



ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH, TORONTO.

three have been laid to rest, awaiting the sound of the trumpet of the archangel of God which shall summon all men from their graves. Let me add that this parish, which began with a congregation of seventy-nine in 1875, has grown to its fair proportions in 1895. Over five hundred names of families appear upon my parish lists, over four hundred persons are actual communicants of the church, and in this period this church has contributed in the neighborhood of \$60,000 towards the different objects which from time to time have been brought before your attention. Brethren, you are none the poorer, are you? Nay, is not every one the richer for the gifts which he or she has given in freewill offerings unto God? Sunday after Sunday, every one who has contributed conscientiously, systematically, proportionately as God has blessed him or her, has received corresponding blessings from the 'Giver of every good and perfect gift.'

"The present occasion marks another epoch in our parochial history, and, therefore, I think, renders apology for an historic reminiscence of the parish altogether unnecessary. It illustrates, too, what we may call the evolution of the music of the city church. In that little cottage where the beginning was made people were content to sing (whilst one amongst their number played) hymns and chants to the accompaniment of a humble and unpretentious melodeon. Then as the chapel school-house drew near completion an organ must be placed in the west side of it; but, being found insufficient, it was deported, and is today erected in St. George's Church, Islington, in the parish of Mimico. Since then our long-standing friend of thirteen years, whose tones you heard for the last time at public worship last Sunday, has led our praise, and, dear friends, it is not without some sadness that we bid farewell to that instrument, whose tones have been so familiar to us. We are all full of joy and thankfulness this morning. It was surely the right note for us to sing at the beginning of the service the note of praise and

thanksgiving in the great and glorious doxology of the Church, but still there is a sad sentiment connected with the parting that we take with the old organ, whose sounds we shall hear no more. We think of the hundreds of voices whose worship it has led in this building, and the never-to-be-forgotten and beloved forms of the departed, as well as the tones of their voices, come back and throng the memory upon this occasion; voices whose tones we can never forget; voices whose tones we yearn to hear once more. Silent are those voices now, at least we may not hear them. We remove the instrument that led their praises, but we have preserved and cherished their memory by making this new instrument so largely a memorial of them.

"The character of our services in the past may be summed up, it seems to me, in three words, 'plain, hearty, congregational,' and, whilst I am proud of these three words, do not misunderstand me. Do not think for one moment that I prefer or delight in severely plain services, for you know I am honest enough to tell you that I like for my own taste a brighter and more ornate service than we have here; still, I say the character of our services in this parish, having been such as I have described, shall continue such. But when I ask you to preserve the service plain and hearty and congregational, I do it, as you know, not because it is to stamp this church as a certain kind of church, but because I believe it is the best thing for those who cannot worship under other conditions, and so it is for God's glory and for no other motive whatsoever, and any other motive that comes to you, and appeals to you, dismiss as unworthy of the Christian worshipper. Thus, as for the glory of God we have erected this organ in the first place, and secondly only, to perpetuate the memory of the blessed dead, so in all that we do in this church, aye, and out of it, let it be done for the glory of that God 'who hath done great things for us already, whereof we are glad.'"

The present rector is a native of London, England, and is the son of Col. Sweeny, late staff officer H.M. pensioner's, Montreal, and formerly of H.M. 83rd and 12th Regiments. He came to Canada in 1869, and was educated in Montreal, graduating at McGill University, taking his degree of B.A. in 1878, and M.A. in 1881. He was admitted to the diaconate in 1880, and to the priesthood in 1881. For a short time he was rector of St. Luke's Church, Montreal, and on the 16th of December, 1882, he was appointed rector of St. Philip's Church, Toronto. Taking an *ad eundem* degree of M.A. from Trinity University, Toronto, Mr. Sweeny proceeded in that university by regular course to the important degrees of B.D. and D.D., which last he obtained in 1888. In the following year the bishop of the diocese