

## SERVICE ACCOUNT.

DECEMBER.

### RECEIPTS.

Offertory: Average, \$44.61 .....	8178 43
" Missions .....	4 00
" Christmas Decorations .....	3 50
" Christmas .....	113 51
Balance 31st December .....	67 64

\$367 08

### EXPENDITURE.

Balance 1st December .....	\$ 21 55
Clerical Stipend .....	75 00
Organist's Salary .....	25 00
Sexton's Salary .....	25 00
" Sundries .....	50
Lighting .....	1 98
Choir .....	16 89
Mending Chairs in Crypt .....	13 65
Synod, for Missions .....	4 00
Canon Macnab .....	113 51
Insurance on Cathedral Building .....	70 00

\$367 08

A "Christmas barrel" was despatched by the St. Alban's Branch of the W.A., to Rev. Canon Harding.

Shortly before Christmas, Mrs. Arthurs issued a very handsome Christmas card, which she had had designed and lithographed to be sold, and the proceeds to be given to the funds of St. Alban's. The design is of an unusually high order of art.

On Sunday, 21st December, an ordination was held in the Cathedral, when the Rev. Loftus Augustus Trotter, and the Rev. Vivian Edward Foster Morgan (of the Diocese of Niagara), were advanced from the Diaconate to Priesthood.

In our last number the name of one of the Choir Scholars was incorrectly printed as "Beverley Robinson," instead of Beverley Robertson. We issue herewith a print showing the Choir Scholars, except one who was absent when the photograph was taken.

The Boy Choristers who are not Choir Scholars are the following:—Burton Armour, Allan Ashford, Harry Good, Frank Goad, Shanly Howard, Harry Howard, John Howard, Lionel Jessop, Roland Kent, George Murless, Victor S. T. Parker, Herbert Stuart, William Smith, Albert Smith, Alfred Wood, George Wood.

The number of Communicants on Christmas Day was 205, as against 183 in 1901. The offertory was \$113.51; last year, \$104.58.

Mr. Sexton, who has been organist in St. Alban's for over seven years, is leaving us, his place being taken by Mr. Syble Clelland Holley, who has for some time been assisting at the choir practices. Mr. Sexton has our best wishes for his advancement in his professional career.

## TURNING TO THE EAST.

On a recent Sunday the Rev. Canon Macnab, in compliance with a repeated request to do so, preached a sermon in which he explained the custom, formerly observed by the whole Christian Church, but now more by the Anglican Church than any other, of worshippers turning towards the east when reciting the Creed. The choir-wise seating makes this practice one rather more noticeable in St. Alban's than in churches where the worshippers are so placed as to face eastwards throughout the service.

As the day on which this sermon was delivered happened to fall in a period of exceptionally severe weather, there was not a full congregation present, and we therefore think it well to give, for the special benefit of those who were then absent, this brief reference to it.

Canon Macnab explained that the custom is one which has come down from the earliest days of Christianity, in which it originated because most heathen forms of worship were observed in a west-ward attitude. The candidate for Christian Baptism was therefore placed facing westward, in which position he formally declared his renunciation of the false religion, and then turning about and facing in the opposite direction, declared his belief in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The worship of the Christian Church thus universally became eastward, as a contradiction against that of the heathen. There is something inexpressibly grand in the simultaneous act of a whole congregation of worshippers, when reciting the solemn statement of their Faith, doing so in an attitude which of itself is a visible renunciation and disavowal of every form of false religion and protest against all false doctrines.

A further reason why the Church has adhered to this ancient custom is that the eastward attitude symbolises the expectation of our Lord's Advent in accordance with an ancient belief that His second coming would be as it were from the east.

It is in accordance with the custom, and to aid its ready observance, that Anglican Churches, with rare exceptions, have always been built with the chancel at the east end.

A further compliance with the same custom appears in the universal mode of Christian burial, in which the body is placed with the feet towards the east. Thus both in life and in death, those who believe in the Resurrection from the dead are waiting and watching for the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.