

GOD SAVE OUR GRACIOUS KING

JUNE 3rd, 1865

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Hymns from the Book of Common Praise, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

June 13th.

Holy Communion: 233, 237, 253, 260.
Processional: 384, 433, 468, 473.
Offertory: 610, 619, 646, 653.
Children: 688, 691, 694, 695.
General: 3, 26, 652, 664.

The Outlook

A Special Appeal

The hearts of all Churchmen, indeed of "all who profess and call themselves Christians" in Canada will endorse with keenest sympathy the new appeal made to the Nation by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. They have issued a Pastoral Letter to be read in all churches on June 6th.

"After ten months of war we see more clearly than at first the greatness and severity of the ordeal which is putting the spirit of our nation to the test.

"The spirit arrayed against us threatens the very foundation of civilized order in Christendom. It yields an immense and ruthless power. It can only be decisively rolled back if we, for our part, concentrate the whole strength of body, mind and soul which our nation and our empire holds.

"We solemnly call on all members of the Church and urge upon all fellow-citizens to meet with glad and unstinted response, whatever demands of service or sacrifice the Government decides to make. The great war, righteously waged, calls out that spirit of willing sacrifice with a plainness and intensity which nothing can rival. On behalf of righteousness and in our country's cause, there is nothing too dear or too sacred to be offered. God has so taught us. Let us obey by what we give and by what we are. May His will be done."

This is the true spirit with which to face the present crisis. This assured, the outcome is beyond question.

Doctrine and Duty

The first Sunday after Trinity is the beginning of the second part of the Christian Year. The first part emphasizes the great facts of redemption and the doctrines arising out of them. The second part shows how those facts and doctrines are to become forces in daily life. Thus we have doctrine and duty, character and conduct, facts and factors. It is essential to preserve this balance of the Christian life lest we forget that the object and outcome of Christianity is life. We see this clearly in the Collect for the first Sunday in Trinity where we ask the help of Divine grace to keep God's commandments and thus please Him in will and deed. To the same effect is the teaching of the Epistle and its threefold emphasis on God's love to us, our love to Him, and the proof of both in loving our brother also. Then, too, the Gospel tells the same story with its teaching on lovingkindness, sympathy and interest in the poor and the outcast, as opposed to callousness and hardness of heart. The message of the entire season which we are now commencing is: "If ye know these things happy are ye if ye do them."

Spiritual Transformation

Soon after the War broke out a young American went to Belgium and offered himself as a stretcher bearer. Educated, with delicate sensibilities, a man of distinction as a writer, he had been so deeply moved by the distress of the wounded and dying that he could not any longer remain quietly in the United States. For months he has been between contending armies, constantly exposed to death while ministering to the victims of shot, shell and disease. His extraordinary experiences have produced at least one change in his thinking. He is now a firm believer in immortality. To the same effect is the testimony of a British officer who went into the battle of Mons an agnostic and, as a result of the marvellous experiences during that ever-memorable retreat, gave up his unbelief and was impressed by the manifest tokens of the presence of God. A private letter says that perhaps the most hopeful sign is found in those who return from the War to England, many of whom are changed men. There is nothing like great realities to make men think and to see life present and future in its proper light. This is what the Psalmist meant when he said: "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood." The War, with all its horror, is proving a very sanctuary to many, reminding them of God and His claim upon their lives.

The Forgotten Factor

A new work by the now well-known German General, Bernhardt, was reviewed the other day in an American paper. Its title is "On War To-day" and the task, according to the author, is to solve the riddle in advance. The book is chiefly interesting as proving that the military risk which Germany has incurred had been deliberately calculated and the chief maxim of the writer is that knowledge of the enemy's numerical strength gives some kind of guide for judging what a man may be ex-

pected to do. But when it is added that knowledge is also required as to the "military qualities, weaknesses and peculiarities" it is evident that on this particular point the German authorities were at fault. They never reckoned that France would show such constancy, or that England would be so effective on land, or that Belgium would offer any serious resistance. On everything purely technical Bernhardt is able to speak with certainty, though even here it is clear that his forecasts did not provide for the human element. The chief lesson of the book is that it is only too possible to take a view of War which fails to give proper consideration to national psychology and ordinary morals. In other words, it is "the man behind the gun" that really dominates the situation. This is a fine testimony to personality and is capable of many applications outside the precise domain of the present conflict. Whatever else we do or do not do, we must not fail to take into consideration the mind, heart, and soul of man. Individuality is the dominant element in life, and when it is controlled and inspired by Divine grace we begin to know what life really means.

An Illustrious Scotsman

Lord Rosebery recently delivered an eloquent address in commemoration of the centenary of Dr. Chalmers, the famous Scottish clergyman. Chalmers is claimed to be the most illustrious Scottish Churchman since John Knox. His power as a preacher is rightly described as "immense" and "superb," and Lord Rosebery says that the secret of his power was not his oratory or personality, but his saintliness. It seems that Chalmers had not many sermons, that he concentrated himself upon a particular few, so that he preached nothing but masterpieces, and each time he repeated them, he gave them new life. He gave at all times of his best and disdained to offer anything less. This is a fine testimony and carries its own message for all who are called upon to preach and teach. We must always do our best, whether our congregation is in a little village or in a large city and we must see that our sermons are driven home by the force of a character which is permeated by the grace of God. "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

Disproportion

On the very day that Canadian soldiers were engaged in their life and death struggle in Belgium, and while British, French and Belgian troops were fiercely fighting to recover the ground seized by the Germans as a result of their poisonous gases, the Lower House of Canterbury Convocation carried a resolution that the name of King Charles I. should be added to the Anglican Calendar of Saints. It is hardly possible to avoid sympathy with the layman who writes to a Church paper deploring the fact that whilst these solemn events were proceeding, Convocation should be engaged on such trivialities. He says that none of the men he meets cares "a brass button" about King Charles, though they do feel very much concerned about the state of affairs in relation to religious work in the army. Indeed, some people have gone so far as to refer with cynicism to Nero's occupation while Rome was burning, for, if by any possibility the Germans landed in England they would soon make short work of everything purely antiquarian. It is