

St. Peter's Parish Magazine.

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St. Peter's Church Parish Magazine.

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IN MEMORIAM.

—
"Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? and she answered, It is well."—II. Kings iv. 26.

It would seem as if a cloud had fallen on our congregation during the last two weeks. It is our sad duty to chronicle no less than three very sudden deaths. But dark as such a cloud must always be, bitter as is the separation, and great as is the loss, the cloud has, in each of these cases, a very bright silver lining. Death came very suddenly, but, thank God, it found them ready; and ah! who can express the gulf-like difference between the death of those who give us every evidence for believing that they "died" in the Lord and those who leave no such testimony? We make no practice of eulogizing the dead, but the characters of those who have gone to meet their Saviour were such that we can scarce refrain from a word of comment.

In Jamie Cosbie, we lose one of the best—perhaps, the best boy in our infant school. A big, manly boy, he was yet most gentle and loving; a thoughtful listener and answerer of questions. He never needed to be spoken to, but was an example to the class. He was just the same at day school and at home. We extend to his parents, who miss him so sorely, our deepest sympathy. May they be helped by II. Sam. xii. 23. May the God of peace comfort them in their sorrow and lead them closer to Himself!

Fred Bell Smith was another unusually good boy. No one who knew but joined in bearing witness to his high Christian character. His employer bore the highest testimony to his faithful and conscientious work. He remarked that he "carried his Christianity into his business." He was recently confirmed, and gave strong evidence at that time of the reality of his faith in the Saviour.

The last name it is our duty to refer to is that of Mr. Robert McKim, who was one of the oldest members of our church, and for many years one of the most active and earnest workers in it until failing health obliged him to give up his more active duties. For upward of seventeen years, he taught the infant school, and dearly was he loved by the members of that always crowded class. It was indeed a rare Sunday on which some member did not bring a little mark of their affection in the shape of some childish offering. It was a sight not easily forgotten to see the old soldier surrounded by his young charges. Despite his soldier ways and absolute discipline, the weest child soon lost all fear of that kindly face. Of Mr. McKim's life, we cannot here speak, save to remark that he was universally respected. A soldier, a gentleman, and a Christian fairly sums up his character. His sudden summons "home" seemed almost like Enoch's—"He was not, for God took him." May many be stimulated by his life to be as pure and earnest and active, to learn the joy of "walking with God," and then to share in the fuller joy which we know is his! May those who so deeply mourn his loss share in his joy and realize the presence of the Comforter, who, though He maketh sore, yet bindeth up.

"SMALL" DUTIES.

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The accompanying article was very kindly sent us by a friend for insertion. We commend it to our readers. This is the way to make a parish paper prosper. May others follow suit, and send us any items of general interest, or practical articles.

"There is a lad here. . . . And Jesus took the loaves."—John vi.

How many of us shrink from small duties; little daily efforts to help on Christ's work in the world, trivial cares, even for the good of others, thinking that they are not worth offering to the Master! Let us remember how it was that the five thousand were fed. First, the willing, humble heart of the lad who gave even so small a gift at Christ's request, and then the blessing of the Lord, which caused so small a gift to work so much good. Christ *could* have fed the multitude out of the grass or the sand, of which there was abundance, but by so doing would have deprived the lad of being a co-worker with Him; and our feeblest efforts, if offered for His blessing, will strengthen some failing soul in life's pathway. Let us not be always seeking "some great thing to do," but give our daily life and work to Christ, and ask Him to use it to His glory.

—
"The daily round, the common task,
Will furnish all we ought to ask;
Room to deny ourselves, a road
That leads us daily near to God."

SUNDAY-SCHOOL EXCURSIONS.

—
St. Peter's Sunday-school held their annual picnic on Wednesday, June 29th, at Long Branch. The weather was decidedly English. Heavy showers fell continually, only stopping long enough to encourage people to wander far enough from shelter to get a ducking. As it was fine in the morning, a goodly number went by the morning boat, but very few joined in the afternoon. There were not nearly as many parents and adults generally as last year.

Despite the rain, every one seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. A feeling of good humor prevailed, the boys behaved splendidly, there was plenty to eat and drink, the games were well contested, and the tug of war duly fought. After tea, the prizes were given in the pavilion by Mrs. Boddy, and, after the successful competitors had each been awarded, Mr. Richardson announced that he had another prize for the best and biggest boy in the school. Mr. Marshall began stirring

THE ARCHIVES, DIOCESE OF TORONTO
NOT TO BE TAKEN AWAY.