

in charge at Waterloo, the church at Brome has been without Congregational oversight or instruction. The membership, which never was large, has through death and removals been greatly decimated, until but few of the number are left.

Whatsoever may be the future history of this Church, if it is to have any further historical record, the history of the past, though one of weakness and trial, has been that of great benefit upon the community, and of great blessing to families and individuals. In few churches, we venture to say, has there been manifested by individuals greater faith in, fidelity to, and love for our principles than in this little country church. Neither have greater sacrifices been made or more frequent prayers been offered for the salvation of souls, and the extension of Christ's Kingdom than here.

All this has not been without its fruit. Not only has the seed sown borne fruit which has ripened and been garnered on high—for all that was mortal of a large majority of the members of this church now rests in the adjoining cemetery—but numbers of the children of the church, who have been scattered, occupy places of trust and exercise their spiritual influence in churches of our order, both in Canada and the United States.

PRAISE.

What an interesting and attractive part of God's worship is praise. To many especially the little ones, it is the most delightful part of the service rendered, and, to encourage us in it, the door for praise has been opened as wide as the way of salvation. "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me," not adds to God's glory above, for there is nothing that we can give that would exalt Him more before the heavenly hosts, or cause His angels before the throne to look upon Him with more reverence. But our praises may certainly exalt Him upon the earth, and cause some who might be forgetful of God, to unite in His praise. Occasional services devoted almost entirely to praise, conducted with discretion, may be made very useful in the furtherance of the Gospel. One such service was tried for the first time in one of our country churches, notice being given, and it attracted some who seldom, if ever, went to the house of God. To the children it was a day long to be remembered; none went to sleep, and their verdict is: "it was the best meeting ever held," and they ceased not to speak of it for some time to come. It is worship in which they can unite, for if "prayer is the humblest form of speech that infant lips can try, or the sublimest strains that reach Jehovah's throne on high," is it not the same with praise, whether it be the feeble and beautiful voice of childhood, or the more mature and more perfect strains of experience? We know mere lip worship cannot be acceptable praise, for real praise must be considered as the lifting up of the heart and voice to God in sacred song,—*"Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,"* sung not merely to afford us pleasure, but when God's honour and glory is the chief aim, if not the only aim, remembering to whom our praises are addressed, and the words we sing as well as the tune. If this be done it may be considered praise, if not it is no praise at all, but empty sound—however beautiful and harmonious, or however grand and impressive we may consider it to be. It has been said "they who eye God's providence shall never want a providence to eye," then surely they who sing His praises with joyful lips, shall never lack subjects or motives for praise. Let Sabbath schools and country churches especially try an occasional service of song. It will help to train singers, and all should sing, even if discordant notes are sometimes heard; many will come who scarcely ever attend the ordinary means to whom a word in season may be addressed.

As a rule the Congregation should all sing, not sit and listen to a well-trained choir. "I wonder the angels did not come and wring your necks off," said a celebrated minister (who was supplying for the Sabbath) after a most difficult piece had been well rendered. Let us rather wonder that a congregation can be satisfied to listen always to the performance of a choir, while they take no part in the service of song.—W. B.