

Cathedral School and Choir

THE CHOIR

We are glad to welcome back to the ranks of the Choir, several of our old boys who have been experiencing the inevitable rest from singing caused by the breaking of their boy voices. These young men, when boy choirsters were among the most faithful we ever had, each of them spending all the life of their boy voices, which with some lasted five or six years.

It is matter for congratulation that so important a section as the musical element in the work of the Cathedral should be in so sound a condition, particularly when we take into account the difficulties unavoidably presenting themselves. Among these may be mentioned the floor of the practice room being torn up, necessitating carrying on the choir practice in the vestry, with no instrument but a tuning fork available. These have been the conditions under which our music has been prepared for the past three weeks and when these drawbacks are considered it is evident much credit is due to the Choir and its Trainer.

The approach of Christmas entails a great deal of work on the members of our Choir, who have been for some weeks, and will be for the remaining time from now until that happy festival hard at practice. It will be seen below, Christmas eve coming on a Sunday; after the evening service several very beautiful carols will be rendered preceding the recessional hymn. The congregation remaining in their places.

FOR CHRISTMAS DAY—Anthem, Sir Joseph Bambys
"Sing and rejoice O daughter of Sion" with choral Communion.

FOR CHRISTMAS EVE—Psalm 119

AFTER THE BLESSING

- CAROLS—1. A Virgin most pure
2. Come to the Manger
3. The Virgin stills the crying
4. Ring the Bells, the Christmas Bells

THE SCHOOL

The following is the standing of the 1st and 2nd boy of each class, from the November report—

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 4TH FORM | 3RD FORM |
| 1st. R. Hilton | 1st. L. Dixon |
| 2nd. D. Roden | 2nd. O. Evans |
| 2ND FORM | 1ST FORM |
| 1st. G. Maclean | 1st. Jno. Macdonald |
| 2nd. Wm. Ince | 2nd. E. A. Stanger |

In the case of the 3rd form the competition was so close as to turn the balance by a very small fraction.

Satisfactory and economical arrangements have been made with Mrs. Ryan of Bathurst Street, for providing a substantial luncheon for those attending the school coming from a distance.

Our Young People

WHAT BOYS CAN DO

Some of our boys, especially the more conscientious ones, in looking upon life, with its many varying features, and countless changes, wonder what they can do to help along the right, and keep down the wrong. Well, I will not lecture you, but will just mention what one boy did not long ago.

It is said that during that fierce battle at Elands-laagte, just as the Gordon Highlanders were making their final charge, one of the Boer buglers, in order to deceive the British, sounded the English call to cease fire; and so well did he do it that some of the Highlanders thought it was their own bugler, and actually stopped firing; no sooner however did the Highland bugler perceive this, than he immediately sounded a piercing call to advance; and thus frustrated the design of the enemy, and won the day.

Boys, there is your example; whenever you see a comrade faltering in his upward career, and listening to the call of the enemy, at once sound the advance and step onward beside him, fighting shoulder to shoulder against the legions of Sin and Satan; and in the strength of our God you shall certainly overcome your foes; then in that last Great Day of Review, will you hear your Captain's voice say, "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

WHAT GIRLS CAN ACCOMPLISH

Many of our girls are apt to think that if they were only boys, how much they could do for the cause of true religion, but being only girls there seems to be very little that they can do. Let us just see if this view is correct.

A long time ago a girl was living quietly at home with her parents, perhaps thinking how uneventful her life was, and longing to be of some use in the world, when a great misfortune suddenly befel her. For some soldiers from an adjoining kingdom, formed themselves into companies (like the Boers are doing now) and looted the country around where she lived, tearing her from her parents embrace, and carrying her away from the home of her childhood, as a slave. She was taken to the capital of the country and made a servant to the general of the army. This man was a great warrior and a great favorite with his master; but was afflicted with such a terrible disease, that this girl felt very sorry for him; so crushing down her own sense of cruel injustice in being forcibly taken away from her home, she determined to speak to her mistress about a plan she had for getting him cured. And so it came about that the little maid was the instrument under the hand of our God, in bringing about the cure of Naaman the Syrian, from his leprosy.

If a little slave girl could accomplish so much because she was actuated by pure and lofty motives working through faith, then surely there is much that each of you can do, if you try as she did.