

self, said the Pen. "No doubt you are of some service to me in my task; but there is still less doubt that I am a far greater help to you; in fact quite indispensable."

"Indeed, you greatly overvalue yourself," retorted the Ink, almost growing pale with chagrin. "I should not hesitate for a moment to dispense with your valuable assistance, if I felt inclined."

"A great deal of writing you would accomplish without me," sneered the Pen.

"As much, at all events, as you would accomplish without me," retorted the Ink.

"If my services are so unappreciated, I shall certainly withdraw them," said the Pen.

"Pray do, if you are so inclined," said the Ink. "Of course, in that case, you will accomplish your work without looking for assistance from me."

"Of course," responded the Pen, haughtily.

And thereupon they separated, both resolving to be independent of each other. The pen travelled fast over a sheet of blank paper, with the intention of performing a large amount of work; but when he arrived at the end he found, greatly to his annoyance, that the sheet remained blank as ever. What could be the cause?

He tried it again with precisely the same result. And by that time he saw that his quondam friend and partner, the Ink, was in a very similar predicament. Not that he had failed in destroying the blankness of his sheet; but instead of being covered with delicate, legible writing, it was one mass of black blots. The Ink and the Pen looked at one another, and very much ashamed both felt.

Both hung back at first, unwilling to make advances. The Pen was the earliest to muster up resolution, and he remarked, rather shyly,—

"Neither of us have quite succeeded in our aim, I perceive."

"Not exactly," said the Ink, in an amicable tone, which showed him to be in a friendly state of mind.

"Perhaps, after all, the old plan is the best," said the Pen. "It certainly is necessary that I should leave some marks behind me."

"And I," said the Ink, "am unhappily rather disposed to run all over the paper and scribble all over it, so you are certainly better guided; so you are certainly of use to me."

"If you acknowledge my usefulness, I am quite ready to work with you again," said the Pen, relenting.

"By all means, if you admit that you are not entirely independent of me," said the Ink.

"Why no, I have proved that," said the Pen, and without delay they resumed their old partnership.

"After all, we have been rather stupid ever to part," said the Pen. "It is very certain that people can do much more when they work together than when they work separately."

"True; and I hope we shall never do such a foolish thing again," added the Ink. —Our Own Fireside.

THE BIRD WITH TWO SONGS.

Standing in the garden with a stranger one cloudy, chilly, unsummer-like afternoon in June. Near us was a large clump of lilac bushes, into which we saw a bird of a dingy, faded, black color fly. Presently she broke out into what, perhaps, she called a song; but it was, in reality, just like the flat squalling of an old cat. "Yaah! yaah!" she continued to cry.

"Pray," said the stranger, "what bird is that making such a horrible noise?"

"That, sir, is the cat-bird."

"I should think so, and a burnt cat, too! I thought it was homely enough to the eye, but the color is nothing to this screech."

"I can't say much at present to defend the poor bird, for looks and voice are against her. But I am confident you will think better of her ere long."

The next morning I found my friend standing on the piazza, listening to the notes of a bird in a thick sugar-maple near by. The song was that of a mocking-bird, not so wonderful as the notes of a real mocking-bird, nor even so sweet as that of the thrush, yet they were round and full, and often as exquisite. She seemed to repeat the note of every bird with which she was acquainted,—robin, sparrow, oriole, and the like, and with surprising accuracy. The morning was fair, the air still, and the bird seemed to be swallowed up in song.

"Pray, tell me," said my stranger friend, "what bird is that which sings so delightfully?"

"That is our cat-bird."

"You must be making fun of me. You don't pretend to say that the homely, squalling bird we heard yesterday, and this singer are the same?"

I do, truly, and to convince you, I will throw a stone into the tree and drive her out, and you shall see it is the same bird."

When that I threw the stone, and out popped Mrs. Cat-bird, making directly for the lilacs, where she began to scream "yaah! yaah!"

The gentleman looked on in amazement.

"This bird," said I, "is very much like some people. In those lilacs she has her nest, and that is her home; but there she never utters a pleasant note. I should think her husband would avoid her, and her little ones tremble at the sound of her voice. But when she gets away from home, up in the lofty tree, you see how sweetly she can sing."

"I know many people just like her. When away from home they are full of smiles and gentle ways; but see them at home! and the cat-bird notes are theirs."

"Oh, yes," said the stranger "I know scores of such people, fathers and mothers, so smiling and pleasant away from home, but the moment they enter their own doors they are cold, silent and repulsive. And some young ladies, so lively and obliging when away from home that we would think them uncommonly lovely; but while at home, disrespectful to parents, coarse and unlovely. Like our cat-bird with her two songs, cheerful and well-bred among strangers, but the moment they get home, rude, disobedient, rough and ill-tempered."

What is the reason people will be so?

—The North German Correspondent announces the death of Dr. Carl Friedrich Neumann, the historian and Orientalist. His principle works were the "History of the British Empire in India," and the "History of the United States."

THE FEAST OF FOOLS.—When the long-expected morning came, the clergy put on their best robes, and accompanied by the choir, in full canonicals to church, where his entrance was marked by a grand peal of the bells, and the most thunderous tones of the organ. He was then seated on the episcopal throne, and high mass commenced. At this point, all those who were not absolutely required to carry on the service stole out to change their robes. They soon re-appeared grotesquely painted and masked, and accompanied by the more notorious of the rollicking blades of the neighbourhood in similar attire, some being dressed as jugglers, others, like women, and others again like wild beasts or demons. Then, the service still going on, the maskers began their tricks. They threw summersaults, played all sorts of school boy games, and made every conceivable noise. They placed a lighted stove on the altar, and roasted sausages at it; they sat down beside it and played at dice; they sang very profane songs; they burnt old shoes in the censers and held them under the nose of the officiating priest; they bedaubed and blackened his face; they threw coals at one another, and among the people; they shouted "strange oaths;" they even quarrelled and fought in downright earnest. And they closed the service with this singular performance: Half-a-dozen or more of them assuming lunacy, threw off every article of clothing, and were pursued round and round the church, inside and out, by their yelling comrades, who drenched them with water, and everybody else who chanced to be looking on. A council held towards the close of the fifteenth century endeavoured to reform at least this portion of the fête. With this purpose it sagely enacted that marked men were no more to be hunted through the church on Christmas morning, but only through the cloisters; and that water alone was to be thrown at them, and not the buckets too.—Glimpses of Christmas in the Days of Old, in the Cornhill Magazine.

Life has few charms for the Dyspeptic, which is not to be wondered at when we take into the account the amount of bodily and mental suffering that this distressing malady generates. The Peruvian Syrup (a protoxide of iron) has cured thousands who were suffering from this disease.

Ecclesiastical News.

CANADIAN.

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, KINGSTON.—If continued liberality in giving to church purposes, and a steady increase in the number of communicants, are fair tests of life and work in a parish, the following facts ought to encourage the clergy and laity of the Cathedral. During the past year the people of St. George's have given to the Mission Fund \$482.24; to the Widows and Orphans \$49.05; to the Divinity Student's Fund \$31.78; to the poor \$331.84, in addition to which the offerings on Easter Day alone, for the poor and the debt upon the Cathedral, amounted to \$1783.57. This makes the total given back to God during the year \$2,678.48. There has also been a gradual but steady increase in the number of communicants year by year, and on Sunday last there were at the 8 o'clock celebration 74, and at the 11 o'clock, 119—making 193 communicants in one day, by far the largest number for many years. The little mission of Waterloo, in connection with the Cathedral, gave during the year \$16.58 to the Mission Fund, besides its contributions to the building fund of a handsome little stone church, now nearly finished and nearly paid for. Towards this object also, in addition to all the other calls upon them, the people of the Cathedral have given the sum of \$831.27.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL.

Table with financial data for St. George's Cathedral, including Mission Fund, Whitsunday collection, Advent, and Parochial Collections.

Mission of Waterloo in connection with the Cathedral. Missionary meeting... 5 00. Collected by Miss Sarah Berry... 8 12 1/2. " " Stuart... 3 45 1/2. Total... \$498 82. H. WILSON.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL.—At the Easter Vestry meeting on Monday, Mr. James S. Cartwright was appointed Churchwarden by the Dean, and Mr. Thomas Briggs for the people. The following sidesmen were elected: Messrs. Richard Town, George A. Kirkpatrick, Jno. Geale, and Richard A. Walkem.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, TORONTO.—In this church, a new pulpit, an altar, a reading desk, and a lectern, have recently been erected, and some alterations have been made in the choir seats. A new organ is also being built in the city to replace the harmonium now in use, and it is expected that it will be finished and in its place in a short time.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

VESTRY MEETINGS.

On Easter Monday, the vestries of the various Church of England congregations in Toronto held their annual meetings. A brief summary of the business transacted is Subjoined:

ST. JAMES' CATHEDRAL.—The Rev. Dean Grasset occupied the chair. From the Treasurer's report it appears that the financial affairs of the Church are in a highly flourishing condition, the cash account of the past year having reached to about \$10,000. The office-bearers for 1870-71 are Mr. C. Clarke Gamble, Mr. E. H. Rutherford, Church-wardens; Dr. Daniel Wilson, C. Gamblé, Esq., and C. O. Gzowski, Esq., Delegates to Synod.

ST. GEORGE'S.—The Rector, the Venerable Archdeacon Fuller, occupied the chair. Mr. Farrell submitted the financial statement, from which it appeared that the

total receipts during the year were \$3,510, and that the alterations and improvements recently completed in the building cost \$1,620.

The following resolution, moved by Mr. Hughson Murray, and seconded by Mr. Farrell was adopted:—"That the members present in vestry assembled, pew-holders and lease-holders, do throw open their pews to the public for the Sunday evening services, and deem it most desirable and strongly recommend all other pew holders not present to follow their example, and that pew-holders objecting to this resolution, if any, will be expected to notify the Churchwardens in writing."

The Rector nominated Mr. Boswell his Churchwarden for the ensuing year, and the vestry re-elected Mr. Farrell Churchwarden on behalf of the congregation. The following gentlemen were appointed to act as sidesmen during the year, viz:—Messrs. William Fahey, B. Fuller, T. H. Spencer, D. Burns, J. S. McMurray, A. Fleming, R. Bickerstaff and J. Ridout.

The Hon. J. H. Cameron, Mr. T. H. Spencer and H. W. Murray were appointed delegates to the Provincial synod.

HOLY TRINITY.—The Rev. Dr. Scadding, Rector, occupied the chair. Dr. O'Reilly, presented his report, from which it appeared that the income of the church for the year was \$4,242.80; expenditure, \$3,483.18; balance, \$759.62; the average weekly offertory has been \$64. The following office-bearers were appointed:—Dr. O'Reilly, Mr. George Buekland, Churchwardens; Messrs. W. Ince, S. P. Wood, Mr. Spratt, Delegates to Synod.

ST. JOHN'S.—The Churchwardens presented their annual report, showing the receipts to amount to \$1,555.25, with a balance from the previous year of \$135.58. The expenditure amounted to \$1,673.95. The following officers were elected:—Churchwardens—Messrs. J. Maugham and Wm. Hope; Sidesmen—S. G. Vankoughnet and D. M. McDonald; Delegates—E. M. Carruthers, Wm. Gamble and Lewis Moffatt.

ST. PETER'S.—The Easter Vestry meeting was held at the above Church on Easter Monday evening, the Rev. S. J. Boddy, the incumbent presiding. Mr. Poter read a financial statement of the receipts and expenditure for the past year. The former, including a small balance in hand at last Easter, amounted to \$3,267.63, the whole of which had been expended; a surplus of \$254 having, in accordance with a resolution of a former meeting, been paid to the incumbent in addition to his usual salary. The debt on the church was stated to be \$1,714.95; but it was hoped that a legacy of nearly \$1,000 and the usual monthly contributions of the congregation would liquidate the whole by the next annual meeting. The Rev. S. J. Boddy again nominated Mr. B. Homer Dixon as his Churchwarden for the ensuing year. Mr. Sheriff Jarvis moved and Judge Boyd seconded the re-election of Mr. Henry Pellatt as the people's Churchwarden for the ensuing year. The resolution was carried unanimously. Messrs. Sheriff Jarvis, Hodgins and Witley were re-elected lay delegates to the Diocesan Synod for the ensuing year.

LITTLE TRINITY.—The following gentlemen were elected:—Churchwardens—W. Gooderham and S. H. Blake; Sidesmen—H. Gooderham and A. Lee; Lay Delegates—W. Gooderham, John Taylor and S. H. Blake; Vestry Clerk—J. G. Worts.

DIOCESE OF HURON.

At the Easter Vestry meeting, held at St. James' Church, on Easter Tuesday, E. A. Goodeve, Esq., Churchwarden, in the chair, the following resolutions were adopted:

Moved by Mr. T. S. Coppinger, seconded by Mr. C. Stewart—That as the Rev. E. Softley is about to remove from this mission, the members of this meeting take the opportunity of expressing their satisfaction with the zeal and ability displayed by him in discharging the duties of his sacred office, as well as in conducting the affairs of the church, generally, during the past eight years; they also tender their best wishes for the prosperity of himself and family, in the new field assigned him.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. T. S. Coppinger, seconded by Mr. Hasenjager,—That whereas this mission is about to become vacant, and this congregation is given to understand that it is the intention of his lordship the Bishop shortly to appoint another clergyman; and as this meeting is of the opinion that the