

Canadian Churchman.

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FRANK WOOTEN,
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Offices—Cor. Church and Court Streets.
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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

January 3rd.—SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

Morning.—Isaiah 43. Mat. 2.
Evening.—Isaiah 43; or 44. Acts 7, to v. 22.

APPROPRIATE HYMNS for Second Sunday after Christmas and First Sunday after Epiphany, compiled by Mr. F. Gatward, organist and choir-master of St. Luke's Cathedral, Halifax, N.S. The numbers are taken from H. A. & M., but many of which are found in other hymnals:

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Holy Communion: 178, 316, 324, 556.
Processional: 58, 78, 165, 175.
Offertory: 55, 179, 484, 485.
Children's Hymns: 62, 331, 344, 565.
General Hymns: 59, 70, 72, 74, 515, 528.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Holy Communion: 78, 310, 313, 555.
Processional: 76, 79, 219, 390.
Offertory: 81, 173, 179, 306.
Children's Hymns: 79, 330, 334, 573.
General Hymns: 77, 80, 477, 487, 522, 548.

THE EPIPHANY.

This is a festival of especial joy to all the members of the Gentile Church. On this day Christ our Saviour was manifested or made known to the eastern Magi, and through them to the whole heathen world which they represented. Through the epiphany of Christ, we, amongst other nations of the Gentiles, were turned from darkness to light, from the power of Satan unto God, and received an inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Him. Therefore does the Church commemorate with holy joy the manifestation of the Blessed Jesus; she teaches us to walk in the light which He has made to shine upon us, praying that it may lead us as it did those early Gentile converts, into the very presence of our Lord. But to obtain their blessing we must copy their example, as it is set before us in the gospel for the day. They persevered through the dangers of a long and perilous journey, obediently following the directions of the star which God had given them for a guide, until it brought them safely to the place where the

young Child was. Christ's holy religion is the guiding star which directs Christians in their long and troublesome journey through this world. By the light of His gospel and of His Church, and of His Holy Spirit acting through sacred ordinances, He teaches us what we ought to do, and then gives us grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; and we must persevere in following this light if we would arrive safely at the place where our Lord and Saviour is. According to the measure in which we act up to this holy light, will He manifest Himself to us by faith here, and prepare us for the "full fruition of His glorious Godhead" hereafter. Again, in the second lesson for the evening, does our Blessed Lord "manifest forth" His glory by the performance of His first miracle in Cana of Galilee. By this miracle He showed forth the perfect divinity of His nature, and He taught His disciples that He will ever make Himself known to them, to bless and help them in every circumstance of their lives, if only they seek His presence and His favour. In the same manner do the promises in the evening lesson apply to us as members of a Gentile Church. Christ bids us go forth from the darkness in which we have been prisoners, for that He will have mercy upon us and lead us. Our Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob, the Holy One of Israel, declares that He has heard us in an accepted time, and in the day of salvation has succoured us. He will gather His people together,—setting up His standard amongst them,—making kings to be their nursing fathers, and queens their nursing mothers. Such is also the gracious meaning of those passages in the epistle, where it is said that the Gentiles are made fellow-heirs of the same Body, and partakers of the promise of Christ through His gospel; that to them are preached the unsearchable riches of Christ, and that they have now boldness and access through the faith that is in Him. Thus did Christ, "the true Light," come to give light to every man that cometh into the world. To the whole Christian Church, and to each one of us her members, does He say in the words of the lesson for this day—"Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Let us then strive to keep this Holy festival by walking as children of the Light, letting our light shine in that particular position, however humble, in which His Providence has placed us; and let us all pray that He Who, as on this day, did first manifest His only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, would continue to "cast His bright beams of light upon His Church, that being enlightened by its holy doctrine, we may so walk in the light of His truth, that we may at length attain to the light of everlasting life."

CANADIAN CHURCHMAN CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

Our Christmas number has been extensively appreciated, both on account of the excellence of the illustrations as well as the admirable editorial, especially written for the season. The general reading matter is of an elevating character, so suitable for both young and old to put them in remembrance of this Holy Season. This beautiful number will be sent to all new subscribers free, and we might suggest that it would be a very nice present to send to any friend, and will be sent to any address for 10 cents.

RESPONSIBILITY AND FAITH.

The work of a great many men and women is impaired in quality and diminished in force by an excessive sense of responsibility. There are a great many people whose work lies in a department, but whose sense of responsibility is extended to cover the whole sphere of action. Their specific duty is to do a particular thing, and to do it with all the power and skill they possess, but they spend their strength in nervous anxiety with regard to the work in other departments for which they have no direct responsibility. It is very easy to make the sense of responsibility tyrannical, and to defeat the very end for which it is given. When this sense becomes so intense and pressing that it no longer leaves the man or woman free to do the best work in the best way, it is abnormal. There are hosts of men and women to-day whose power of doing good is seriously diminished by their painful solicitude for their fellow-men. They bear the whole burden of the world upon their shoulders; all the misery of humanity rests on their hearts, and they are saddened and sickened by a sense of their own inability to deal with great problems, to right great wrongs, and to lift great burdens. This is not only a great mistake, but in a way, it shows a taint of skepticism; it involves a distrust of God. George Macdonald has portrayed this state of mind in one of his best-known stories, in which a man of great earnestness and of heroic temper is so overcome by his consciousness of human misery and of the crying needs of the world that he is really unfitted for duty. It is pointed out to him at last that he is not only doing his own work, but trying to do God's work also; that God is responsible for the universe, and not man; and that all that any man is responsible for is the work that he personally can do under the most favourable conditions. To do that work thoroughly one must have cheer, courage, and the entire command of one's forces. To waste these precious things, through a general feeling of the vastness of the problem and the inadequacy of a man to deal with it, is to call God's judgment into question and to doubt His power to direct His own world. Life is made up, not only of works, but of faith, and no man can do the work of his day with the highest efficiency who does not surround his own special task with an invigorating and inexhaustible atmosphere of faith. If we perform the duty laid upon us and do the work assigned us, God will take care of the rest of the world. We have no right to paralyze ourselves by attempting to add His work to our own.

LITTLE THINGS.

There are few men and women who do not take pleasure in giving information or making themselves useful to strangers. There is one little reward they expect, and one only, and that is a nicely spoken "thank you." The reward is not a very costly one to the giver, but there are times when the pleasant, grateful smile, and the simple words expressing appreciation for the trouble taken in their behalf, not only produce at the time most pleasurable sensations, but the smile and the sweet spoken words linger in memory, and again and again come back. Dull moments are brightened by the remembrance, and times of suffering and anxiety have been softened by