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EDITORS (For Ottawa):

REV. J. F. GORMAN, REV. W. M. LOUCKS, Ottawa.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

MISS BAKER, 5 Arthur Street, Ottawa, who will supply THE MAGAZINE and receive the subscriptions, and to whom notices of change of address should be sent.

HARVEST FESTIVALS have been held in all our churches. St. John's held their's on the 15th Sunday after Trinity; Christ Church on Thursday the 5th inst., Rev. G. Scantlebury, R.D., being the preacher; St. Alban's on the 30th Sept., preacher, Rev. A. Whalley, of Bell's Corners; Grace Church, Thursday, Oct. 14th, preacher, Rev. W. M. Loucks, of Richmond. Harvest Services were also held during this month in St. George's, St. Bartholomew's, St. Luke's, and St. Barnabas. The Rev. J. F. Gorman preached at the Harvest Festival held on Tuesday, the 10th, at Leitrim, parish of Billing's Bridge. The service in St. Alban's was marked by the rendering of some pretty harvest carols.

THE choirs which dwindled away to just a few members are filling up again rapidly. It is a very difficult matter to sustain interest enough to keep a purely voluntary choir together year after year. Grace Church choir, like many other choirs, has lost some very useful members during the seven years of its existence, either by removal, marriage, or a loss of interest; but it has been equally fortunate in the additions which it has received from time to time. It is a matter of regret that choir members of all our churches who evince a disinclination for further service, do so at a time when their voice has become almost indispensable. Length of service is sometimes but a sorry excuse for retirement, especially in the case of those whose voice may be said to be at its best from long years of exercise and cultivation. It cannot be too often impressed upon our choir members that by joining a choir they are about to engage in one of the highest and noblest of duties to which man may be called. The only thing to inspire a sense of loyalty and devotion on the part of members to a choir is the realization of the duty to devote to God what he has given to them. Novelty will wear away; expediency and self-improvement attain perhaps their end, and the only feature remaining is the feeling of duty. And now a word to the congregations.

Are they not to be blamed sometimes if the choir lose interest? Do our congregations always show sufficient recognition of the benefits which they receive from a well-trained and efficient choir? Now and again an individual member's long service in a choir is recognized on the eve of retirement, and a fitting testimonial is presented. But are the rest of the choir to be overlooked? Be it remembered that all in the choir contribute their part to the success which marks their efforts. Length of devoted service to a choir deserves undoubtedly the recognition which it often secures on the part of a congregation; but would it not be encouraging to choirs generally, if, instead of this pent-up appreciation finding vent only at long intervals, our congregations could be persuaded to joint action in manifesting their obligations to their choirs somewhat more frequently? A few members of each congregation might easily unite to do honor to their respective choirs by providing entertainment and extending the hospitality of their own homes, or in a dozen other ways which suggest themselves at once to an appreciative congregation. In the case of paid choirs the congregation of course incur no further obligation, but where voluntary choirs prevail, it would be well if each congregation would study well the question, "Are we doing what we can to show our appreciation of the choir, and thereby encourage the members thereof?"

GRACE CHURCH—The members of Grace Church have all returned, some of them from an extended vacation, and the church is now resuming its usual activities. The different branches of church life are reawakening, and the election of officers is being proceeded with. The choir held its annual meeting on Friday evening the 2nd. The rector declared the position of president abolished. Mrs. G. E. Perley and Mrs. Clayton were appointed a committee to look after the interests of the choir, whilst Mr. Sheppard was re-elected to the office of secretary. Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Powell very kindly entertained the members of the choir at supper after the Harvest Festival, Thursday evening, the 14th inst. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

THE Rev. J. F. Gorman, Rector of Grace Church, is preaching a course of sermons upon the following subjects:—1. Christianity and Free Thought; 2. Christianity and Skepticism;