

people cannot be too careful to avoid instilling into the children's minds any worship except that of the God of all truth. It is pitiful and shocking to read the addresses of letters posted to Santa Claus. No Christian could read these without horror.

Our Immigrants.

In another column we reprint from the St. Andrew's Cross a letter written in the spirit of our appeal to the Brotherhood to advance. In a very courteous editorial Mr. Carleton acknowledges the importance of the subject, but refuses to leave his own little corner. He suggests the formation of another missionary society. He seems to treat, as the Toronto Council did, our appeal as one to step out of the line of duty and to act independently of the Bishop of a diocese and the rector of a parish. Such an attitude is uncalled for. We are always harping on the need of men to aid the clergy in their work. While the daily papers are announcing the arrival of immigrants in Winnipeg and other places, we look in vain to see that they are meeting Brotherhood men and that arrangements are being made for their spiritual welfare during the most critical period of settlement. These are services which the most captious must admit fall directly to Brotherhood men.

St. Andrew's Day.

This festival having been so long purely a Scottish one, it is not unnatural that there should be some confusion and that it should be recorded that Bishop Potter officiated at a festival with the accompaniment of bagpipes in New York.

Dr. John Munro Gibson.

We sympathize with the graduates of the University of Toronto, and Knox College, and join with them in regretting the unfortunate accident to Dr. John Munro Gibson. So much of his later life has been passed in Chicago and London that it is forgotten that the education of this distinguished man was obtained in Toronto and that his early professional life was spent in Montreal, where he married.

THE OLD AND NEW YEAR.

The flight of time, the transition from one century to another, from the old year to the new, the record of progress or the tale of defeat or failure which it tells, the marking of another mile stone on the journey of life induces reflection, and the wise will profit by the lessons of experience. Nothing is more profitable than a study of the past, whether it be the immediate past of our own recollection, or those things which our fathers have told us, the work that God did in their days, and in the times of old. We live in an age of such intense interest, we are so occupied with the marvellous discoveries of science, and their application to the conditions of modern life, we have become so conceited by the advances made in all departments of human thought and activity that we look with ill-concealed contempt upon the achievements of the past, and are forgetful of history and all that it teaches.

We are proud of the advances of science, and we anticipate still greater achievements in the field of discovery. Nature is yielding up her secrets and we are understanding as

never before the operation of its laws. The wisdom of to-day may seem as ignorance in comparison with the knowledge of the future, and we are taught to be modest by the thought that coming centuries may look down on us with even greater contempt than we bestow on our fathers who knew nothing of steam or electricity or all that science has in these latter days made known to us. Science is changing and changeable, what the human mind needs amid the changes and chances of life is something fixed and stable and permanent. When science fails then religion supplies man's greatest need. It speaks to us of the unchangeable God, of his everlasting word, of His Son Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and to-day and forever. However varied men's condition or environment in the varying centuries of the world's history, human experience in all essentials of sorrow, sin and death remain the same, and man's heart and nature cry out for God, who alone can satisfy the cravings of the soul, and meet the aspirations for a sinless and deathless future.

The year just passed was remarkable as being the first in a new century with all its possibilities. The nineteenth century was marked by the progress of human liberty, the advancement of science, and the promotion of human intercourse and civilization. In it the Church awakened as never since the Apostolic Age in its fervour for foreign missions, in its obedience to the Divine precept to preach the Gospel to every creature. What will the twentieth century have as its most remarkable characteristics? This is a question none can answer. We can only hope that in it the missionary zeal of the Church will increase, and at home and abroad the Kingdom of Christ may be both extended and enlarged, and that in a greater degree than in the past He may have the heathen for His inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for his possession. The event which caused most interest and evoked the deepest feeling in the past year was the death of Queen Victoria. Her life and reign had been so beneficent in their influence, and contemporaneous with such enlargement of her empire, and such progress in all departments of human effort, that it seemed to terminate not only an individual life, but an era in the history and advancement of the race. Universally lamented she passed away, leaving a memory which for all time will be both an inspiration and an example not only to rulers, but to mankind at large. During her reign the monarchy was so conformed to the changed conditions of more popular methods of government that it has firmly established the throne, and the present King succeeded without a question as to his right, and with every good augury as to his fitness to fill the place so long occupied by his illustrious mother. In connection with the Royal Family another event of interest and importance was the visit of the Prince of Wales accompanied by his Consort, the Princess of Wales, to the colonies of the Empire. The good effects of that visit just completed in binding the colonies more firmly in their allegiance to the King and to the Mother Country cannot be overestimated. A notable incident also was the assassination of President McKinley. Unhappy as it was in its result in causing the death of so good a man and so wise a ruler, it had no significance

further than to illustrate the danger which at all times besets kings and rulers from the fanatical and anarchistic element which exists in almost all countries. The war in South Africa which a year ago it was hoped was about over, has continued in a guerilla fashion till the present, and its end it is hard to forecast, but we may hope that ere long the misguided men that continue still in arms may see the folly of their conduct, and that South Africa again in the enjoyment of peace may be blessed with a stable government and in the renewed development of its abundant resources. The year 1901 has been marked by great commercial prosperity and expansion of trade, and in the abundant harvest in Manitoba, as well as in the increase of our exports and imports, we have proof that Canada has shared with other countries the good times which have generally prevailed. Each year has its long record of those prominent in Church and State who have passed away, and the year just passed has had many distinguished men who will be missed in their several departments, and by whose departure the world has been made poorer. The Church is striving in the face of much decay of faith and increasing worldliness to do its duty to society and to the world, and in its intense faith in its mission, and in its manifold activities we recognize the most hopeful sign of the future. We would not deprecate the blessings and benefits of science to man's physical life, but in the deepening of faith and the elevation of morals we know that man's highest interest will be best served and furthered. As the spiritual and moral are superior to the physical and intellectual life of man, and as he can only be truly great as he cultivates the heart and soul, so let us hope as the best things for the coming year and century that the Kingdom of Christ may be more fully established and enlarged, and that His Church may more than ever in the past prepare for His coming, and for the final establishment of His eternal and glorious kingdom.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS.

A change of incumbents in a parish is often a critical period, and often fraught with danger to the best interests of the congregation. On the other hand, it is frequently an opportunity for a new and hopeful departure. In some cases there has been perhaps friction or dissension, as to the choice of a newly appointed rector, or he may be succeeding one whom it is hard to follow, because he has been so generally successful, or he may be entering a parish which is, from various causes, in a far from prosperous condition, either spiritually or financially. In any case, it is an important event, and very necessary that the newly appointed rector should make as good an impression as possible, and have the advantage at least of a good beginning. The Church recognizes this, and has authorized a solemn service of induction, which provides that the Bishop or some one appointed by him shall, with befitting and significant ceremonies, coupled with good advice to the pastor and people, induct the rector into his office and parish. With this excellent provision, and the obvious reasons for it, why is it, and whose fault is it,