

gathered apples and pears, and richly laden vines covered with bunches of tempting-looking grapes.

On proceeding to the Church, we found the members of the congregation assembling for this long-looked-for event, and as we admired the little edifice, we could not but appreciate the earnest and untiring efforts which must have been made, to produce such a satisfactory result.

After Matins had been said by the Rector, the Rev. C. Croucher, the Bishop advanced to the door of the vestry, where he was met by the Rector and Churchwardens, and presented with a petition for the due consecration of the building. After the singing of the 24th Psalm, the Bishop delivered a short address, emphasizing the necessity of setting apart for sacred uses the Church which has been consecrated to the service of Almighty God, and illustrating both from the Law, and from the life of our Lord, the importance attached to this special dedication.

“One striking example of Christ’s abhorrence of an irreverent or unlawful use of God’s House, is the Apostle’s account of His expulsion from the Temple of ‘them that sold therein, and them that bought.’ The business of the money-changers was a perfectly legitimate calling, had it been practised elsewhere than in the precincts of the Temple, for the noisy clamour of the Exchange is wholly out of harmony with the sacred quiet which should pervade the House of God. However their transactions were not free from an element of evil, since advantage was taken of the ignorance of clients to deceive and overreach them. Surely this ‘House of Prayer’ had become a ‘den of thieves.’ The lesson may be ap-

plied to ourselves, and help us to guard against irreverence, either of outward act or inward thought. Anything which tends to distract our thoughts from the true object of our worship, has no place in God’s House.

“With many professing Christians it has become a settled habit to spend part of the time during Service, in reviewing the events of the past week, or in planning business or pleasures for the next. While not in themselves sinful, these subjects are not in keeping with the sacred edifice, and should resolutely be banished from the mind. Though at first, it may require a determined effort of will to dismiss secular thoughts, to control the wandering senses, and to attune the heart and mind to one’s surroundings, yet the habit, if persisted in, cannot fail to result in great spiritual blessing. Turned from earthly distractions, we may rise into harmony with the Divine Will; and filled with His Holy Spirit, may abound in the fruits of faith and love and reverence.”

On the conclusion of the address the Rector read the Lesson from Chronicles 2., vi. The beautiful dedication prayer of Solomon seemed to assume new meaning, and many hearts present echoed the petition—“That Thine Eyes may be open upon this house day and night.” Then followed the formal declaration of Consecration by his Lordship, and after further appropriate prayers and hymns, Holy Communion was celebrated.

At the close of the Service, some of our party were given a cordial invitation to lunch at the hospitable home of Mrs. Agassiz, and the others wended their way to the hotel as the guests of our kind Rector. A drive to Harrison