

Canadian Churchman.

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SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS.

Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days

November 28.—First Sunday in Advent.
Morning—Isai. 1, 1 Pet. 1, 22-2, 11
Evening—Isai. 2; or 4, 2 John 11, 10, 17

December 5.—Second Sunday in Advent.
Morning—Isai. 5; 2 Pet. 2
Evening—Isai. 11, 10, 11; or 24; John 14.

December 12.—3rd Sunday in Advent.
Morning—Isai. 25; 1 John 4, 7.
Evening—Isai. 26; or 28, 5, 10, 19; John 19, 10, 25.

December 19.—Fourth Sunday in Advent
Morning—Isai. 30, 10, 27; Rev. 4.
Evening—Isai. 32; or 33, 2, 23; Rev. 5.

Appropriate Hymns for Advent Sunday, and Second Sunday in Advent, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James', Toronto. The numbers are taken from the new Hymn Book, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

ADVENT SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 261, 271, 512, 513.
Processional: 68, 71, 75, 324.
Offertory: 70, 72, 496, 511.
Children's Hymns: 679, 686, 706, 709.
General: 69, 73, 83, 595.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Holy Communion: 272, 273, 277, 587.
Processional: 426, 482, 640, 658.
Offertory: 78, 330, 486, 617.
Children's Hymns: 668, 672, 675, 708.
General: 10, 77, 412, 747.

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

To-day we enter upon a new church year which ought to be marked by deeper appreciation of privilege and more vigorous fulfillment of responsibility. To these ends we must guard against any artificial estimate of the Church year. With recurring years and anniversaries this is one of our real dangers. Unless we are upon our guard familiarity and custom will blunt our sensibilities and weaken our appreciation. Such results can never be if we continually bear in mind the inestimable value of the Church Year. The object of all observation of Season, Fast and Festival, is to place before us the whole Catholic faith, to present it to our minds as a unity and as an essential constituent of living. Heresy

and schism find their root in the over-emphasis of some article of the Christian faith. We are under a vow to believe all the articles of the Christian faith. The value of our Church Year is that during the course of it all doctrines necessary to salvation are brought before us in due order and true proportions. Now in the very forefront of the year is the Church's call to be ready against the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The irony of all our material prosperity and advance in knowledge is that our thoughts are drawn away from the definitely spiritual aspect of life. The spiritual alone is eternal. Therefore, the spiritual alone is worth living and dying for. But this is not the natural view of man. In the main the spiritual privilege is sacrificed to the material interest. And therefore men are not prepared for that crisis when they must deal with the spiritual only. The life of the spirit receives too little attention. The pursuit of wealth and pleasure occupies most of our time. How necessary this Advent Season! The Church bids us stand ready, amid all material things, to meet our Lord in the air and to take part in the triumph of the spiritual over the material. Therefore, "put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof."

Wanted

We gladly draw our readers' attention to the advertisement on our first page in which the Bishop of Quebec seeks for a lay reader and school teacher for the Canadian Labrador and the Magdalen Islands. Here is an opening for missionary work that should appeal to the imagination of devout young Churchmen.

Religion and Business

There can be no doubt that in this practical and progressive age the possession of some aptitude for applying the effective methods of business life to the discharge of the varied, responsible, and sometimes involved and intricate duties of a parish, an archdeaconry, or a diocese is of prime importance. A man may be devout, diligent, and exemplary in life and character, and yet for the lack of this very business aptitude, sadly inefficient. It by no means follows that because a clergyman is energetic in thought and action, prompt, punctual and practical in his dealings with his fellowmen, that he need be a whit less devout than one who is notably lacking in these practical qualities. Of one thing we are quite certain, that the clergyman who is upright in life, spiritually-minded, and at the same time a man of practical sagacity, will be much more acceptable as a spiritual leader to the shrewd, hard-headed business man with whom he has to do, than he possibly could be were he lacking in business habits and capacity for affairs. Especially is this the case in the missionary going to foreign parts. Here we find that the possession of those very qualifications that would make a good man efficient and progressive in business life, will commend not only his own personality, but the religion of which he is an advocate to the people amongst whom his lot may be cast. Such a man commands their respect by the strength of his character, his knowledge of affairs, as well as his purity of life and spiritual power as a religious teacher. Their respect for the character and qualities of the man broadens out into a respect for, and interest in, the religion he advocates. And thus his influence and importance as a religious teacher, measurably increases in proportion to his courage, energy, enterprise, and perseverance. We believe we are not beside the mark in saying that those clergymen who have had the advantage of a business training

in their early life, all other things being equal, are far better equipped for meeting and overcoming the difficulties that present themselves in the everyday life of a religious worker, than are those who have been denied the opportunity of obtaining such training.

The Younger Irish Clergy

Evidently there is much Church life in Ireland. The Junior Clerical Reading Society of Belfast, has been debating Irish Church problems in which the leader advocates the following: A more frequent exchange of parishes by the clergy; every third appointment to a parish to be left to the Bishop; the abolition of the parochial system in areas in the south and west, where our members are becoming greatly reduced in number and the establishment of mission districts to be worked by a number of the clergy living at a centre, the funds so saved being applied to districts where Church population is increasing; a wider outlook in the elections to the Episcopal Bench; a reduction in the Episcopate, and last, for Irish Churchmen to take a deeper interest in the spiritual work of their church. Of course the subjects were thoroughly discussed and much information was elicited with the result, we hope, that the last proposal will be fervently carried into practice.

An Unforgotten Poet

At the beginning of the last century, scholars far and wide mourned the loss of one of the most distinguished of English poets. The 26th instant will be the anniversary of the birth of William Cowper. The son of the Reverend Doctor John Cowper, a royal chaplain, the future poet was born at Great Birkhamstead, Hertfordshire, 26th of November, 1731. The delicate and sensitive lad early in life became a victim of the coarse and cruel treatment that was only too prevalent in the schools of his day. A treatment that no doubt largely contributed to the clouds that obscured from time to time the brightness of his fancy and the clearness of his intellect. It is of more than passing interest to recall the fact that Cowper, in common with many another brilliant men of letters, amongst whom may be numbered Mr. Goldwin Smith, passed some of the early years of his life in the study of the profession of law. Cowper's fellow-student in this learned profession was none other than Thurlow, afterwards Lord High Chancellor of England. The proficiency of the poet in the profession of his choice was by no means monotonous, for he avows that he and his comrade were "constantly employed, from morning till night, in giggling and making giggle." It is needless to say that his love of letters soon displaced his fancied attachment to the legal profession. It is unnecessary to refer to the brilliant literary output of Cowper's pen. His poems are numbered amongst the masterpieces of English verse. To the children of each succeeding generation the humorous and enthralling ballad of "John Gilpin" will ever be a prime favourite. To those of maturer years and cultivated tastes, "The Task" will continue to appeal; and we question if in pathetic interest, refinement of feeling, and delicacy of treatment, the verses "On the Receipt of My Mother's Picture," can ever be surpassed, whilst his letters will endure with the language of which they are such distinguished ornaments.

Canada and the Navy

Too long have the people of this Dominion dallied with the question of their own protection at sea. It must seem to the self respecting foreigner incredible that a country of the size, wealth and importance of Canada could be con-

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