

of the little ones. By drinking of the cup itself it has wherewith to feel, to solace, to refresh. And as it nourishes this joy of giving relief, it turns back again to its God with a new passion of entreaty. It asks for more, it seeks, it knocks. It will take no refusal. For the more it has the more it will give. Brethren, we give so beggarly because we ask so niggardly. To heighten our giving we must raise our power of asking. "Ask of Me, and I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." So God challenges. There is such untold treasure ready in God's hands, and no one will ask Him for it; such irresistible power, and no one will put it to use; no one will liberate it. He is longing to come forward with all the illimitable honour of His name. And no one requires it of Him, no one offers Him the entry by knocking at the gates.

Here in London, east and north, before we decide what to give to-day, let us consider what we ask for from God. What is it we really in our hearts desire of God for this city? What do we expect on its behalf from Him? What is the range of our hope for it? How far do our aspirations go? As we recall Spitalfields, Hoxton, Clerkenwell, those grim wildernesses of misery, as we push fearfully down those hideous courts, those froward, brutal alleys, do we at all cry out for some mighty change that shall wipe this disgrace clean away? Do we from our souls protest against a situation so disastrous, so intolerable? Do we carry about with us a resolute demand that God should be enabled to verify His goodness to those broken, down-trodden people who, in their thousands, never hear His name, and if they do hear it cannot believe in His pity, of which they have been suffered to see no sign at all? Do we ask of God to justify His Fatherhood to them and yet leave them in conditions which, so far as they go, deny with might and main that there is a Father who loves them in heaven, that there is any kingdom of God that will ever come to them on this earth? Do we ask anything more for them from God than that a charitable pittance should here and there reach a little knot as a solace for their chronic distress, only perhaps to deepen their demoralization; that a kindly visit from a district visitor should now and again lighten the gloom of their street only to leave it the blacker from its impotence to lift at all the permanent burden under which they lie crushed? Is that about all that we actually expect would happen from all our efforts to cope with London poverty? Do we give to this East London Fund disbelieving in our heart of hearts that there is any cure for all this evil, that always there must be this terrible outcast population, shiftless and workless, huddled together in insanitary dwellings, paying away a third of their miserable wages in rent for one filthy room in a wretched hovel? Do we give, thinking that for all our relief and for all our Church ministries, that will be the end, that it will be always like this at Hoxton? Do we ask God for nothing more? Do we never seek with earnest thought how a better way may be found? Do we never knock at the closed doors which so soon arrest our earnest seeking? Have we no sincerity to put into our prayer that His kingdom may come on earth, and may reveal itself even in these waste places? If so, if our asking is so faithless, no wonder that our gifts are so beggarly. Who would give with any heart under the impulse of so pitiful a despair? Have faith in God! So our Lord answered them who trembled at the demands made upon them, "For verily I say unto you that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea, and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that these things that He said shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he saith." That is the asking to which our Lord spurs us on. Have faith in God, He cries. And in that faith ask that these strong mountains of ancient misery, so rooted, so immense, that seem part of the solid necessary structure of the world—a k boldly that they may be gone, that they may be lifted up and drowned in the depths of the sea. Have faith in God, and ask for London, for the poor of London, so much more than you have ever asked before. Ask that these dismal sights may disappear as a bad dream. Ask that their life be far brighter and more human than you have ever yet dared to believe possible. Ask that God may verify to them His goodness. Ask that they may see and know and find Him near who is now so far off, so desperately hidden from their eyes. Ask that His Church may indeed lift her eyes to His Fatherhood, and become visible to them as a kingdom of righteousness and peace, with courts laid open and wide doors that invite glad entry, and houses of kindly welcome. Ask that her work may be ten times as large, and strong, and bold, and free as it now is. So ask out of your faith in God, call up the vision of what this city could be if Christ were its King, and then in the power of that great asking give what you can with your uplifted spirit in the cause of those who need it, as freely as you would wish to be given to you. Give to them as you would give to God, of

whom you have asked so much; give according to the Divine measure of which it has been given to you when you have asked Him, good measure, full, pressed down, shaken together and running over; as God has given into your bosom so give out to them.

## Home & Foreign Church News

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

### MONTREAL.

WILLIAM B. BOND, D.D., BISHOP, MONTREAL.

**MONTREAL.**—*Synod Hall.*—The second monthly meeting this winter of the Montreal branch of the Gleaners' Union took place on Friday evening, Dec. 18th, in the Synod Hall. The gathering was a large and enthusiastic one, who highly appreciated both the lecture and the fine stereopticon views with which it was illustrated. The singing was led by the ladies' choir of the Gleaners' Union, organized by Mrs. Duncan MacPherson; Miss Redpath and the Misses Kays on the violin, and Mrs. McDuff on the harmonium, accompanied the vocalists. Mr. George Hague presided, and the Rev. G. Osborne Troop opened with prayer, and gave a short missionary Bible reading, upon the words: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He dwelt particularly upon the way in which persons who are unable to get themselves may be represented by those whom their offerings equip and maintain. Mrs. Carus-Wilson, as secretary of the Montreal branch of the Union, then made some announcements, and referred to the satisfactory fact that last December not a single Montreal Gleaner failed to rejoin the Union for 1896, expressing the hope that she might have a similar report to make this year. Professor Carus-Wilson then delivered a most interesting and suggestive lecture upon Uganda. He began by disposing of the popular notion that Central Africa is peopled by negroes, indicating what great things might be expected from the Uganda people, as the most progressive people of the progressing and conquering Bantu race. He then told the stirring story of the opening up of that country to missionary enterprise through the explorations of Livingstone and Stanley; of the latter's famous "challenge to Christendom," which the Church Missionary Society took up; of the missionary career, so great in its results, of the gifted and devoted Alexander Mackay; of the martyrdom of Bishop Hannington; of the persecution and expulsion of the Christians, and of their steadfastness. Holding up a copy of the Uganda version of St. Matthew's Gospel, which Mr. Mackay had made, Professor Carus-Wilson mentioned that his translation of the Scriptures had been continued and was now nearly completed by Mr. G. L. Pilkington, formerly a fellow-student of his at Pembroke College, Cambridge, who graduated with the highest honours in classics. Many graphic incidents and two or three striking lantern slides showed what enthusiastic and intelligent Bible students the people of Uganda are. More portions of the Scriptures were sold in Uganda during the ten months of 1895, than the Montreal Auxiliary of the Bible Society sold during the whole of 1895. Finally, the lecturer described the great monthly missionary meeting of the Uganda Christians, and the liberal collection taken up at its close. The lantern used was lent by Mr. W. D. Ross. Many of the slides were from photographs taken in Uganda by Mr. R. H. Leakey, one of the Church Missionary Society's missionaries now there; others were lent by Mr. Frank Redpath and the Rev. Edward Hill. At the close of the lecture there was a brisk sale of Church Missionary Society literature, and especially of Mr. Pilkington's new pamphlet, which had just arrived from London, and which gives the latest news of that newest Christian Church. It is hoped that the next party of missionaries to Uganda will include a Montrealese, who has been accepted for service in that field by the Montreal Church Missionary Society Committee. The Gleaners' Union is making a special effort to send him out as its representative next year.

**St. Stephen's Church.**—The Rev. Messrs. Overing, Eastman and Groulx were advanced to the order of the priesthood at St. Stephen's Church on Sunday morning, Dec. 20th. His Lordship Bishop Bond conducted the ordination service, assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Evans and the Rev. Professor Steen. The sermon was preached by Professor Steen.

**St. Jude's Church.**—The 1st Montreal Company, Boys' Brigade, gave their fifth and annual concert in St. Jude's lecture hall, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 22nd, before a very large and appreciative audience. There were present of this company, officers, non-com's and privates, a total of forty-five; also a number of the 1st St. Lambert Company, and a detachment of the 7th Company of Centenary Church. The chaplain, the Rev. Canon Dixon, pre-

sided, and after the opening hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers," was sung, Sergt. W. D. Young was called to the front to receive the Governor-General's medal. He and W. J. Damant, assistant secretary, late sergeant, also received the battalion efficiency stripes, all of which were arranged in the usual way by Miss Aggie Elliot. Canon Dixon then followed with a reading from Talmage. A military dialogue and tableaux were then carried out in order, and from start to finish were well performed by the boys. During one of the intervals, a vocal duet by Misses Florence and Eunice Harvey, two little tots, was well and creditably rendered. The same may be said of the violin solos by Corporal Harry Watkiss and Mr. John Stevenson. Miss Emily Martin recited in real grand style, and was deservedly encored. A vocal duet by Mrs. Harvey and Miss Wilshire was much enjoyed. Mrs. Harvey sang "Three Fishers went Sailing." Mrs. Harvey is a contralto, and has a most powerful voice of great range. She has already sung solo in several of the churches, and only requires to be heard to be appreciated. Piano selections were rendered by Mr. McCormick. The Rev. W. A. Dart, battalion president, spoke strongly in favour of the Boys' Brigade organization, and moved a vote of thanks to all who had so ably and well carried out the evening's entertainment. This was seconded by Mr. Tees, put to the meeting by the Rev. Mr. Thompson in a few well-worded and telling remarks, and was unanimously carried.

A special service was held in St. Jude's Church on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, when a large and happy congregation assembled to celebrate the joyful event. In the course of an appropriate address, Archdeacon Evans referred to the generosity of Mr. A. T. Galt (son of the late Sir Alex. Galt), as very largely contributing towards this happy result. I should say that the new organ stands in the chamber in rear of the cantori side of the choir, and with suitably dispersed pipes, produces an agreeable effect. The instrument comprises great organ with nine stops; pedal organ, four stops; the swell has, at present, six stops, but four more will be added, and there are seven couplers. The rector gave some seasonable words of thanks to Professor Price, to the soloists, the choir and congregation, for their assistance and presence. Mr. Tucker, the organ builder, was also congratulated on his success, and with many prayers that much blessing may be in store for the congregation in the use of this noble instrument. A very successful opening service was concluded with "God Save the Queen" and the benediction.

**COTE ST. PAUL.**—*Parochial Hall.*—*Church of the Redeemer.*—The ladies of the congregation held a very successful Fancy Fair in the Parish Hall during two evenings of last week, with the gratifying result of seventy dollars proceeds to be equally divided between parochial work and foreign missions. They say the hall looked charming—the stage was festooned with red, white and green muslin, supplemented with Chinese lanterns. The ice-cream table alone realized ten dollars, dispensed by two young ladies personating chrysanthemums. Then there was a candy stand, a post office, a fish pond, a children's table, which realized five dollars, and of course there was an inexhaustible supply of cake and coffee. The Ladies' Aid, the Young Ladies and the Children's Guilds are much to be congratulated on their great success.

*The Anglican Andrew's Home.*—Fifty immigrants arrived the other morning by the Canadian Pacific Railway train from Halifax. They came out by the SS. "Laurentian," and most of them are for the Western States. All immigrant trains are met either by the Rev. Mr. Renaud, immigration chaplain, or his representative. The people are spoken kindly to; taken to the Andrew's Home, if need be, and advised as to their future course. These services are gratefully received by the poor people, who are thus made to feel that they are not entirely desolate.

*Compliments of the Season.*—Your Montreal correspondent wishes THE CANADIAN CHURCHMAN and all the increasing crowd of subscribers many happy returns of Christmastide.

### OTTAWA.

CHARLES HAMILTON, D.D., BISHOP, OTTAWA.

**PLANTAGENET MISSION.**—On Dec. 14 h, 1896, His Lordship the Bishop of Ottawa on this his first visit to this mission, spent two days with us, and held a confirmation service at each of the mission stations, his able and instructive addresses being attentively listened to by the good people gathered to meet him. Besides the confirmation services, the bishop consecrated and set apart the Church of the Good Shepherd at Plantagenet, and the churchyard surrounding it to God's service. The church was tastefully decorated for the occasion by the ladies