

desirable to provide an extra service, at which the singing should be simple and congregational. That the immemorial practice of chanting psalms and canticles antiphonally should be adopted by the congregation as well as by the choir. Concerning the organ, organist, and choir, it was suggested in the report:—That the organ be so placed or arranged that it may be an effective support for the singing of the congregation as well as for the choir, and also interesting for solo purposes. The facilities and encouragement should be given to organists to render suitable selections of music before as well as after service, particularly on Sunday evenings. That as opportunities offer, small parochial orchestras should be encouraged to be formed to supplement the organ on occasions, thus extending the opportunities of rendering musical service by the people. That unaccompanied singing should be largely encouraged during Lent and Advent, particularly the former, and that more restraint should be observed generally in the use of the organ at these seasons. Among other suggestions were some to relieve the organist so that he could worship among the congregation, visit other churches and avoid getting into a groove.

Bishop of Worcester on Hymns.

Bishop Gore who is always outspoken and often original, added a communication on hymns to the following effect:—"I very much hope that the committee will consider the importance of letting the hymns sung in a liturgical service be always conformed to the liturgical service—i.e., to the tone of the special festival. It is a very good thing also, and a sign of real care, when clergy who are going to preach are invited to suggest a hymn to follow the sermon. Nothing is more distressing, I think, than the totally irrelevant character of the hymns often sung, the choice being apparently purely determined by the popularity of the tune. I wish also the committee would consider in the same line the importance of reviving the use of such solemn and sober hymns, full of practical instruction as, e.g., 'What various hindrances we meet.'" This hymn is 591 in Church Hymns, and is by William Cowper, and the quaint old-fashioned, old English character of the words is very different from the litter of Italian monasteries which commend themselves to the fashionable scholars. We expect that the Bishop will next advise the old mode of teaching the hymns first carefully read through clearly, and then read out and sung two lines at a time. It sounds strange to us, but was most effective in its day, the day before the school master was abroad.

Missionary Hymn.

One of our clergy whom we miss and who we fear will become a typical American is the Rev. C. L. V. McBrine, now of Christ Church, Portsmouth, N.H. Mr. McBrine has laid us under obligation by sending a missionary hymn written by Miss Kimball, a member of his congregation, which hymn set to music by Mr. McBrine was sung at the great missionary meetings held at the time of the general convention in Boston, and bids fair to become a general favourite in the States. Here it is:

Wider and wider yet
The gates of the nations swing;
Clearer and clearer still
The wonderful prophecies ring;
Go forth, ye host of the Living God,
And conquer the world for your King!
"Go into all the world,"
For this is the charge Divine;
Eastward and westward go,
Uplifting His conquering sign;
Go forth! the ends of the earth are His:
Press on with unflinching line.
Millions on millions wait
The message ye have to bring;

Go with the word of God,
Commissioned by Jesus your King;
Go forth, the arrows of truth to speed,
The songs of deliverance sing.
Open the eyes of the blind,
And give to the heathen sight;
Show to the feet astray
The path of the children of light;
Go forth, and gather the lost, and clothe,
The penitent sinner in white.
Grant them the mystic birth;
The seal of the Holy Ghost;
Give them the Living Bread,
The food of God's militant host;
Go forth, bestowing these priceless gifts
No bounty of monarch can boast.
Heralds of Christ, go forth,
And count not your lives as dear;
Haste, for the day draws on
When He shall in glory appear.
Go forth! His promises cannot fail;
The conquest eternal is near!
Wider and wider yet
The gates of the nations swing;
Clearer and clearer still
The wonderful prophecies ring;
Go forth, ye host of the Living God,
And conquer the world for your King! Amen.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

Two of the most notable events in the record of our Church's history during the year which is ending have been the lamented death of the Most Reverend Robert Machray, Archbishop of Rupert's Land, and Primate of All Canada. And the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Primate of the English Church, to Canada. After a distinguished career of noble and unselfish devotion to the Church in a diocese of vast extent—and at the time of his appointment, remote, largely unsettled and uncivilized—this great and good man at an advanced age, honoured and revered, passed to his well-earned rest. The coming of the Archbishop of Canterbury to Canada was an event of the first importance, of historic significance and of beneficial results to the Church at large. The broad minded sympathy and sense of Christian brotherhood which prompted such a departure from ancient custom cannot fail of its mission. The anniversary of the calling of Bishop Sweatman to the high office which he has so unselfishly and devotedly filled for a quarter of a century is well worthy of note. To comparatively few Bishops is the high privilege given after bearing rule for that length of time—to be able to recount as one of the fruits of his episcopate:—"The healing of the unhappy divisions of the past, the complete restoration of the spirit of brotherly union and concord among our clergy and laity." This one result alone is a splendid vindication of a lofty purpose and of signal success in its achievement. The man who unshrinkingly, unswervingly, and with indomitable persistence strives to bring about and perpetuate "peace on earth, good-will towards men," can in the truest sense honestly say—that he has been "faithfully striving to follow the Master in His steps, and earnestly labouring for the extension of His kingdom." In the death of Bishop Baldwin the Church sustained a great and regretted loss. The voice of the powerful and persuasive orator is silent. His ringing tones, eager eye, and intense earnestness have suspended their lofty mission of love, truth, and purity on earth. But his memory long will linger and his "good deeds will follow him." Archdeacon Williams' preferment to the Diocese of Huron has been deservedly hailed with satisfaction. One especial source of pleasure being the fact that the need of looking abroad for men of strength, learning and ruling power has passed from the Canadian Church. Another marked evidence of this fact is the "occupancy of the episcopal office in the Diocese of Nova Scotia

by Bishop Worrell in succession to Bishop Courtenay—who after many years' work in the Province by the sea, resigned his office. Bishop Worrell will, we are convinced, in the time to come, give a good account of himself and his diocese. One of the most urgent matters brought before the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto at its last session was the inadequate stipends of many of the clergy. Especially those labouring in rural parishes and along the concession lines of sparsely settled districts. The strenuous and convincing eloquence of the Hon. S. H. Blake was well employed in a powerful appeal to the laity to remedy this distressing wrong. The interest in the subject of church union has been well maintained, and a distinct step in advance made in certain quarters. The subject of a Canadian Church Congress has not been neglected. The great convention held at Boston, and that at Liverpool, England, were object-lessons for our Church. These great gatherings give an impetus to Church work all along the line. They are a direct benefit to those who take part in, and attend them, and indirectly prove a gain to the whole body of the Church. Among the notable Church events of the year was the celebration of the centenary of St. James' Church, Toronto. A matter of historic interest to the Diocese of Toronto, which was fully referred to in our columns. The Provincial Synod held its presumably salutatory meeting, and has become now practically merged in the General Synod of the Church. Thereby saving time and labour, and lessening the cost and wear and tear of over-much machinery. The appointment of the Rev. F. H. Du Vernet to the Bishopric of the Diocese of Caledonia deprives the Diocese of Toronto of a devout, learned, laborious and estimable clergyman, to the gain of the Church in Caledonia. The subject of Church extension—especially in the North-West, has been frequently dealt with, and is one of paramount importance. Our limited space denies us the pleasure of referring, save in the most meagre way to the most faithful and commendable work done by the various church societies, and especially by the missionary secretaries. Energy, zeal and efficiency have produced results in some instances of a most unusual and satisfactory character. The old year has amongst other things brought about a new Hymn Book, which we hope may help and not hinder our service of praise.

The event of most world-wide interest during the past year has been the war between Russia and Japan. The hitherto conquering and expanding vigour of the former power has recoiled before the indomitable pluck, scientific skill, and competent strategy of the latter. The superiority shown at the outset by the Japanese on the sea has been maintained on land. The great loss of life, and consequent grief and suffering entailed on the relatives and dependents of the combatants, is most deplorable, and it is to be hoped the new year may bring with it for them a return to peace. Indirectly the war has affected our Empire—notably by the sinking of the "Knight Commander," a British ship by Russian war vessels, and the attack on British trawlers in the North Sea by some ships of the Baltic squadron. Two Canadian cities suffered severely from fire during the year, Toronto and Winnipeg. The former to the extent of \$10,000,000, and the latter \$1,000,000. Lord Minto, who so ably and acceptably represented our King in Canada, has given place to Earl Grey. Our regret at losing Lord Minto is softened by the gracious presence and ample promise of his successor. Lord Dundonald honoured Canada by his command of her soldiery. Consummate captain that he is—his signal ability, able and disinterested service, and incorruptible devotion to duty brought him in collision with political partisan interference with the discharge of the obligations of his office, hence his departure from amongst us. The triumphs of the Government of Sir Wilfrid