

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

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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 CHRISTMAS.

(January 4th.)

Holy Communion: 76, 251, 255, 257.

Processional: 73, 79, 475, 566.

Offertory: 89, 422, 423, 570.

Children: 704, 709, 714, 720.

General: 86, 87, 390, 484.

The Outlook

CHRISTMAS DAY

"O Blessed Day, which giv'st the eternal lie
To self and sense, and all the brute within;
Oh! come to us amid this war of life;
To hall and hovel come! to all who toil
In senate, shop, or study! and to those
Ill-warned and sorely-tempted—
Come to them, blest and blessing, Christmas Day!
Tell them once more the tale of Bethlehem,
The kneeling shepherds, and the Babe Divine;
And keep them men indeed, fair Christmas Day!"

—Charles Kingsley.

Mr. Bryce and Canada

Mr. James Bryce, the late British Ambassador to Washington, made some interesting reflections the other evening upon affairs in Canada. He said that the Dominion had already become a great nation, with unexampled prosperity, and that two things were particularly encouraging. One is the purity of public life, and the other the freedom from all suspicion in regard to the judicial Bench. Mr. Bryce went on to refer to race antagonism, and said that while we had given our Imperial Citizenship to all subjects, there were rights which had necessarily been conceded to self-governing Dominions, each of these being master in its own house. When, there-

fore, the action of the Dominions came into opposition with what were supposed to be the interests of other races in the Empire, and when those races thought themselves injured or wounded, a painful dilemma arose. Mr. Bryce does not see at present any satisfactory issue, but pleads for influence to be exerted to mitigate the feeling and to make each party understand the difficulties and the need of dealing tenderly with the other side. He thinks that as long as this antagonism is acute it would be better to endeavour to induce each race to stay within its own country. Mr. Bryce is not without hope that in time these troubles will pass away, but with so strong a racial feeling on both sides, the more that can be done to avert occasions for it arising the better for the whole Empire. These are wise words, and we hope they will be heeded.

Mission Work in Ungava

The Rev. S. M. Stewart, who comes from perhaps the loneliest Mission Station in the world, is now spending a brief furlough in England. His address is anywhere in Ungava, the great, icebound Province between Labrador and Hudson's Bay, a thousand miles further from civilization than the scene of Dr. Grenfell's work in Labrador. Mr. Stewart says that the most anxious moment of the year is when the Hudson's Bay Company's vessel from England is sighted, and when they are waiting to know whether good news or ill is being brought. A few years ago his furlough was nearly due, and he was looking forward to getting back to see his old father in Ireland, but when the ship came he found that his father had been dead nine months before. But with splendid courage Mr. Stewart said that they get on quite well without news, and they often pick up threads of things within a week after getting home to England. The missionary's preaching includes the gospel of cleanliness, and he backs this up in a practical way with cakes of soap. Unfortunately, he started with giving the Eskimos some scented soap, and they ate every cake they could lay hold of. Now he has taken to carbolic soap, and as they say they dislike "medicine soap," they use it for the purpose for which it is meant. Mr. Stewart is going back to Ungava as soon as he can obtain the necessary funds to get a motor-boat, which will keep him in touch with his scattered congregations. All this should help us to realize what our brethren in the Far North have to endure. Let us think at this time of the Rev. A. L. Fleming, who is alone this winter at Bar Harbour among the Eskimos, and let us surround him with prayer for his life and work.

The Week of Prayer

During the first complete week of the New Year, January 4th to 10th, the Week of Prayer will be observed all over the world. It has been organized under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance for sixty-seven years without a break, and it is suggested that all local Christian leaders should endeavour to arrange for gatherings where Christians of all Churches can meet without sacrifice of denominational convictions, in the earnest desire to exhibit love toward their neighbours and to share in united intercession for the Church and the world. The letter conveying the invitation calls special attention to the need of further progress in the manifestation of unity in the bonds of faith and love, and it is

pointed out that the call for unity from the mission field becomes every year clearer and most insistent. On each day of the week there are special topics for thanksgiving and prayer, and an application to the Secretary of the Canadian Branch of the Alliance, the Rev. E. D. Silcox, 4 Sussex Avenue, Toronto, would obtain all necessary papers, giving particulars of the arrangements and topics. Preachers are also earnestly asked to take the suggested subjects for sermons on the Sunday, and to bring the Week of Prayer before their congregations. We notice with interest and pleasure a large number of representative names of our Church among the signatories of the invitation, including the Bishops of Durham, Caledonia, and Saskatchewan, Archdeacon Armitage, Canon Stocken, Dr. Hoyles, and many more, who are thus associated with this effort for united and universal prayer. It is an opportunity which should be utilized to the full, not only in public, but in family worship, and in private devotions. Whatever else we cannot do together, it ought to be possible, as the Lambeth Conference so helpfully said in 1908, to unite in prayer.

Pernicious Books

The Head Master of Eton, the Hon. and Rev. E. Lyttelton, has written to the "Times," calling serious attention to the mischief now being done by thrusting upon the attention of boys and girls by means of novels some of the most serious personal questions. His words must be quoted:—

"Those who are working and hoping, however feebly, to encompass the lives of our boys and girls with wholesome atmosphere must know that in regard to sexuality two facts stand out. First, that in proportion as the adolescent mind grows absorbed in sex questions, wreckage of life ensues. Secondly, that sanity and upright manliness are destroyed, not only by the reading of obscene stuff, but by a premature interest in sex matters, however it be excited; for the vital question for each youngster is whether or not the true perspective of things is being disturbed by what he sees, hears, and reads."

Mr. Lyttelton believes that the mischief done cannot be stayed by public action, because, according to a bookseller, directly a book is censored, orders for it pour in, many of them from schoolboys. So an earnest plea is put in for the rigid avoidance of these subjects by writers, in order that the words uttered long ago may be fulfilled, that "our sons may grow up as young plants, and that our daughters may be as the polished corners of the temple." We are grateful for this strong appeal from one who knows the situation so well, and with Mr. Lyttelton we would point out to all writers their responsibility, not only for their own children, but "for the vast multitude of young folk scattered throughout the English-speaking world."

Kikuyu

This is the name of a Mission Station in East Africa, and in our issue of September 25th we gave an account, by the Bishop of Uganda, of a Joint Conference of Missionaries in July last, which included a celebration of the Holy Communion, at which the Bishop of Mombasa officiated. This action has created