

substance on the first day of the week. It is a sacred duty thus to join "giving" with such other acts of worship as prayer, praise, and reading the Holy Scriptures. Prayers and alms go together. We pray to Him who is our Ruler and our Judge as well as our Saviour; and we offer gifts to Him, because He has given us Himself and all things else in earth and heaven.

Is it not well, then, that our Church should take measures to recognize the devout character of Christian giving? The "Offering" is part of the public service. Every one has as good a right to the privilege of giving for the support of religion as to the right of praying or praising God. In sending the Gospel among the heathen, it is found that converts easily recognize the duty of giving to Him who "gave Himself for us."

Missionary Cabinet.

BONIFACE AND ANSCHAR.*

SAIN**T** BONIFACE, "the Apostle of Germany," as he has been called, was born in Devonshire, England, A.D. 680. His name has rightfully a place in the list of great missionaries, as he was among the first to preach the Gospel in Germany, and he continued the arduous task during thirty years. In recognition of his services to Christianity and civilization he was raised to the dignity of Archbishop of Mayence, though to the last day of his life he esteemed it a higher honour to preach the Gospel to the rude dwellers in the forests of Thuringia and Friesland. In proof of his faith and courage the following story is told:—"At Geismar, in Upper Hesse, there stood an ancient oak that had long been held sacred to Thor, the God of Thunder, and was regarded with superstitious reverence by the people. Beneath its shade the most solemn pagan rites had been performed for centuries. In vain had Boniface declared against idolatry; that old oak tree counteracted, in the minds of his hearers, every good impression which he made. He determined to destroy it. With axe in hand,

accompanied by his clergy, he advanced, in presence of a great multitude, towards the object of their awe and worship. The pagans looked on with mingled feelings of wonder, rage, and terror, expecting every moment that the sacriligious assailants would be struck dead by the avenging deity; but as the stalwart missionary plied his axe, it was apparent that Thor could not protect his own. A crashing was soon heard in the topmost boughs; the helpless idol thundered to the ground, and there arose a cry from the heathen crowd, 'The Lord, He is God!' The timber was used by Boniface to construct a chapel in which the true God might be worshipped." Boniface is said to have planted the Christian Church among a hundred thousand Germans. He founded schools and colleges, consolidated the work of two centuries by appointing bishops and instituting provincial synods, and settled devoted labourers in the remotest districts of the vast wilderness. He finished his course with the crown of martyrdom on the 5th of June, 755, in the 75th year of his age. In one of his excursions, his party was attacked by a band of infuriated heathens. In the slaughter that ensued, Boniface fell, and, placing a volume of the Gospel beneath his head for a pillow, he calmly awaited the fatal blow which was to number him with those who sleep in the Lord.

ANSCHAR, "the Apostle of the North," was born at Corbie, near Amiens, in the year 801. When a boy of thirteen he heard the news that shook the world to its centre—the death of Charlemagne, Emperor of France and Germany. Anschar had seen this great man in all his glory, and had heard of his magnificent burial at Aix-la-Chapelle. The effect upon Anschar of this mockery of death was just what might have been expected from one of his thoughtful turn of mind. It showed him the vanity of human life and of popular applause, and filled him with an earnest desire to live for immortality. The victories of Charlemagne had secured a foothold for Christianity in Central Europe, but the wild regions of Scandinavia were peopled by a race of lawless adventurers, who swooped down upon the civilization of France, Germany, and England with the destroying force of an avalanche. Their sails whitened every sea. They swept Iona and its monastery

* HEROES OF THE MISSION FIELD, by Right Rev. W. Pakenham Walsh, D.D., Bishop of Ossory. Hodder & Stoughton, London.