

then cover these again with some very finely broken pieces—over this spread a layer of moss. Place the ferns in the pot so that the roots are not cramped in a bunch. Fill the pot so that it is within a half inch from the top when it is well pressed down, which is very important in the potting of any plant. When potted loosely no plant can thrive. J. E.

The Christmas Number of the "Canadian Churchman."

The Christmas edition of the "Canadian Churchman" is an exceedingly artistic publication, and says much for the enterprise of this well-known Church paper. It contains capital pictures of the "Madonna and Infant Jesus," the "Flight into Egypt," "Mary and Elizabeth," and "Morning at Nazareth," with some secular pictures, one of which, "Looking for Santa Claus," is sure to delight not only little ones, but the older ones who love them. A biographical notice of the new Rector of St. James', Toronto, is accompanied by a photograph of Dr. Welch. He was at one time domestic chaplain to the late Bishop of Durham, and after Dr. Lightfoot's death was appointed to the Venerable Bede's Church at Gateshead. In 1895 he became Provost and Vice-Chancellor of Trinity College, Toronto, which office he has since filled with much distinction. The late Bishop Sullivan was noted as a preacher, but he will be ably followed by Dr. Welch.

Amongst the distinctly Christmas mat-

ter is an able sermon by Dean Carmichael, in which the main thought is that the Festival of the Nativity is to those who "keep watch," a vision of the invisible and eternal, and to those who listen, a voice from the Paradise of God's Presence, calling us to our joy, our inheritance, the City of God.

Through the whole number runs that spirit of sober Churchmanship which is distinctive of the "Canadian Churchman," and which should make it acceptable to every loyal son and daughter of our Church.

The Progress of Sin.

Sins of infirmity tend to those which are greater and forfeit grace.

An illustration will explain what I mean, and may throw light on the whole subject. You know it continually happens that some indisposition overtakes a man, such that persons skilled in medicine, when asked if it is dangerous, answer, "Not at present, but they do not know what will come of it: it may turn out something very serious: but there is nothing much amiss yet; at the same time, if it be not checked, and much more, if it be neglected, it will be serious." This, I conceive, is the state of Christians day by day, as regards their souls: they are always ailing, always on the point of sickness; they are sickly, easily disarranged, obliged to take great care of themselves against air, sun, and weather; they are full of tendencies to all sorts of grievous diseases, and are continually showing these tendencies, in slight symptoms; but