

The Parish Guide.

VOL. I.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, JULY, 1894.

No. 7

The Calendar.

JULY.

1. Sixth Sunday after Trinity.
8. Seventh Sunday after Trinity.
15. Eighth Sunday after Trinity.
22. Ninth Sunday after Trinity.
29. S. James A. and M.
29. Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Convention.

The Convention for the increase of spiritual life, which was held in the school-room of the Church of the Ascension from June 14 to 16th ult., will not soon be forgotten by those who were privileged to attend its several sessions.

Considering the character of the meetings, which were intended especially for believers, and the intense heat that prevailed during the convention days, the attendance was exceedingly good, even the early prayer meeting at 7 o'clock being well attended. From the numerous testimonies that have since reached us, there can be no doubt that the Holy Spirit was largely outpoured, and that the gatherings proved a season of rich spiritual blessing to many.

It would be impossible, in the limited space at our disposal, to even outline fully all the addresses and Bible readings that were given, nor is it an easy matter to select one or two for special mention where all were so uniformly good. A brief report, however, may prove helpful by way of remembrance.

The opening meeting for prayer was held on the evening of Thursday, June 14. The Rector, who presided at each session, struck the keynote

of the Convention in a brief address on S. Jno. xv., in which he pointed out the

PROGRESSIVE CHARACTER OF CHRISTIAN ATTAINMENT.

Its possibility lay in abiding union with Christ, and this led to increasing fruitfulness. "More fruit," "much fruit," and fruit that remained.

After the 7 o'clock prayer meeting on Friday morning, at which the Rev. Dr. Wardrope spoke, the convention proper began at 10 a. m. with a Bible reading by Rev. W. J. Armitage, of St. Catharines, on the

HINDRANCES TO THE HOLY SPIRIT'S OPERATION.

The speaker pointed out that the Holy Spirit's work was of a two-fold character. 1. Generation. 2. Organization. He begets (Jno. iii. 5) and He sustains all spiritual life. The word of God shows us that it is possible to hinder the Holy Spirit's work. We can "resist" (Acts vii. 51), "grieve" (Eph. iv. 30), and quench" (1 Thes. v. 19) His gracious influences. The hindrances to the Spirit's operation referred to were:

1. The opposition of the natural man manifested in coldness, deadness, indifference, self-righteousness, self-dependence and self-will. 1 Cor. ii. 14.

2. Want of faith in Christ and in the Holy Spirit. Gal. iii. 1-14.

3. The cherishing of some besetting sin. Heb. xii. 1-2.

4. Neglect of known duty. Jno. vii. 17.

5. Craving for the world and conformity to its spirit. The speaker compared the believer to a ship and the world to the sea. As long as the ship is in the sea all is well, but if the sea gets into the ship it means

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