

HARVEST FESTIVAL.

Our Annual Harvest Festival Services will be held on Sunday, 16th inst. There will be two celebrations of the Holy Communion, and Professor Clark will be the Preacher in the evening. The Children's Harvest Festival will be at 3.30.

Sheaves of grain, and gifts of fruit, such as pears, grapes, &c., will be thankfully received on Saturday afternoon. Those will be sent afterwards to the Church Home, and elsewhere if need be.

The offerings at all the Services, so far as they exceed the average Collection, will be for the Church Improvement Fund; that is to say, for a suitable fence round the Church and for the cleaning and painting of the interior of the Church. We ought to be ashamed to have the Churchyard used or abused as a common playground for the rough lads of the neighbourhood, and the approaches of the Church turned into a resort for nurses, children, and babies with their perambulators. It is surely as necessary for a Congregation to provide a decent fence for their Church property, as for any member of the Congregation to have a suitable fence around his private grounds. Say \$250 for a fairly suitable Church fence.

2. Does the interior of the Church need cleaning and renovating? Compare it with the interior of many of our private residences and judge. It is high time that we were ashamed to have our own houses giving evidence of care and good taste, in some cases of costly elegance, and the House of God looking poor and mean, dirty and uncared for. Say \$1,500 for the complete renovation of the Church. Let the total be put down at \$2,500, that the slate roof not yet paid for, may no longer be our reproach, and is it a sum that should be considered too large for S. George's Congregation to put on the plates at our Harvest Festival as a Thank-offering? Is it not time that we aroused ourselves to a due sense of the greatness of our mercies, and were shamed into a spirit of emulation by the various denominations in Toronto, whose places of worship in both external appearance and interior appointments are far in advance of us.

THE OFFERTORY.

During the summer the Offertory fell to a very low level. It was better, however, than last year, owing to the increased number of weekly envelopes—a proof this, that the maintenance of the Church would be a matter of very little anxiety if all the Congregation contributed to the Offertory by means of envelopes. As things are now, however, the Rector and Wardens feel considerable anxiety. There are several accounts, which the Wardens were unable to pay last year, now pressing for settlement. The bank is also urgent for the payment of a note for \$700. Under these circumstances, the Rector appeals to the Congregation to aid the Wardens in their efforts to put the finances on a satisfactory footing. It is not creditable to us that carpenters, and roofers, and other tradesmen should be continually put off with the plea that the Church has no funds. Now, there are some forty members of the Congregation who take the envelopes, and the weekly contributions to *all* purposes vary from five dollars per week down to five c. . . There are about 130 pewholders; if then, instead of forty only, every pewholder would take the envelopes and contribute in this way each week, the Rector and Wardens are satisfied that the Offertory would at once rise to an amount, which would enable them to pay off present liabilities and maintain the Church in an efficient manner. S. George's congregation is as able as any congregation in Toronto, and better able than many, to do worthily by their Church; but, while there is a fair liberality displayed towards Missions and extra-parochial schemes, there is not a single department of parochial work that is not crippled for want of means.

The Wardens will most gladly send envelopes to any who are willing to take them, and they make an appeal to members who were absent during summer for special donations.

BOYS' GUILD.

The Boys' Guild, which was organized last season, will, during the ensuing year, meet once a fortnight in S. George's School House, beginning Thursday, October 13th.

We wish only those boys to join who intend, God helping them, to try earnestly to fulfil the obligations of this Society.

It is the wish and intention of the officers of the Guild to make the meetings attractive and instructive; to this end we propose to ask different gentlemen occasionally to give short popular lectures in chemistry, natural history, etc.