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Canadian Churchman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JAN. 28, 1897

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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

January 31st.—FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Morning.—Job 27. Mat. 17, v. 14. Evening.—Job 28; or 29. Acts 18, v. 24 to 19. v. 21.

APPROPRIATE HYMNS for Fourth and Fifth Sundays after Epiphany, compiled by Mr. F. Gatward, organist and choir-master of St. Luke's Cathedral, Halifax, N S. The numbers are taken from H. A. & M., but many of which are found in other hymnals:

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Holy Communion: 194, 319, 322, 558.

Processional: 78, 219, 391, 478.

Offertory: 173, 293, 303, 367. Children's Hymns: 79, 333, 340, 565.

General Hymns: 77, 218, 285, 808, 523, 547.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY.

Holy Communion: 177, 321, 324, 556.

Processional: 82, 274, 291, 582.

Offertory: 81, 225, 275, 304.

Children's Hymns: 297, 331, 338, 571.

General Hymns: 5, 19, 220, 248, 486, 537.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY.

We have seen how the light of God's grace preserves us from the dangers of our own hearts. To-day we learn how it can guide us safely in the dangers and troubles which surround us in the world. Most of the troubles and confusion which disturb mankind have their origin in the disobedience and rebellion of man. His natural pride and self-will incline him to be disobedient and rebellious to the authority which is set over him, and so to disturb his own and his neighbour's peace. The first step towards promoting peace and concord in the world is, to teach men the principles of submission and obedience. These two virtues are amongst the first which the light of Christ's gospel brought into the world; and they are, therefore, those which the epistle for this day specially enforces upon the children of light. We Christians are here taught to look upon our rulers as messengers sent from God to control

and direct us, and to consider disobedience to them as disobedience to Him Who set them over us. And this is the difference between our submission and that of the heathers. They were subject for "wrath"—we for "conscience sake;" their motive was a mere fear of man—ours springs from love and obedience to God. This duty of loyalty or submission to the higher powers is one which is binding upon every Christian in every age and station of life. God has set over our country a sovereign, and laws to administer justice " for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well." The sovereign sends magistrates and rulers to maintain peace and discipline amongst those over whom they are appointed to rule. Over the Church, God has set pastors and teachers whom we are to "obey as those that have the rule over us." Whosoever, therefore, resisteth those powers, speaking lightly of their authority, or opposing their commands, " resisteth the ordinance of God." Again, masters of families and parents are also amongst the higher powers, to which every soul placed under them is to be subject. Christian servants are commanded to serve their masters, not with eye service, as men pleasers, but as those that serve the Lord Christ; and children are to obey their parents, or their teachers to whom their parents entrust them, "because it is right and well-pleasing unto the Lord." Thus do we find ourselves placed in that position which the collect of this day describes. We are "set in the midst of many and great dangers, against which the frailty of our nature could not stand," and so we pray that the divine grace and protection may "support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations." That this divine strength will be granted in answer to our prayers, the lessons for this day, as well as the gospel, encourage us to hope. Let us then "cast away these stumbling blocks" out of our hearts, and, "preparing the way" by penitence and humility, put our trust in the "High and Lofty One that inhabiteth eternity." He came to bring peace to all contrite hearts; and while the wicked are tossed about on the troubled sea of their own unrestrained passions, He will bring the faithful and penitent to inherit His holy mountain. We learn, then, on this day, that the children of light have to pass through this world as through the waves of a troubled sea; nevertheless, One is walking with them to save and defend them, even the Son of God. He knows better than we do the dangers in which we are set; "He has seen our ways, and will heal us." He is in the midst of us, therefore shall we not be removed; God shall help us, and that right early. "He will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able, but will with the temptation make a way to escape, that we may be able to bear it."

GOOD WORDS

A clergyman in Ontario Diocese writes: "It gives me much pleasure to renew my subscription to the Canadian Churchman, which I heartily wish was in every home in this mission. It is the exponent of the doctrine and discipline of the Catholic Church in Canada, and is the best \$1 bargain of the year. "Excelsior;" evidently is its motto; with every good wish for the Churchman's prosperity."

A subscriber in Montreal writes: "I wish you a pleasant and prosperous New Year with the C. C. In type, tone and matter, I consider it an excellent Church paper."

A clergyman in the Diocese of Toronto writes. "I send you four new subscribers, and I am trying to get all my parishioners to subscribe; I am sure there is no Church paper which has been more loyal to the Church, and is intended to make its readers better Churchmen; success to your efforts."

A layman in Niagara Diocese writes: "Allow me the pleasure of congratulating you most heartily on the improvements gradually made in the get up and contents of the paper; 'more power to your elbow.'"

A subscriber in Algoma Diocese writes: "Although money is scarce, I cannot live happily without my weekly visitor, the C.C."

A subscriber in Ontario Diocese writes: "Enclosed is my subscription for another year to your paper, which I think is getting better every year."

A lady in New Brunswick writes: "We wish the Canadian Churchman a happy and prosperous New Year. It has always been our favourite Church paper."

A subscriber in Quebec writes: "Enclosed is my subscription; wishing you a happy New Year, and a large increase in the circulation of your estimable paper."

A clergyman in Toronto Diocese, in forwarding his subscription, writes: "There have been so many compliments paid you lately on account of your paper, that adding to the number might make you too conceited, so I shall keep mine for another occasion; 'wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year.'"

A lady subscriber in Huron Diocese writes: "Your paper is awaited with expectation, and perused with much delight."

A lady subscriber in Algoma Diocese writes: "I most highly appreciate your paper, and have received very much help in my daily life from those beautiful extracts under the head 'Family Reading.'"

A clergyman in Huron Diocese writes: "I trust this truly Church paper will long last to disseminate as it does the doctrines of our noble and beloved Church; persevering in the future as you have in the past, will sobviate all obstacles, and break down all opposition."

A subscriber in the city of Toronto writes:
"My family and myself wish to say in reference
to the Canadian Churchman: It improves more
and more, and we look upon it quite as a member
of our family, and eagerly look for its arrival;
it certainly should be in the home of every
Church family throughout the Dominion."

A clergyman in Ontario Diocese writes: "I forward my subscription for your admirable paper, which is improving year by year."

A clergyman in Algoma, in forwarding his subscription, writes: "I wish you a prosperous and eventful New Year, and congratulations on the issue of your Christmas number."

A layman in Quebec writes: "Enclosed is \$1.00 subscription for a second copy of your valuable paper. Wishing you continued success."