

of the Lord is, by the exercise of faith in his salvation, to invoke his mercy and to hold communion with him; and we are assured in a passage of the Prophet Joel, cited upon a memorable occasion by St. Peter, that *whosoever shall thus call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*—How all-important is it, then, that our invocation of the name of the Lord, in our social worship, should be something more than ceremony and form!—How necessary to remember that where the material fabric has been erected and divine service has been regularly established, all is but a mockery of God unless the worshippers themselves, coming to Christ *as to a living stone, are as lively stones also, built up a spiritual house; an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*—Vain are all our decent solemnities, worthless our solemn meetings, vitiated our beautiful services,* and lost to us all the happy distribution of their different parts, unless we learn to *worship the father in spirit and in truth; unless we pray with the spirit and with the understanding; unless our confession of sin, our deprecation of judgment, our supplication for ourselves, our intercession for others, our holy an-*

* Nothing would exceed the pleasing and touching effect given to the beautiful Services of the Church, upon the occasion on which this Sermon was preached, by the chanting and singing of a large choir of men and boys, formed within the battalion by one of the officers, (Lieut. Whitmore,) who has most assiduously and perseveringly devoted himself to this object. The greatest fondness for these performances pervades them all: and it can hardly be doubted that it is a practice which has had a happy influence, generally, upon the tone of character among the men,—the exemplary steadiness of whose conduct, in the whole of the trying scenes through which they recently passed, as well as upon other occasions, has attracted much notice and admiration.

Since the foregoing note was written, arrangements have been made for employing the voluntary services of this excellent regimental Choir, under the direction of the same indefatigable officer and in concert with the Organist, at the morning service of the Civil congregation in the Cathedral, during the stay of the regiment in Quebec. These arrangements, it is hoped, will eminently contribute to the efforts now in progress, for putting the musical performances of the Cathedral upon a satisfactory footing.

In confirmation of what is said above respecting the presumed effect of this cultivation of vocal music, upon the men, (although it is not meant to say that there have been no other circumstances of advantage which may help to account for their correct deportment,) it may be mentioned, with reference to those among them who actually formed the Choir, that, in the hour of their most imminent peril, there were several who evinced, in the most gratifying manner, their composed reliance upon the only hope of sinful man. These individuals, unprompted by each other, yet with a consuetaneous feeling, called to mind and repeated to the officer already mentioned, the commencing lines of a hymn expressing in a manner directly appropriate to their awful situation, their trust in the protection of Christ:—

“Why those fears?—behold ’tis Jesus
“Holds the helm and guides the ship.”