

the biggest bell in Halifax. Its sound is deep and mellow, and must be pleasant in the ears of all church-goers. In fine, the one thing about new St. Andrew's that we ought to sum up with is, that the congregation enter it, finished—*ad unguem*—to the extreme detail, and free of debt.

The Moderator of the Synod, Rev. A. Pollok, opened the church on the forenoon of the 21st ult. with appropriate services. His sermon was based on Gen. 28 : 17, "This is none other than the House of God;" and, as we hope to get it in full for next month's *Record*, we need say nothing about it now. In the afternoon, St. Matthew's Church was closed, and Rev. Mr. Grant took the service, preaching from Haggai 2 : 9, "The glory of this latter House shall be greater than the former, and in this place shall I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." In the evening, the minister of the church occupied his own pulpit for the first time. May he be long spared to fill it, and to preach from it the everlasting Gospel with the power of God and the wisdom of God! His text was Prov. 4 : 18; "the path of the just is as the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Natural facts, said the preacher, are taken in Revelation as spiritual emblems; but as such figures are necessarily defective, so is this one. The sun rises, but it also sets; the progress of Christian life has no zenith. Proceeding to the development of the figure in detail, he applied it first to the individual Christian. The course of the sun is upward; so the Christian must not rest satisfied with his present state, but press onward. Again the course of the sun is *steadily* progressive; so should it be with the Christian, though few came up to such an ideal. Again the sun shines on to the highest point; so should the Christian rise onward, even to perfection.

The second head showed that general church life must follow the same laws, and reflect the same characteristics, inasmuch as the church is made up of individual living Christians. Applying this to the occasion that had brought them together, he expressed the hope that as individuals, and as a congregation, their history would illustrate those fundamental laws of true religion that

he had spoken of; and that God would so enable him to discharge his duty to them, that at the last day his hands would be clean from the blood of any soul. Which prayer we sincerely join in.

We bid God-speed to new St. Andrew's. Let them go forward, and the more they provoke others to zeal and good works, the better. Not one of them, we are sure, grudges what he or she has done or given. They are better satisfied with themselves, they are happier and richer than if they had held back, and objected, and made excuses and done nothing. We appeal confidently to every one of them, and ask, "is it not so?" G. M. G.

A Church door Collection.

It may surprise many of the readers of the *Record* to be told that the large, numerous, flourishing and wealthy Congregation of St. Matthew's has heretofore been deeply in debt. Debt like a shadow of evil for years has been hanging over the building; and it was no visionary nominal sum, but a real debt, amounting in hard cash and round figures to seven or eight thousand dollars. Heretofore little or no heed was paid to it, as by their liberality, and out of their abundant wealth, the interest of the money was met from year to year. At length, however, they wisely began to consider that many things might occur in the history of the congregation to render it more difficult for them to meet their liabilities. They further saw that while this large drain upon the finance of their church was permitted to go on, other good works in which they wished to embark had to remain unaccomplished. It being now flood-tide, they wisely took advantage of their opportunity, and gave the debt such a blow as will be sure to end in its death at an early date.

In view hereof a congregational meeting was held in the Basement of the church, when several schemes were proposed for the purpose of raising the necessary money. At length the simple device of a common Church-door Collection was suggested and agreed to. The 21st of May was the day fixed, and more than half the sum was collected