

Parish and Home

VOL. X.

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No. 1

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER.

- 3—1st Sunday in Advent. *Morning*—Isaiah i.; Peter v. *Evening*—Isaiah ii. or iv., 2; John xiii. to 21.
- 10—2nd Sunday in Advent. *Morning*—Isaiah v.; John iii. to 16. *Evening*—Isaiah xi. to 11; John xviii. to 28.
- 17—3rd Sunday in Advent. *Morning*—Isaiah xxv.; Rev. i. *Evening*—Isaiah xxvi. or xxviii., 5 to 19; Rev. ii. to 18.
- 21—St. Thos., A. & M. *Morning*—Job. xlii. to 7; John xx., 19 to 21. *Evening*—Isaiah xxxv. John xiv. to 8.
- 24—4th Sunday in Advent. *Morning*—Isaiah xxx. to 27; Rev. xiv. *Evening*—Isaiah xxxii. or xxxiii., 2 to 23; Rev. xv.
- 25—Christmas Day. *Morning*—Isaiah ix. to 8; Luke ii. to 15. *Evening*—Isaiah vii., 10 to 17; Titus iii. 1 to 9.
- 26—St. Stephen, the First Mart. *Morning*—Gen. iv., to 11; Acts 6. *Evening*—Chron. xxiv., 15 to 23; Acts viii. to 9.
- 27—St. John, A. & E. *Morning*—Exod. xxxiii., 9; John xiii., 23 to 36. *Evening*—Isaiah vi.; Rev. i.
- 28—Innocents' Day. *Morning*—Jer. xxxi. to 31; Rev. xvi. *Evening*—Baruch iv., 21 to 18; Rev. xviii.
- 31—1st Sunday after Christ. *Morning*—Isaiah xxx.; Rev. xxi., 15—xxii. *Evening*—Isaiah xxxviii. or xl.; Rev. xxii., 6.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how as the day had come,
The bellies of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime,
A chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

But in despair I bowed my head—
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep!
The wrong shall fail,
The right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

—Henry W. Longfellow.

With this issue we enter upon our tenth year of publication. After careful consideration of the need existing for such a paper, a committee of the graduates of Wycliffe

College in December, 1890, got out the first number of PARISH AND HOME.

This initial number was, of course, a large one, for, although the subscribers were few, a great many were required for distribution as sample copies. By the following October, however, there were 2,700 subscribed for. The subscription list has fluctuated very considerably since then, but stands now at about 3,900. For these nine years, regularly, month after month, PARISH AND HOME has gone forth with its messages for young and old. The committee have been and still are cheered from time to time in their labour of love by letters telling of appreciation of the paper and of benefits received from its perusal. Some of those friends have evidenced their interest also by work in increasing the subscription list, but there are, we feel sure, many others who, if they understood the facts of the case, would be willing to do something to help on the work. Briefly, then, it is as follows. In the early years of publication the paper was carried on at a financial loss, consequent upon the smallness of the subscription list. The committee, however, strong in faith, persevered, even to the extent of undertaking a large personal responsibility for the yearly deficits.

The indebtedness amounted at one time to about \$1,000. This has since been reduced by one-fifth. No expense has been incurred for contributions to the paper or for editorial management. The work of the committee is gladly and gratuitously given. The only expense paid is for printing, postage, etc. So much for history, now as to the present. With our subscription list as it is to-day, the paper just about pays for itself, but additions to the list are coming in slowly and the accumulated deficit of previous years presses somewhat heavily upon the members of the committee. If the subscription list could be increased to, say 5,000, the in-

creased revenue would be sufficient to take care of and in due time wipe out the deficit already referred to. Surely this is not much to ask our subscribers to do for us. The committee have given time and labour year after year to the work. May we not ask each subscriber to give one contribution of—at the most—two or three hours' work to secure one new subscriber. It is personal influence that counts in such a matter as this. If you have received blessing yourself through the agency of this paper, tell others about it, and help thus to increase the field of usefulness of PARISH AND HOME

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OUR FREE DISTRIBUTION FUND.
—This list is growing from time to time, new names being put upon it as occasion arises, and if the funds permit; and, indeed, sometimes, in special cases, even if there is no money in hand to warrant the expense, needy applications for free copies are granted. The latest addition is, "10 copies per month for the Canadian Contingent to South Africa." Will our readers remember these 10 copies, and ask our heavenly Father to make them the means of much blessing to our brave soldier-lads, who have gone forward so willingly to fight for our gracious Queen? May PARISH AND HOME be the means used of God to induce some of them to enlist in a yet more glorious service under the banner of our great King Jesus.

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We wish a very merry and happy Christmastide to all readers of PARISH AND HOME, little and large, young and old.

Perhaps no season in the year is so looked forward to or is so dear to the little ones and young people as this; let us then make it a glad, bright, happy time.

First, we should remember God's great gift to man, the wondrous love shown in the nativity of Christ, and gladly go up to the House of God (if able to do so) to render