

etc. At a largely attended meeting of the parishoners held in February, 1900, a resolution was unanimously adopted to the effect, 'That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to adopt the voluntary system in lieu of rent of pews and sittings, etc.'

Details were arranged and the new scheme was found to work very successfully. About two years ago a further step was taken in the direction of the rector's ideal in the matter of church government and the sittings were made absolutely free and unappropriated. The voluntary system of giving has proved a success, the people have responded admirably to the confidence placed in their loyalty and generosity, so that while changes have taken place in the membership such as are incidental to all city congregations, the revenue of the church and its varied undertakings has been in no way lessened or impaired. The rector greatly prefers the system of faith to that of cold business in church financing and when it comes down to the foundation it is the same thing so far as the supporters are concerned. The spirituality of the people, the rector believes, has improved under the new order of things. Giving is more a source of blessing and less an obligation than before. Mr. Troop considers that the large attendance of young men found in St. Martin's every Sunday is due in no small measure to the fact that they have as good a right to occupy any vacant seat in the church when they arrive there as anyone else. The steady average of the offerings shows, he believes, that they are not after free sittings but that they approve of the system and principle of unappropriated pews and voluntary contributions.

The church will comfortably seat five hundred people. It is calculated that there are about that number of communicants and twice that number of adherents who call this church their spiritual home. There are certainly hundreds who consider Mr. Troop their spiritual father and adviser, and if they all tried to get into St. Martin's Church at one time they would face a physical impossibility.

The church is a neat and compact structure, of Gothic design and built on the cruciform plan. It is about a hundred and twenty feet long, including the chancel, and the transcripts are about ninety feet across. The large basement includes a lecture hall and Sunday-school class rooms. The windows are ornamented with stained glass and there is one memorial window just to the right of the pulpit, erected by the congregation in 'grateful memory of Mr. Alexander Gowley, who died in May, 1888.' He was a very active and devoted member of the church. The communion table was presented to the church by Mr. J. P. Cleghorn, in memory of his son, James Herbert Cleghorn, who died May 22, 1897.

The choir is composed of adult singers of both sexes and this is one of the few churches in Canada having surpliced ladies in the choir. This feature was adopted about two years ago and has been well received. Mr. John M. Walkley, is organist and choir master.

Two young men have gone out from St. Martin's Church to preach the gospel. One is the Rev. W. H. Garth, B.A., son of Mr. H. W. Garth, of this city. Mr. Garth is a graduate of McGill, and was from May, 1892, to October, 1894, curate of St. Martin's. In 1894 he was called to be curate to the Rev. Dr. Rainsford, at St. George's Church, New York. From there he became rector at Wakefield, R. I., and he is at present rector of Naugatuck, Conn.

The other is the Rev. W. W. Craig, son of Mr. Alexander Craig, of Montreal. Mr. Craig was curate of St. Martin's from June, 1897, to November, 1899, when he accepted the curacy of Trinity Church, St. John, N. B. Mr. Craig recently accepted the invitation to become rector of St. Luke's Church, Montreal, and is expected to assume his new charge in May.

During the incumbency of the present rector no fewer than 508 persons have been presented for confirmation and added to the communion roll of the church.