

ferre with your offerings at the regular Synod collections taken up in every church, to which, as the results show, a large proportion of our people do not contribute at all. You are invited to take your share according to your ability in spreading Christ's Kingdom. Will you not, with thought and prayer, devote a definite sum monthly to this purpose? There are over 82,000 people on the Church registers of this diocese; if each one paid but 5 cents a month for one year it would bring in over \$49,000. There are 17,291 communicants given in the returns (incomplete) for Easter, 1894; if each gave through these collections 5 cents a month, we should realize over \$10,000 by our P.M.C. alone. One cent a day from each communicant would amount to over \$63,000 yearly, thus showing the value of regular small sums.

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BRIEF MENTION.

Europe has only about eight per cent. of the Sunday School attendance of the world.

At Dunkirk the first sailors' home for French seamen ever established in France has just been opened.

On Sunday last, the Bishop of Huron dedicated the new St. Matthew's Anglican church in East London. The building cost \$6,000.

The Princess of Wales has had printed for private distribution some songs which she has composed for the zither.

In some portions of Upper Egypt rain is absolutely unknown, and in Lower Egypt there is sometimes no rain for years.

The Rev. R. McCosh, of Chatham, has been elected a member of the Senate of the Western University.

Kildare and Wicklow have been justly termed the Garden of Ireland, for nowhere is nature more profuse in her display of the picturesque and beautiful.

An anonymous donor has sent 11,000 new six-penny pieces to be distributed among the London workhouse children.

Lady Sandhurst is the only lady for more than 800 years on whom the honour of the freedom of the city of London has been conferred.

English curates are thinking of forming themselves into a professional union on the plan of the trades unions.

There were 11,890 persons in penal servitude in Great Britain and Australia in 1870 and only 4,845 in 1895.

The Netherlands own nearly one thousand miles of railroads, all in the best of condition.

Queen Victoria is a great tea drinker, and is so particular about her favourite beverage that, when away from home, she always makes it herself.

The Bishop of Huron has placed Mr. D. Walter Collins, of Huron College, in charge of the parish of Oil City, Oil Springs, and Inwood.

The floods of the Nile are so regular in their coming, that for hundreds of years they have not varied ten days in the date of their arrival at a given point.

The Vanderbilt families in New York pay their florists \$1,000 per month at Christmas and Easter. Cornelius Vanderbilt often spends as much as \$600 for floral decorations in his home.

The delta of the Nile was the first mentioned in history. It took its name from its shape, bearing in this particular an exact resemblance to the Greek letter Delta, or D.

Dr. Max Nordau is said to have a voice so nearly like Gladstone's as to make it almost impossible to distinguish between them when the two men are together.

It is alleged that an English librarian has died of tuberculosis, contracted from books which have been infected by consumptive patients.

Captain Thomas Morley, a survivor of the charge of the Light Brigade, Libby Prison, and the Ford's Theatre disaster, is living in Washington and is in good health.

The carol is of religious origin. Formerly the bishops and clergy sang carols on Christmas day, in imitation of that first hymn of the angels sung to the shepherds of Bethlehem.

The highest branch of the English Parliament, the House of Lords, is composed of the Lords, spiritual and temporal, the former consisting of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and 24 bishops. The Lords temporal are divided into Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Viscounts, and Barons.

Julius Caesar's calendar prevailed in Europe until 1582, when it was supplanted by that of Gregory XIII., now in use, which omits three leap years every 400 years.

One of the noblest bridges known is that at Westminster, for the building of which an Act of Parliament was obtained in the year 1736, and it began to be erected in January, 1738, and it was opened on the 18th of November, 1750. The whole amount of the net expense that attended the building of the bridge was \$1,094,000.

A Living Year.

Why cry so many voices, choked with tears,
"The year is dead"? It rather seems to me
Full of such rich and boundless life to be.
It is a presage of the eternal years.
Must it not live in us while we, too, live?
Part of ourselves are now the joys it brought,
Part of ourselves is, too, the good it wrought
In days of darkness. Years to come may give
Less conflict, less of pain, less doubt, dismay,
A larger share of brightness than this last;
But victory won in darkness that is past
Is a possession that will far outweigh
All we have lost. So let us rather cry,
This year of grace still lives; it cannot die!

The Innocents' Day.

INNOCENCY OF LIFE.

The memory of the child-saints is fitly honoured at the holy season dedicated to the Christ Child. They glorified His name by dying for Him; we pray that we may glorify it in two ways—by the constancy of our faith, and the innocency of our lives.

It is well that elder children should think in what way innocent babes are examples to them—indeed, to us all, old and young. In the first place, they are so very strikingly in the world, but not of it. Their happy little hearts can be made no happier by the most splendid of worldly gifts, nor can they be saddened by loss of earthly possessions. A very young child is just exactly as happy, as long as it is well and cared for, whether its parents are rich or poor. Look at little creatures in luxurious nurseries, playing with costly toys, and then at little creatures tumbling about in the grass by the roadside, or at play, with no toys at all perhaps, on cottage floors, or even in the streets and alleys of large towns. Are they not all equally happy and equally innocent? The temptations of the world are nothing to them yet, neither its "pomp and vanities," nor the equally great temptations arising from its poverty and want.

Let elder children think of this when they are tempted by the world. Think of it when you want this or that, and are out of temper because you cannot get it; or when you are too much cast down by disappointment, or too eager over, and excited by, pleasures. Try to be content—happy in yourselves—whatever is going on around you, knowing that "God careth for us."

But these martyred little ones of Bethlehem had done no wrong—they were too young to know what sin was—"they are without fault before the throne of God"; and you have done wrong—we all have. The only way left for us to "glorify God by the innocency of our lives," is to beseech Him to help us to do wrong no more; "to kill all vices in us, and strengthen us by His grace." We must try to be as innocent as little children, but at the same time remember that it is only God's grace which can help us to conquer our faults and become so.

Then, how trusting infants are towards those they depend upon. A babe in its mother's arms does not know what fear is. Just so should the children of God trust Him. Boys, think much of courage; let them only be "innocent in their lives," and they will be able to feel this blessed perfect

trust which will make them really brave—they too shall not know what fear is. It is by thus trusting to God we may prove the "constancy of our faith" in Him. If our faith were perfect, we should never be frightened at any danger; never dread sorrow, or trouble, or sickness, any more than a little infant dreads them, for we should know so surely that God takes care of us.

These are the thoughts it is good for us to have on the Innocents' Day—thoughts that, by God's blessing, may help us to grow more like the example our Lord Himself held up to us, the little child whom He set in the midst of His disciples—more like the Holy Christ Child for whom the Innocents died.

The New Year.

We are now entering upon a new year, and we all hope that it will be in the highest sense a "happy new year." Let me mention four things which may help you to make it really happy:

Look for good in all things.—Cultivate the habit of seeking the best in every person and every event. Seek good as Jesus sought it, everywhere, and if we seek we shall find. Faith in God is faith in goodness.

Do always the best you can.—Be not satisfied with doing as well to-day as you did yesterday, but look up to something higher and better. When an opportunity of doing good comes, think that God sends it. Be faithful in small things, because they may lead to the greatest blessings.

Select the best influences, read the best books, see the best people.—Surround your mind and heart with what is highest. We can never escape the influence of our environment. If we seek the companionship of the pure and generous, the upright and honourable, their lives will have an influence upon ours, and we shall find it easier as days go on to be generous ourselves. Remember that the remedy for all our woes, our apprehensions and our sorrows, is to come closer to Christ—closer to Christ in personal experience, in communion, in importunate prayer, in honest and hearty work.

British American Business College.

The closing exercises at this institution were of a specially interesting character.

At three o'clock the chair was taken in the main hall by Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, president of the Board of Trade, who had on his right His Hon. the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, and Mr. J. Herbert Mason; on his left Professor Goldwin Smith and James Beaty, Q.C. In opening the proceedings the president of the college, Mr. Edward Trout, expressed the pleasure it gave him in being favoured with the presence of the distinguished gentlemen on the platform, and bespoke for them the attention of the students assembled. The chairman then delivered a brief, practical address, inculcating the homely virtues, and instancing what had been achieved by successful business men, and giving instances of his intercourse with would-be merchants, young and old, during a business life of nearly half a century. Lieut-Governor Kirkpatrick then made one of his neat and happy speeches, in the course of which he said that when he went to school "the three R's," namely, "Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic," were commonly supposed to be what a school-boy needed for success in life. To-day, however, so altered were the conditions of life and commerce, that more things were necessary, it seemed, to equip a young man or a young woman for a business career. He referred to the aptness of the chairman's choice of elements of character and conduct to be observed by students who would succeed, and instanced Mr. Caldecott's "three P's," namely, "Promptitude, Perseverance and Politeness," as essentials which no pupil could afford to ignore. His Honor then awarded to the successful students three valuable gold medals, one of which was given by the president of the Board of Trade, another by S. F. McKinnon. After a few congratulatory words from Professor Goldwin Smith, Mr. Mason and Mr. Beaty, in short pithy addresses, urged, in an admirable way, the importance of a practical business training, such as was obtained in this college. This closed the proceedings.