

December 7, 1905.]

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER, 7, 1905.

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Address all communications, FRANK WOOTTEN

Phone 4643 Main. Box 34, TORONTO. Offices—Union Block, 36 Toronto Street

LESSONS FOR SUNDAYS AND HOLY DAYS.

December 10—Second Sunday in Advent. Morning—Isaiah 51; John 3, to 16. Evening—Isaiah 11, to 11, or 24; John 18, to 28. December 17—Third Sunday in Advent. Morning—Isaiah 25; Rev. 1. Evening—Isaiah 26 or 28, 5 to 19; Rev. 2, to 18. December 24—Fourth Sunday in Advent. Morning—Isaiah 30, to 27; Rev. 14. Evening—Isaiah 32, or 33, 2 to 23; Rev. 15. December 31—Sunday after Christmas. Morning—Isaiah 35; Rev. 21, 15—22, 6. Evening—Isaiah 38 or 40; Rev. 22, 6.

Appropriate Hymns for Second and Third Sundays in Advent compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern many of which may be found in other hymnals.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Holy Communion: 203, 313, 310, 314. Processional: 46, 49, 217, 268. Offertory: 51, 52, 205, 362. Children's Hymns: 281, 335, 345, 363. General Hymns: 48, 50, 53, 477.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Holy Communion: 196, 316, 320, 553. Processional: 45, 305, 391, 392. Offertory: 51, 214, 216, 226. Children's Hymns: 217, 565, 568, 569. General Hymns: 47, 52, 54, 288.

The Blessed Hope.

How aptly the splendid prose of the Collect for the first Sunday in Advent conveys to the mind the sublime and searching aspiration it is designed to express. With what masterful power it stirs the imagination and, as by prophetic vision, reveals to the worshipper his solemn duty and responsibility; the means whereby it must be met and discharged, and the tremendous crisis through which he shall pass; and, the Immortal Leader through and with whom, by faithful following, he will be enabled to live for ever. And then with what consummate wisdom—and in what clear, nervous, and beautiful English, does the Collect for the following Sunday point out the way, through which by patience and comfort of the Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, and the Divine Being, through whom we receive hope, salvation, and life eternal?

Fair Play.

The autumn and the margin of the winter season form that part of the year when on college green and athletic ground those sturdy, strenuous games are played which comport so well with our bracing northern air, and our love of manly sport. The king of them all is football. The love of manly games brought from the Old World by our forefathers survives in their sons. The fashion of the New World has varied from that of the Old. In the effort to improve on the old methods some abuses have crept in. But at last a salutary check has been given to the ruthless spirit which finds a congenial outlet in coarse language and rude violence. President Roosevelt deserves the thanks of all fair-minded men for the manly part he has taken in their suppression. We may well hope that in the coming year there will be a marked improvement in this regard, and that there will be developed on all hands an increasing love and observance of the manly and forbearing spirit implied and expressed in the good old English word, Fairplay.

Our Christmas Number.

We are making excellent progress with our Christmas Number, which we fully believe will surpass in attractiveness and excellence all our previous numbers, commemorative of the glad, joyous and sacred season which it celebrates. A word to our readers. Do not delay in sending in your orders. For twenty-five cents it will be sent to any part of Canada, England, and the United States. The old rule, "First come, first served," has by no means gone out of use. From the large number of orders already received, we know full well what a demand there will be later on, in some cases when it regretfully cannot be met. The earlier the better for a Christmas order!

FOR 25 CENTS.

The beautiful illustrated Christmas number will be sent to any part of Canada, England, or the United States, for 25 cents. No better Christmas present could be sent to friends for the money.

A Christian Financier.

The Presbyterian Body in Canada have sustained a serious loss in the lamented death of the Rev. Dr. Warden. As money is essential to provide the necessaries of life, so it is requisite to carry on the work of the religious bodies. In its proper place and applied to its legitimate use it may well be termed the sinews of war. A genius for finance—whose ability, industry and energy is devoted to the maintenance and extension of the Christian work with which he is associated, and whose life and character, have won the confidence and respect, not only of his own brethren, but of the community in which he has lived, is honoured and respected in death even more than he was in life. The silence of the grave throws into striking relief the greatness of the man, the influence of his character, and the importance of his accomplished work. Especially is this the case when with the masterful mind was coupled a spirit gentle, genial and sympathetic.

Pronunciation.

We endeavour to keep the well of English undefiled, and have to be thankful that our ancestors for nearly three centuries have studied Shakespeare and the translations of the Bible. To these volumes the English language owes everything. During this period numberless words

in common use have been changed in pronunciation, the accent having been transferred to another syllable, or the sound of a vowel changed. Eighty years ago the accepted sound of such a well-known word as Rome was Roum. But this has some authority, witness the word Roumania, which perpetuates the Imperial colony in Eastern Europe. How we came to pronounce July as we do now with the accent on the second syllable is one of the unsolved mysteries of speech. Named, of course, after Julius Caesar, it should really be pronounced to rhyme with "duly," and so our forefathers actually did pronounce it. Spencer, for instance, has the line, "Then came hot July boylng like to fire," and even so late as Johnson's time the accent was still on the "Ju." The change had completely taken place when Tom Hood wrote his "I Remember." It is one of many words which would startle those ancestors of ours, spoken as we speak them now.

Behaviour in Church.

At a comparatively recent service in a church where more than usual stress is laid upon ritual, during the solemnity of the preparation for the communion, some of the boys of the choir distressed those who could not help seeing them by the laughing expression of their faces and other evidences of amusement. Ritual, we may say, is the reverse of impressive when even the youngest of those who lead our devout service, especially in its most serious portion show that they have not properly been taught self-control. To every one comes at times a strong inclination to laugh through the happening of some mirth provoking event. But of all places, the most unseemly for laughter, is in church. And in church the most conspicuous and objectionable place for laughter is in the choir. Another objectionable habit with some choristers is that of frequently looking at the congregation. It matters not whether the choristers are old or young, it is their duty to lead the congregation, not only in singing, but in reverent demeanour as well. And they who have the noticeable and objectionable habit of staring at the congregation, and even of turning in their places to do so, should be gently but firmly spoken to by the choir-master to whom they should be thankful for the discharge of a somewhat unpleasant but necessary duty.

"The Church Choir."

A long-felt want in one of the prominent branches of Church activity is at last, we are glad to say, receiving recognition. To us the choir stands in special need of some bond of common interest which will beget sympathy and encouragement in its definite work, and be the means of broadening, correcting, instructing, and building up the choirs of the Canadian Church, so far as a journal devoted to choir interests, can do so. We cordially welcome the new publication, "The Church Choir," and bespeak for it the hearty encouragement of Church people. It is neat, well printed, and addresses itself to its special work with commendable enterprise. Our comments on behaviour in Church prove the need of just such a medium of suggestion and instruction, and we are more than pleased to see that it gives good advice along that very line.

Herbs.

The smoking of tobacco had, we thought, become the common use of all classes in England, and even among women, and had ceased to be under a ban. A writer, however, in going through a poor London parish with a clergyman, suddenly