and the pride or pleasure of the human heart; but that which St. Paul so beautifully recommends to Christians, the singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

But, finally, the supreme fitness of the service of song for the worship of the earthly courts of God's house, is that it is the medium through which His redeemed saints will worship Him, through the endless ages, in the temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

MONTREAL.

IRON HILL.—A successful entertainment was lately held in this mission to raise funds for the seating of the church. There was a large gathering, many coming from a distance, including representations from most of the adjacent parishes. Addresses were given by the present incumbent and two of the former incumbents,—Rev. Messrs. Fyles and Nye. Over \$200 was realised, which, with some funds already at their disposal, will enable the congregation to complete the interior of the church.

WEST SHEFFORD.—A new church is in course of erection in this mission, and the work of building progresses rapidly. When finished, the incumbent will have reason to feel proud of his undertaking. It will rank as one of the finest church buildings in this section of the Eastern Townships.

DEANERY OF BEDFORD.—The usual fall missionary meetings in this Deanery were very successful this year. The collections were above the average, and the attendance uniformly good. With few exceptions the clergy fulfilled their appointments, and stirring appeals were made to the laity to support the mission fund of the Diocese. Holding the missionary meetings in the church buildings is on the increase in this diocese, and it is well that it is. But when in church does it not seem incongruous that the clergy should appear without surplices, and that the speeches should be preceded by merely two or three collects? Yet this was practised in some parishes. Surely it would be preferable to have either morning or evening prayer, or the litany, or indeed a celebration of the holy eucharist, where the appointment is made for the morning.

EARDLEY.—A children's entertainment was lately held in this parish in connection with the Sunday-school. Presents were distributed during the evening to each scholar, and Mr. McFarlane addressed the school in a very earnest and practical speech.

ONTARIO.

FRANKTOWN.—The Lord Bishop of Ontario held a confirmation in St. James' Church, Franktown, on Saturday, the 21st. The clergy present besides the rector, the Rev. Stearne Tighe, were the Revs. G. J. Low, F. L. Stephenson, and C. T. Denroche. The church was decorated with grain and flowers, and the altar with suitable symbols and monograms.

The service was a full choral one, led by St. James' Church Choral Guild. Twenty-six males and twenty-five females were confirmed, nearly all adults, and some advanced in life. Holy Communion was administered to about one hundred and eighty persons. The Bishop's address was very impressive. During the incumbency of the present rector, great improvements have been made in all the churches in the parish, and all who are acquainted with it notice that a great interest in religion as set forth by the Church, is manifest among the rising generation, which exhibits itself in a constant attendance upon all the services of the Church, as well as in the general good conduct of the young people of the parish.

ALMONTE.—At Almonte, the incumbent, the Rev. F. S. Stephenson, B.A., is most successfully paying off the heavy mortgage of \$8,000, which he found on the parsonage on his appointment to this parish four years since. This debt was payable by half-yearly instalments with interest at eight per cent. During the five years of his incumbency, Mr. Stephenson has paid \$1,500 principal, and \$930 interest, and has enough on hand to meet payments to May, 1883, when the total paid on principal will be \$1800, and interest \$1,044. This reduction of indebtedness is due mainly to his energy in organizing excursions by C. P. R. from Almonte to some point in the United States. By the last excursion from Almonte to Ogdensburg, the parish cleared \$730; as in the parish of Franktown, here too, the Church's work is being done in the Church's way, with the usual good results.

LANARK.—This extensive mission has been again sub-divided. Innisville, an out station of the rectory of Carleton Place, has been added, and the townships of S. Sherbrooke, Osa and Olden have been grouped to form a new mission, with the village of Maberley as headquarters. The passage of the Ontario and Quebec, and the Toronto and Ottawa lines of railway through these townships, necessitates this arrangement, and the Church is to retain her hold on those members of the communion so carefully tended until lately by the indefatigable and hard-working missionary, the Rev. D. V. Gwillyn.

MERRICKVILLE AND BURRITT'S RAPIDS.—The Bishop visited this parish to hold confirmation services on the 25th and 26th October. At Trinity Church, Merrickville, fifty-seven candidates presented themselves. At Christ Church, Burritt's Rapids, thirty. The number of communicants at the two services was two hundred and twelve. One hundred and twenty at Merrickville, and ninety-two at Burritt's Rapids. The Bishop during his addresses, kept the attention of the large congregations riveted. A new and powerful organ from the well known firm of W. Bell & Co., Guelph, Ont., has been placed in Christ Church; matting has been laid down on the aisles, and new chandeliers hung, making this one of the neatest churches in the diocese. Funds are being raised for renovating Trinity Church, Merrickville. The next duty will be the erection of a new parsonage, the present one not being by any means a credit to the parish.

TORONTO.

ST. JAMES' RECTORY SURPLUS.—There was a meeting of the committee representing the rectors of Toronto and the authorities of St. James' Cathedral some time since, when Rev. Messrs. John Langtry, J. P. Lewis, T. Patterson, and Hon. Chief Justice Spragge were appointed a committee to meet the authorities of St. James' Cathedral, in order to see if it were possible to have the endowment fund settled without litigation. The above named gentlemen on the 27th ult. met Messrs. Clark Gamble, J. K. Kerr, and Colonel Gzowski for that purpose. The committee maintained that in the event of litigation the probability was that St. James' would receive very much less instead of more, consequently they could not, as a matter of justice to themselves and to their successors accept any compromise. The authorities of St. James' take this stand, that while they would be glad indeed to have this matter amicably settled, still there is no legal way of releasing them from their obligation to keep these funds in the interests of St. James', and as trustees they cannot of their own will make any arrangement for compromise. What is done must be done under direction of a special Act, or the decision of a competent Court of law. The result was that they unanimously came to the conclusion that there was no way to settle the matter but by appealing to the Courts, which all promised to do in the most kindly spirit possible. The case is now being prepared, and in a short time will be before the Courts. The amount to be distributed, it is said, is somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$23,000, and will be very much more in a few years. Probably it will be increased by one-half, or at least by one-third.