

## NOTE.

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As our September number was so much behind time we have decided to issue the present one on November 1st, and to make the December number (which will complete the volume and the issue of the Magazine by the present editor) a double one.

It is proposed to print in that number a full account of the proceedings of the electing Synod, which is to meet on the 22nd instant, and also, the text of the various farewell addresses that have been presented to our retiring Bishop.

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## SERMON

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PREACHED IN CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, ON THE OCCASION OF  
THE HARVEST FESTIVAL, OCT. 5th, 1892, BY THE  
REV. CANON BEANLANDS, M. A.

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Psalm 147 : 1.—*Truly a joyful and pleasant thing it is to be thankful.*

Gratitude, my brethren, one would suppose, to be the commonest of all virtues. For is it not the standard we impose upon the very lowest of God's human creatures? When men and women are lost to any sense of shame, when they have ceased to be stirred by feelings of honour, or justice, or self-respect; when they have sunk beneath vices which more virtuous people tremble to think of; when they have long since failed to regard law as binding, or the decencies of life to be observed by them, is there not still gratitude to be expected, the dumb look of thanks, the tear of humble acknowledgment wrung by kindness from dry and weary eyes?

So, too, with savage races. Is it not the last sign of their descent from a common humanity, this power of gratitude; and do we not feel that we sever the last link of our respect for them in saying, "They have not even the sense of gratitude?"

And, as it is the commonest, the most universal of virtuous sentiments for man to exhibit towards man, so is it the most universally inculcated by religion towards God. Every religion insists on two common expressions from its worshippers: prayer and thanksgiving, propitiation and gratitude. The cultivated heathen in stately ritual and rhythmic dance, with song and music, with garlands and votive offerings, hymned his thanks to that particular deity from whom he believed he had