

MONTHLY NOTES

THE SEASON OF LENT

Before the next issue of our Paper, the season of Lent will be upon us, and for whatever purpose the Church first instituted such a time of fasting and self denial, it is not hard to find the absolute necessity for such a season now.

In this age of almost ceaseless energy, when the life of men is so often given up entirely to the pursuit of wealth and pleasure, it is well indeed that, once a year, the Church calls us in solemn tones to stop and consider what will be the end of it all, this life here is so short, so fleeting; how are we prepared for the life eternal?

"Be still and know that I am God"—here is our first Lenten thought. "Be still"—after the stress and strain of business troubles and worries, after a season of gaiety and pleasure, "Be still," just be quiet and restful, throw off all that is disturbing, and then "Know that I am God"—what a revulsion of feelings will be ours, we have thought so much of ourselves, our own interests, our own pleasures, and now that we have put these on one side, we look to God, and we realise how small, petty and insignificant we are, and how great and holy God is, and all our thoughts and aspirations are towards Him, then He speaks "Come let us reason together, though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool." Here we have the promise of forgiveness of our sins, and all this Lent teaches us, but that is not enough, we have stopped short in our mad career, we have been still, we have realised that God is above us all, that God is all in all, we have been promised the forgiveness of our sins, and now our energy must once more be brought into play, we had been energetic and active enough in our own interests, now we must be as energetic and as active for God, as St. Paul saith "Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer, distributing to the necessity of saints, given to Hospitality, Bless them which persecute you, bless and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. And finally, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

That should be our programme for Lent, and when the Glorious Festival of Easter, once more brings us rejoicing, we should find that we have been benefited and helped, and we should realise more and more that our life here is but a preparation for the life which is to come.

THE SCHOOL

Desiring to meet the expressed wishes of some parents who would like to send their sons to the school, but for the distance between it and their homes, Mr. Matthews has arranged to accommodate a limited number of boarders at his home in Wychwood Park, a spot which offers many advantages, from its beautiful and healthful situation on the Hill front, its nearness to the school, and the increased supervision he will there be able to exercise over such of his pupils as may be thus entrusted to his care. He will be glad to furnish all desired particulars if addressed personally or by letter at the school, or at Wychwood Park, Bracondale, Ontario.

The head boys of each class for February stand as follows—

4TH FORM	3RD FORM
1st. R. Hilton	1st. E. Ewing
2nd. L. Dixon	2nd. F. Macdonald
2ND FORM	1ST FORM
1st. G. Maclean	1st. Wm. Tyrrell
2nd. Wm. Ince	2nd. A. Clarke

THE CHOIR

It has always been a most noticeable fact to those who are in a position to know, that our choir has not been recruited from the congregation as much as it should be, and but for a very large proportion of its members, who live at long distances from the Cathedral, the ranks would present a very slim appearance. Why this should be is a question often asked by the choirmaster, who himself belongs to another congregation far from the neighborhood of St. Alban's. There are a great number of difficulties always presenting themselves to those who have the responsibility of training, and maintaining a volunteer choir such as ours, the chief one at the present time being the loss of some good boys, on account of the changing of their voices, whose places have not been filled for want of suitable recruits.

How this could be easily rectified if a few parents in the congregation would bring their boys forward to help in this most important work, in the services of the church, and it is quite a reasonable requirement as a very decided addition is thus usually made to the education of a boy.

Through a printers error in the article on "St. Alban's Debt," appearing in our last issue, the number of people who could be seated in the proposed addition to building was made to read 100; the correct number is 200.