

## ANNUAL SERMON.

THE annual sermon was preached by the Rev. Professor Ballantyne, in St. Andrew's Church, on the evening of Sunday, December 27, 1898. The text was taken from Romans xvi. 23, "And Quartus a brother."

There does not seem to be very much for us in these three words. Indeed, I suspect that the lists of names appended to the New Testament Epistles are not often read, and that they rarely evoke any special interest on the part of those who do read them. Yet they are written for our instruction and encouragement. And if only we succeed in giving to this figure some touches that shall make him live again, we may learn a great deal of what Christianity in essence is and of what it does for men.

From the sketch at hand it is not difficult to fill out the portrait of Quartus. He was a Christian and a member of the Church at Corinth. It does not appear that he knew any of the Christians who dwelt at Rome; or that they had ever heard of him. We infer also that he was not prominent in social, in church, or official life. His name is the last on the list. While the others have marks of distinction he is merely called a "brother." Timothy, the apostle's trusted companion in labor, for whom he cherished the fondest love, sends a salutation. There follow the names of other men prominent in that Christian congregation. Then Tertius, who was writing the letter as Paul dictated it, adds his greeting; with the pen in his hand he speaks in the first person, "I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, salute you in the Lord." Next comes Gaius,