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All subscriptions to be sent by letter, registered, or otherwise secured, to the Editors, at the office of Messrs Lovell & Gibson, Yonge Street, Toronto.

The Canadian Church Press.

TORONTO: WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1860.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

- JULY 25.—Wednesday.—St. James, Apostle. Lessons—Matins: Eccles. xli.; John xlii. Even Song: Eccles. xlii.; 2 Tim. iv.
 " 26.—Thursday.
 " 27.—Friday.
 " 28.—Saturday.
 " 29.—Sunday.—EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. Proper Lessons—Matins: 1 Kings xlii.; John xvii. Even Song: 1 Kings xvii.; Hebrews i.
 " 30.—Monday.
 " 31.—Tuesday.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF SYNOD ON CHURCH MUSIC.

THE Diocesan Synod of Toronto acted wisely and well in carrying out the suggestions contained in the Report of its first Committee on Church Music. That Report respectfully advised the appointment, by the Synod then in session, of "a Committee for the promotion of Ecclesiastical Music; whose special duty it shall be, to put themselves in communication with those societies in the mother country, and in the mother churches, and with others in the neighbouring States, which have like objects in view. It shall also be the duty of said Committee to offer suggestions touching the most suitable selections of music for use in this Diocese; also to examine teachers of Church Music, and to grant certificates of competency to such as may be found qualified for the work." The Standing Committee thus suggested, for licensing, from time to time, duly qualified teachers of Church Music, as well as for other purposes, was accordingly appointed by unanimous resolution of Synod. The Report itself was ordered to "be printed, and sent to every congregation in this Diocese." Either from lack of funds, or from some unintentional inadvertence, this order was not carried out further than the Report being printed among the general proceedings of Synod, and sent to all members of the same. In consequence of this, most of our congregations are ignorant of the idea entertained by Synod, respecting the duty of celebrating the praises of the Lord, not only with joyful lips, but in the beauty of holiness, with reverence and godly fear. At the last session of Synod the Committee was enlarged in order that there should be no difficulty in collecting readily and at little cost a full meeting either for selecting proper music or for licensing proper masters.

We are happy to hear that the enlarged Committee is now occupied in selecting Church tunes for metred psalms and hymns, &c.; which can be joined in by the male members of our congregations. It is a fact, as lamentable as it is well known, that much of the music latterly in use, is of a pitch totally unsuited to a man's voice, unless of some uncommon quality. Every clergyman acquainted with the capacity of the run of men's voices, must confess to a very uncomfortable feeling when inviting his congregation, fathers and sons, as well as mothers and daughters, to "sing to the praise and glory of God" tunes physically to them impossible. It is most gratifying to learn that there is a good prospect of the exclusion of all such thoroughly uncongregational tunes as place christian men in a sort of musical reprobation whereby they are invited to join in songs of praise, when it is well known beforehand that they cannot avail themselves of an invitation which is practically something very like a solemn mockery. The Committee, as we have been given to understand, have under consideration the adoption of our reverential and manly old English melodies, together with some of those sublime and simple chorales of protestant Germany, which can be sung by all—men, women and children—and are admirably calculated to elevate the devout affection of those who have not rendered their hearts incapable of all true devotional impressions. When our Committee shall, with God's help, have effected this needed reformation in the music of our Zion, it will have done nobly, supposing it went no further. It will have done much to the advancement of God's glory and to the good of his Church. But a judicious selection of proper tunes for metricals, and of chants for the daily psalter, is but a part of the good work marked out for them by the Synod. Their duty extends to the continual furtherance of the Church's right music, in the right way; and therefore to the selecting and the licensing of proper teachers of sacred song, and to the fostering of every good effort of their brethren, whether members of Synod or not, for the promotion of the cause in hand; and whether made by systematic lecturings through the press, or through Church-Music Societies and Choral and Plain-song Associations. Their duty extends also to correspondence with other Committees, and with Societies at home and abroad, having like objects in view.

Intending to give occasional papers on Church music, we have commenced with the foregoing reference to the action of Synod in this highly important matter, and to the duties of its Standing Committee, because it is most desirable that our congregations should know the deliberate convictions of Synod on the subject, and be prepared to render every possible assistance to its Committee in all its dutiful efforts to promote the wishes of the deliberative body of the Church, touching improvement in choral, congregational, and ritual singing, to the exclusion of all light and unseemly music from the sanctuary; and to the more general adoption of the singing of God's own word, set forth in the Psalter, or Songs of David, appointed to be used "daily" throughout the month.

THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

That the Church should, both by precept and example, inculcate Christian duty and practice, is nothing more than we should expect; and in making an early effort to secure from privation and want the widows and orphans of the English priesthood, has but fulfilled one of the highest obligations of Christianity in making provision for those of her own household. It is not surprising that the Widows' and Orphans' Fund should have, from the first moment of its creation, excited the warm interest of the whole Diocese, and we now find it to be one of the most prominent objects which are brought annually before us. With the clergy directly interested in the success of the measure, and with the sympathy