

# Canadian Churchman.

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## LESSON FOR SUNDAYS AND HOLY DAYS.

### SEPTUAGESIMA.

Morning—Gen 1 & 11; to 4; Rev. xxi., to 9.  
Evening—Gen 11, 4, or Job xxxviii; Rev. xxi., 9 - xxii., 6.

Appropriate Hymns for Septuagesima Sunday and Sexagesima Sunday, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. Numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

### SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 172, 313, 528, 559.  
Processional: 83, 447, 489, 527.  
Children's Hymns: 333, 565, 566, 569.  
Offertory: 210, 221, 533, 540.  
General Hymns: 162, 168, 262, 470.

### SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.

Holy Communion: 192, 314, 316, 321.  
Processional: 233, 236, 274, 298.  
Children's Hymns: 238, 337, 340, 342.  
Offertory: 229, 239, 244, 353.  
General Hymns: 165, 234, 245, 288.

### QUEEN VICTORIA.

When the history of the Victorian era comes to be impartially judged by posterity, it will, we may safely predict, be generally conceded that the personality of the reigning Sovereign was one of the most influential factors in determining its character. For nearly sixty-four years the throne has been occupied by one, who, succeeding to it at a time when the ties of loyalty had been seriously loosened, aroused by the winning attractiveness of her personal goodness, a passionate devotion to herself which has made loyalty to the Crown once more an all but universal sentiment throughout the Empire. The century, with which by a strange coincidence, the Queen's reign ended, has been called pre-eminently the woman's century, and in the improvement of the position of women among ourselves it has counted for more than can be reckoned that the Crown was worn during all its most important years, by one of the truest women who ever breathed. We are not concerned here so much with the political aspect of the Queen's life, as with its social and religious

significance. And it would be almost impossible to exaggerate the importance of the influence which she exerted on English society. There was a fine strain of Puritanism in her composition for which, as it seems to us, we can never be too thankful. In English society, at its upper extreme, there is always a tendency towards moral degeneracy; and the whole influence of the Queen for more than sixty years has been consistently and with great effect, set against the lowering of moral tone. Everyone knew that her home life was that of a true home, and millions of homes are sad to-day with a deep sense of personal loss because she, who has been for so long the centre of the most exalted home circle in the world, who entered so fully and so sympathetically into the home life of her subjects with all their joys and sorrows, has passed beyond the reach of earthly love. It would take too long to attempt to dwell upon her many claims to her subjects' love and reverence—her exalted sense of duty, her self-control, her readiness to spend herself in the service of her people, her deep sympathy. When we have enumerated all those

ever repair, yet none the less with hearts that for thee are thankful that thy toil is finished, thy duty is done, thy cares are at an end, and thou hast entered into thy rest. Victoria, our Mother-Queen, farewell!

### Imperial Era.

The Imperial character of the Victorian era is the proudest subject of contemplation to British citizens wherever throughout the Empire on which the sun never sets, they hail the flag. The confines of the Empire have been extended in every zone, while the reign has been free from any great wars, save that against Russia in the Crimea and the present war in South Africa, which is only to be mentioned in this connection by reason of its unlooked for prolongation. The Victorian reign has witnessed the doubling of British territory, while not a foot of British soil has been surrendered. Before the annexation of the two South African republics, the Queen had reigned over 386,000,000 people, inhabiting 11,726,000 square miles of territory. Outside the lines of this domain, her name is held in reverence by all other peoples, who know the blessings of civilized government, and neither race nor creed has ever made a barrier to the universal love which her character as "mother of her people" has drawn to itself.

### Progress of the Victorian Age.

In commerce, art and science great strides have been made. All the great railroads of the two islands have been opened since 1837. The Great Western's trip to New York, in 1838, inaugurated the ocean steamship traffic, which has now reached such enormous proportions. The first electric telegraph line was opened in England the same year. The penny post was established in 1840. The income tax was re-established by Peel in 1842, and remains to this day. Free trade was begun in 1846, and all attempts to carry the country back to protection have been feeble and unsuccessful. Free trade in ships came in 1849, by the repeal of the old navigation laws. The era of great international exhibitions was started by the one held in London, 1851, opened by Victoria in person, with a splendid pageant. All the remaining civil and religious disabilities were removed from the Jews in 1860. The duty on paper was removed in 1861, and the daily penny press dates from that year. Household suffrage was enacted in 1867. The transportation of convicts beyond the seas was abolished in 1868. The State Church was disestablished in Ireland in 1871. Popular education was made compulsory and almost free in 1873, when the first London School Board was organized under the new Education Act framed by the late Right Hon. William E. Forster. The abolition of the purchase of army commissions, the suppression of flogging except for a few heinous crimes, the establishment of the ten-hour day in factories and mines and the State inspection of all such employments, the introduction of the secret ballot, the enactment of stringent laws to prevent and punish bribery in elections, the liberalizing of the land and game laws, the acquisition of all telegraph lines by the Government, and the establishment of Government control of the railroads are all included in the retrospect of progress under Victoria. Though the Victorian age does not shine with the splendid names in literature that characterized the Elizabethan, science has contributed many great names—among those that will forever stand being Darwin, Spencer, Huxley, Stephenson and Tyndall. In literature are the names of Dickens, Thackeray, Lytton, George Eliot, Charles Reade, George Meredith, the Kingsleys, Mrs. Gaskell, Charles Lever, Trollope, Tennyson, Browning, Swinburne and Matthew Arnold and Kipling; Thomas



QUEEN VICTORIA, TAKEN 1897.

qualities by which she endeared herself to her people, and have added the mention of her wide and thorough knowledge of the politics of her time, both home and foreign, to her undoubted capacity for affairs of State, we still have left out of our reckoning the most important element in her. For the Queen was a genuinely religious woman; she was in many ways a "nursing mother" to the Mother Church of her island kingdom. But she was much more than this. She was a convinced and sincere and humble believer in the revelation of God in Christ, and when the words of hope are uttered over her dead body, we shall feel that our oft repeated prayers for her have been answered, that she has ever had affiance in God, and ever sought His honour and glory, and that therefore we can "commit her body to the ground . . . in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ," through whom she trusted hereafter "to attain everlasting joy and felicity." And so farewell, good and beloved Queen, mother indeed of thy people, who follow thee with tear filled eyes to thy last sleeping place, grieving deeply for their own great loss that nothing will