

have been a source of much profit and entertainment to the members. A new room for the Young Men's Bible Class, which will also be useful as a Cloak and Reception Room for Social meetings, has been partitioned off from the Basement, the money to do this coming cheerfully from some of the Bachelors of the Church. I am sure it is the prayer of Mr. Osgood and the Teachers, as it is my own, that the Sunday School may more and more become a nursery of both the Church and Heaven.

3. *The Choir.* It is cause of deepest thankfulness that, throughout these ten years, there has never been anything worthy of being called a jar or serious difference among the members of this valuable auxiliary to the public worship of the Church. Discoursing harmony to others, they have been always harmonious among themselves. The importance of their services can hardly be over-estimated. I know they are thoroughly appreciated—they could not fail to be. There is no better or more efficient Choir in the city. But, will I be pardoned if I think that it is not everything to have good, rich and stirring music to which to listen? There should also be, there might be, even heartier and more universal Congregational singing than, with all our undoubted advancement in that way, we have. The Choir do not want even a partial monopoly of praising God—they are content to lead, and will be only too glad to be accompanied and followed by all the worshippers. The privilege of sanctuary-song was never meant for the few, but for the whole; and there are very many belonging to the Church who could turn their training and gifts in this direction to good account on the Lord's Day as well as on ordinary occasions. It is surely even more dignified and honourable employment to sing in the House of God than in the drawing-room or concert-hall. I cannot resist the impulse to ask the Congregation to bear this in mind, and, at the same time, to offer my congratulations and God-speed to our Organist, Mr. Maffie, and all associated with him in the Choir.

And now, I said at the outset that I would venture some remarks, not only about what our Church life has been since I knew it and what it is at present, but also about what it might be in the future. I am not writing a sermon, or I would, of course, speak of more spiritual aspirations which we all ought to set before us. I have an opportunity each Sunday, far better than obtains in this form, of dwelling upon the necessity of indulging and cultivating these for the nourishment and growth-in-grace of our souls. I will not be misunderstood if, in this Pastoral Address, I limit my view of the prospect we should contemplate to the more practical side of our Congregational requirements.

1. I have no hesitation in saying, that, as a Congregation, we may well consider whether we are doing what God has a right to expect from us in the way of even building up the outward prosperity of our Church. St. Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, declares, "herein I give my advice, for this is expedient for you who have begun before, not only to do, but also to *be forward*." Do we not a little, or much, lack this disposition? I would be the most ungrateful of mortals if I failed to warmly acknowledge your kindness to myself personally—it is not once or twice or thrice, but often, that I have tasted the sweets of your generosity. And I am quite aware that there are many among us who are ever ready, when called upon, to respond to appeals from the Pulpit or by the governing bodies of the Church. But what is wanting, I suppose more or less in all Congregations, is the spirit which does not wait till a pull, an urgent demand, is made upon the purse—the spirit which is so charged with interest, concern, *esprit de corps*, that it cannot rest until it has sought out objects requiring to be cared for, work pressing to be done, ways in which the well-being of the Church can be promoted. The *beau-ideal* of a loyal Churchman in such respects is that whose portrait is thus drawn in Isaiah 32—8:—"the liberal deviseth liberal things, and by liberal things shall he stand." The Prophet is not, there, referring to money only, but take him on even that score and how many, or how few, of us come up to the standard which, by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, he lays down? To go no further than the mere support of ordinances, how small the proportion of our number who have returned the Subscription papers sent out nearly three months ago—only 45 out of upwards of 300! And yet the sum received from these is all for which we are, as it were, taxed besides Pew Rents and Ordinary Collections, while other Congregations around us have Special Collections almost