

hymns in the natural seasons and hours are founded on St. Ambrose, as for example those of Bishop Ken. The fatal monotony of this metre soon brought about the introduction of rhyme, whether, as some have thought, derived from oriental sources, or as a natural development of Latin. This first appears though sparingly in Ambrose, consisting of a weak, single rhyme at the end of each complet. Thus in the hymn "Conditor alme siderum" (Mone Hymnen des Mittelalters, vol. 1, p. 50) we have

Te deprecamur hague,
Venture iudex sæculi
Conserva nos in tempore
Quam diu sumus advenæ.

These hymns breathe the spirit of primitive Christianity; those relating to the martyrs do not invoke their prayers. Of the mediæval theology there is not a trace: stern, calm, and simple, they seem to be an echo from the early worship in the Catacombs.

The true link between the hymns of Ambrose and Prudentius and those of the Middle Ages, is Venantius Fortunatus, who just before the great Lombard invasion of Italy, left that country for Gaul. There Latin culture still lived at the court, among the nobles and in the cloister. Venantius became celebrated as an amatory poet and writer of epigrams and *Vers de société*, and for some years loitered at court, or wandered from castle to castle, earning his welcome by song. At last, by favor of the Frankish queen, who was barbarous enough to regard literary merit as some claim for Church preferment, he was raised to the episcopate, which he held with blameless dignity, and, dying, left hymns which have fastened as few others on the mind of the universal Church. Of these one of the most spirited in its movement is the grand

Vexilla Regis prodeunt!
Crucis fulget mysterium.

well known in Neale's rendering in Hymns A and M,

"The Royal Standard, onward go," but better represented by Moultrie's paraphrase "Brightly gleams our Banners." The hymns of Fortunatus on the Holy Angels (Mone I. 4 and 9) contain no trace of invocation, nor do those on the Purification, which are of great classical beauty of rhythm. These hymns show the increasing tendency of the age to gather metaphor and mysticism round the name of Mary. This does not as yet exceed Scriptural limits, yet there is a tone of homage foreign to the writers of the primitive centuries. Still, no prayer is addressed to the Virgin:

"Quod Eva tristis abstrahit,
Tu reddis almo germine—
Intrent ut astra flebiles
Cœli fenestra factus es.

"Tu Regis alti janua
Et porta lucis fulgida—
Vitam datam per Virginem
Gentes redemptæ plaudite!"

Observe the vigorous grace of the last two lines and the rhyme of the first couplet.

The fine poem on the Cross was no doubt not composed with any superstitious intention, and may be read with pleasure by those who can admire its poetical beauty, without recollecting the gross materialistic idolatry of which it has been made the vehicle in the Roman Breviary.

(To be continued.)

THE DELEGATION FROM THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF CANADA AT THE GENERAL CONVENTION IN BOSTON.

On Wednesday October 10, the delegation from the Church of Canada, appointed by the Provincial Synod recently held in Montreal, was presented to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in session in Boston. The delegation was presented first to the House of Bishops: we extract the account from the daily edition of the *Churchman*;

Seventh day's session.—After the usual devotional offices, the Bishop of Michigan, on behalf of the committee appointed to introduce the delegation from the Provincial Synod of the Dominion of Canada, presented to the House the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Huron, the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Niagara, the Reverend G. Whitaker, Archdeacon of York, and Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Synod, the very Reverend the Dean of Huron, the Venerable, the Archdeacon of Niagara, the Rev. Isaac Brock, Fennings Taylor, Esq., and Thomas White, Jr., Esq. The visiting delegation was welcomed by the presiding Bishop with a few appropriate words, whereupon the Lord Bishop of Huron, the Right Reverend Dr. Hellmuth, presented the following address to the House.

"To the Right Reverend the presiding Bishop, and the Right Reverend the Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, in General Convention assembled:

We, the deputation appointed by the Provincial Synod of Canada, at its last session, held in the city of Montreal, to convey to this august body the assurance of their most cordial and affectionate brotherly love and good will, would present ourselves before you with the fervent prayer that God the Holy Ghost may be in your midst, to guide and direct you in all your deliberations, and that, thus, the work which you are now taking in hand may be owned and abundantly blessed of God, for the promotion of His glory and the extension and prosperity of His Church, through the merits of His Blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We desire also to convey to you, Right Reverend Fathers, on behalf of the Provincial Synod of Canada, an expression of the lively satisfaction with which they welcomed, at their recent meeting, the delegation from your General Convention. They will long cherish a grateful memory of the most profitable and pleasing intercourse which they enjoyed with its several members; and they are assured, that under the Divine Blessing, the happiest results must follow from such interchanges of brotherly love, as well as from the testimony, so powerfully borne on that occasion, to the great truths which Christ's Church holds, as her common heritage, in every clime.

(Signed.) I. HURON,
T. B. NIAGARA,
M. BOOMER, Dean of Huron,
GEORGE WHITAKER, Archdeacon of York, Prolocutor of the Lower House.
W. McMURRAY, D.D., D.C.L.,
Archdeacon of Niagara.
ISAAC BROCK, Sherbrooke.
THOS. WHITE, Jr., Montreal.
FENNINGS TAYLOR, Ottawa.

After an interchange of friendly greetings between the Bishops and the members of the Deputation, it was—

Resolved, That the Bishop of Huron, and the Bishop of Niagara be invited to sit with this House during its session.

The delegation was then conducted from the House of Bishops in session in the chapel of Trinity Church, to the House of Deputies in session in Emmanuel Church. The members were introduced by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, President of the House of Deputies. The house rose to welcome their Canadian brethren. We extract the account of the reception of the delegation, and the addresses of the delegates from the daily *Churchman*. It will doubtless be interesting to the Churchmen of this Dominion in full.

RECEPTION FROM THE DEPUTATION OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CANADA.

The President. I have the pleasure and honor

to present to the House the Delegation from the Church of England in Canada; the Lord Bishop of Huron, the Lord Bishop of Niagara, the Venerable G. Whitaker, Archdeacon of York, Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Synod of Canada, the Venerable Dr. McMurray, Archdeacon of Niagara, the Rev. Isaac Brock, Rector of Sherbrooke, Quebec, Mr. Thomas White, Jr., of Montreal, and Mr. Fennings Taylor, of Ottawa, members of the deputation.

The President. Reverend Fathers in God and Brethren, Delegates of the Church of England in Canada: In the name of the Church in the United States, I hail you as comrades, soldiers and laborers under one Captain and Master. I welcome you as fathers and brethren. I embrace you as members with us of one body. I would knit you with us, since "we are members one of another." Certainly you are in no sense "strangers and foreigners." We are of one earthly descent, all baptized in one Church.

You will bring to us not only an address from the Church in Canada, but your own experience, won by much self-denial, your wisdom and counsel, and cheer attained from success. By the favor of the Lord, you will impart to us some spiritual gift. I trust you will not go empty away. Fathers and brethren, you are looking upon Deputies sent from the Church as it dwells upon two oceans, a gulf itself as large as an ocean, and lakes almost seas in themselves, and within all the broad territory included by these. The question of our country, its rich resources, its commercial prospects, its growing population, with all their possibilities, make us to distrust utterly human power, but the rather to seek the Lord. What a domain and kingdom for Jesus Christ! When we recall that our numbers are not yet such as we hope they will be, we repeat the promise, "A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation." Of one thing we all are sure. The Church of the first days must be the Church of the last days.

Your life, and that of your fathers in Canada, has seen trials and straitened places through which the Church has been forced to pass. A word of an ancient heathen philosopher, consecrated by Church use, very often sustains us, "per angusta ad angusta." If our way must be through flames and trials, it shall be to an issue prosperous and glorious.

Fathers and Brethren, we welcome you. Please not only give us the address of the Church as you have it in charge, but speak to us with that heart and mind, that affection and wisdom we have heard to be in you.

The Lord Bishop of Huron. [Reading]—
To the Reverend the President of the House of Deputies of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and Members of the House of Deputies: We, the Deputation appointed by the Provincial Synod of Canada, at its last session held in Montreal, to convey to his august body the assurance of their cordial and affectionate brotherly love and good will, would present ourselves before you with the fervent prayer that God, the Holy Ghost, may be in your midst, to guide and direct you in all your deliberations, and that thus the works which you are now taking in hand may be more abundantly blessed of God, for the promotion of His glory, and the extension and prosperity of His Church, through the merits of His blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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Signed, I. HURON.
T. B. NIAGARA.
GEORGE WHITAKER,

Archdeacon of York and Prolocutor of the Lower House.