

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

Calendar for January.

- 1st.—(Saturday) Circumcision of our Lord. Holy Communion 11 a. m.
- 2nd—2nd. Sunday after Christmas, Holy Communion 8 a. m. and 11 a. m.
- 4th—(Tuesday) Christmas tree Entertainment at School-house 7.30 p. m.
- 6th—(Thursday) Epiphany of our Lord. Holy Communion 11 a. m.
- 9th—1st. Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Communion 8 a. m.
- 16th—2nd. Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Communion 8 a. m. and 11 a. m.
- 23rd—3rd. Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Communion 8 a. m.
- 25th—(Tuesday) Conversion of St. Paul. Holy Communion 8 a. m. and 11 a. m. Evensong 5 p. m. Annual Parish Conversazione at School-house 8 p. m.
- 30th—4th. Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Communion 8 a. m.

New Year's Day is very often and very appropriately called "a milestone on the highway of life." There is, however, one marked difference between a milestone and the day which it symbolises, namely, that the latter does not stand still for you to lean upon it and rest yourself, but silently glides away in spite of you, back into that part of our life's journey which we call "the past," and it is surprising how soon it is hidden behind the turns and windings of our path and vanishes from—even the inward eye of the memory.

"Before this fresh and white milestone inscribed "New Year's Day 1898" fades out of sight, it would be well for us to have a good look at it to see if something else may not be written there besides the mere date.

With what a start of astonishment and incredulity should we read there; "This is your last New Year's Day!" And yet, however difficult it may be to realise it, of some one who reads this, these words are literally true.

There could hardly then be a better or more seasonable wish than this:—May every one of our Readers pass such a New Year as he would wish to do if it really were his last one, and yet may every one of them have many bright milestones along the road before him.

And let us not forget that when we do come to the last one, *it is only the milestones that will cease*, the high road of our life will go on forever, and without the stones and ruts which jolt and shake us now, and moreover, if we read the message of the milestones correctly and act upon it, we shall find that part of the road upon which we are loth to enter, to lie through scenery more entrancing and past landscapes more delightful than our beautiful earth can present even to the observant eye of the artist, or the

poet's imagination. Our New Year's wish goes farther than "many happy returns of the day," and includes: May you be even happier still when you have passed all the milestones!

The Christmas decorations were this year fully as complete and as well executed as in former years, thus apparently justifying the absentees who say, "Oh, it's sure to be done all right somehow, even if I do stay away." And very likely they felt justified, and at the Christmas services thought of their widow's mite of wreathing (if they had been to one evening's greening) with all the satisfaction of the most liberal Pharisee. Personally we were present two evenings and a half and feel heartily ashamed of ourselves: we would like to see those who did the work decorated each with some honorable badge or medal—e. g. a spruce tree rampant with the motto, "Many hands make light work" Equal credit with the actual workers must be given to a gentleman who atoned for non-attendance by a liberal contribution of candy for the delectation of the wreathers. May his example bear fruit next year in a long line of imitators. The directors of the work this year were Messrs Dacre Walker and John I. Robinson, of whose energy and devotion too much cannot be said.

The Christmas services were:—a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 a. m., a Choral celebration at 8 a. m., and Matins and Holy Communion at 11 a. m. At all three the attendance was good. There were 55 communicants at 7 a. m., 101 at 8 a. m., and 64 at 11 a. m., making a total of 220. The singing always goes well on Christmas Day, and this year both choir and congregation did their best. Maunder's Te Deum and Anthem, "Christians, awake!" were sung, the principal solo being well taken by Mr. W. J. Starr. Gerald Robinson, Don Seely, and Jack Matthew sang a very effective solo (if it can be called a solo when so taken.) The collections on Christmas Day were, as usual, to be devoted to the poor of the parish. A very generous contribution was made as follows:—

7 a. m.	\$ 31.53
8 a. m.	29.58
11 a. m.	92.86

\$153.97

It was noticed that only a very few copper coins (less than the probable number of small children present) were offered. There was a great number of single dollar notes, clean and new, the liberal offering from the moderate store of the many rather than from the riches of the few.

On Christmas Day the Rector was surprised by a deputation of choir boys who presented him with a much prized gift,—Smith's Dictionary of the Bible and the "Life of St. Paul" by Conybear & Howson.