

The Canadian Churchman

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Hymns from the Book of Common Praise, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

(July 19th.)

Holy Communion: 239, 244, 246, 489.

Processional: 318, 391, 464, 530.

Offertory: 322, 329, 492, 501.

Children: 697, 700, 703, 704.

General: 22, 406, 453, 493.

The Outlook

Union Churches

We have just been told of the opening of a Union Church at Frobisher in Western Canada, where, according to the account, Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists have united to form the congregation. It is said that the minister of this Union Church has received upwards of fifty letters from towns and villages, asking him to come to them and tell of the Union Church work. It is thought that a propaganda for Union Churches will spring up, and that unless something practical is done towards Church Union the present denominations will be swamped by the rising tide of Union sentiment in the newer settlements, and will perhaps be brought face to face with a new denomination, or a group of Churches of a modified Congregational type. All this points to the need of the various Churches facing the great problem of overlapping, and, as a contemporary rightly says, "It is not a question of whether such a propaganda for Unionism is safe or dangerous, wise or foolish; it is a question of what to do with it, being here and gathering strength and force every day."

A Striking Message

One of the most familiar lighthouses to Canadian travellers is that on the Fastnet Rock, off the southeast corner of the Coast of Ireland. It is the last light seen by the liners on their passage across the Atlantic. It is one of the most expensive towers ever erected and represents nearly six years' labour. The rock on which it stands is exposed to the full fury of the Atlantic, and there are few bleaker spots on the Irish Coast than this dreaded headland. After the structure erected in 1848 had stood for some months it was seen that it was being gradually undermined, and costly work had to be put in hand periodically to prevent its collapse. To the surprise of many, the builder decided to erect a new tower at the point of the extreme Western ledge of the rock, where the full fury of the waves was experienced. He argued that if he built his tower on this ledge the base would receive the heaviest seas before they could rise to their full height, and if the base was composed of solid masonry and arranged in steps it would be an excellent buffer to break the strength of the waves. The securing of the foundation and the laying of the lower sections was very trying and arduous work, and for weeks at a time labour had to be suspended on account of rough seas. But towards the end of the sixth year the structure stood complete, a memorial to the skill and perseverance of the builder. The spiritual message of this is evident. We do well to strengthen our lives at the very point where the full force of temptation is likely to be experienced. Dumbarton Castle was taken at the side which, because it was thought to be impregnable, was left unguarded. Satan generally attacks us at our presumably strongest rather than our weakest point.

A Cheerful Giver

In a missionary congregation in Jamaica, a collection was to be taken for missionary purposes. One of the brethren was appointed to preside, and resolutions were adopted as follows: "Resolved (1) That we will all give. Resolved (2) That we will give as the Lord has prospered us. Resolved (3) That we will give cheerfully." Then the contribution began, each person, according to custom, walking up to deposit his gift, under the eye of the presiding officer. One of the most well-to-do members hung back until he was painfully noticeable; and when he at length deposited his gift, the brother at the table remarked: "Dat is 'cordin' to de fust resolushun, but not 'cordin' to de secon'." The member retired angrily to his seat, taking back his money, but conscience or pride kept working till he came back and doubled his contribution, with a crabbed, "Take dat, den." The brother at the table again spoke: "Dat may be 'cordin' to de fust an' secon' resolushuns, but it isn't 'cordin' to de third." The giver, after a while, accepted the rebuke and came up the third time with a still larger gift and a good-natured face. Then the faithful president expressed his gratification: "Dat's 'cordin' to all de resolushuns."

King George's Example

In an article in a Chinese paper a missionary writes these interesting words:

"A very encouraging and hopeful sign is the spirit of inquiry abroad amongst all classes. Recently an officer in the Imperial

Army was visiting Honan. He was most interested in the Gospel, and came to our services on Sunday. We presented him with some books, and after his return home he wrote asking for more to give to his fellow-officers. He wrote a second time later on, saying he had decided to be baptized and enter the Church. A General in the Sixth Division brought all his children to be enrolled as inquirers; and when he was told that King George read a Chapter of the Bible each day, he immediately said he would read *two* every day."

All who believe in the power of Holy Scripture will pray that for these Chinese Christians the entrance of the Divine Word may give light.

A Great Opportunity

Once again the time of year provides the opportunity for Open-air Preaching, and we trust that the Churches will use this to the full. It is a glorious work to undertake, because it assures the hearing of the Gospel by many who never enter a place of worship. It would mean a great thing for the cause of Christian truth if many of our leading clergymen and laymen would proclaim the Gospel in the open air during this summer. What crowds they would have and what blessings would result! Open-air preaching is one of the best ways of carrying out with literalness our Lord's command to "Go."

A Remarkable Confession

The will has just been proved in the Courts of Pittsburg of a man who died last year worth considerably over half a million dollars made in the wholesale liquor business. And yet one clause in the will reads: "It is my will that no idle, intemperate, wayward or vicious child shall become a beneficiary. I also stipulate that any beneficiary who, directly or indirectly, engages in the liquor business shall forfeit all rights and claims in my estate." We are not concerned with the curious inconsistency between precept and practice, but it is certainly striking that one who was associated with the liquor trade should recognize the awful evils of it. It is another testimony to the value and also the need of temperance work in our Churches.

China's Appeal

"The Chinese Review," a new monthly magazine in England, is owned, edited, and managed entirely by Chinese, and it aims to be a journal of friendship and understanding between the East and the West. The Editor is well known in Christian circles in England, and contributes an important foreword, in which he appeals to England with the following hope that

"What she has done in the past for Greece, for Italy, and for other struggling nations, she will yet accomplish for China. Whatever the Chinese are to-day, let it be remembered that at one time or another they have given light to well-nigh one-half of the human race. And there are those well qualified to speak who believe that a rejuvenated and spiritualized China may yet have lessons to teach which the world will be the better for learning."

It need hardly be said that such hopes will be endorsed by all Christian people. But one