

St. John's Church Record, And Parish Notes.

EDITED BY THE RECTOR, ASSISTED BY MEMBERS OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

Publisher:—MR. G. A. KNODDLE, Church Street, to whom all Sub-
scriptions should be sent for the current year.

Annual Subscription 50cts, Single Copies 5cts.

MAY, 1892.

PARISH NOTES.

The annual elections at the Parish meeting of Easter Monday, of which a detailed report will be found elsewhere, will long be remembered in the history of our Church. Those who look at the list printed upon our first page and compare it with recent memory, will recall the well-known lines about the old order changing, giving place to new. And the first impression will doubtless include regret with other feelings. Not a few names are found no longer which all would willingly have seen there still, and without any disparagement to their successors. It is a notable break in all the associations of our minds to miss the name of Mr. Ruel at the head of the list, soon after another name, so much beloved and venerated, had also been removed. And there are other names missing, which speak forcibly as to the supreme difficulty of choice among so many excellent candidates. It is no exaggeration to assert that, from the present congregation, not only twelve but twice that number might be chosen, of men fit to serve adequately upon the representative council of any church. The voters experienced what has been called the "embarrassment of riches," and the poll, in which every one of the twenty-one candidates received a fair number of votes, proved conclusively that no canvassing had taken place, but that all voted according to personal choice. We may be permitted to express the hope that these obvious causes will only for a time deprive us of the valuable services of Mr. Sadleir, Mr. Hanington, and Mr. G. W. Jones. The name of Mr. Masters was withdrawn at his own request, on account of his frequent absences from the city. It was suggested by Mr. Jarvis that it might be a good thing if a certain number of places on the Vestry were vacated annually by rotation, and certainly this might contribute towards a constant vitality of interest, without unduly impairing our working strength. But turning from such considerations to our present situation, we can welcome the new Council of the Church as truly representative both of experience and of youthful energy. Our new Churchwardens bring to their post a knowledge of parish work, gained from experience of past years in the Vestry. Both have served constantly upon important committees, and we may add that in both the Rector finds friends and counsellors from whom he will receive much needed sympathy and help in the work of the parish.

There are no less than six new members of the Vestry, and

it will cheer the hearts of all to find the names of Daniel and Ruel, if no longer in the old place, yet continuing honored memories by those who will themselves contribute by individual capacity in no small degree.

The Young Men's Association which (except in debates) has seemed of late to be somewhat quiescent, now assumes a position in the parish which brings responsibility as well as distinction. There is plenty of work before them. Our Sunday School needs more male teachers. The boys require supervision and encouragement in their summer amusements. The Sunday School picnic will be again under their sole management, and should not fall behind the prosperous memories of former years. The Young Men's Association itself needs recruits, and reorganisation of its work.

In other columns will be found mention of our musical services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, of the Confirmation, and of the completion of the monuments erected to the memory of our late Rector and Churchwarden. The Girls' and Boys' associations held their annual meetings, and elected officers for the ensuing summer. In every department of parish life signs of hopeful activity are obvious, and we believe that God's blessing will be upon us this year in the work that lies before us.

A CHURCH'S MEMORIES.

At the request of several members of the congregation who were unavoidably absent on Sunday evening last, a portion of the Rector's sermon, referring to the recently erected monuments, is here given:

"This day you see a new feature on the accustomed walls. We have placed there, with the unanimous assent of the congregation, a simple but durable memorial of two men who served God in this parish, each in his own station. The faithful minister and the faithful layman are commemorated on our walls; and for years yet to come their example shall stir up their successors to live as they lived for the glory of God and the good of others.

No words of praise are there inscribed, only the number of their years of life and service. For their works live after them, and they being dead, still speak to us. May there never be a monument placed here which shall be the outward token of any other spirit but that of gratitude and respect. Even Westminster Abbey suffers now from the culpable compliances of the past; tawdry monuments of titled mediocrities or of ignoble placemen occupy space which now the guardians would fain give to departed genius. And when our walls have many monuments, and our windows are pictured with memorials of friends departed, let them be worthy of those whose names were first placed here,—the good and faithful servants, now in rest and peace, awaiting the full and perfect consummation of happiness when Christ shall come in His glory.

Each church, like each society, has its type of character. Not unchangeable—for change is the lot of all earthly things—but developing slowly and normally, as more light comes