ST. JOHN'S CHURCH RECORD.

up to any section or school. Each of these classes we have mentioned has its reasons and its rights. And each in turn shall rejoice in hearing some favorite strains, which

"lift me into ecstasy, And bring all heaven before mine eyes."

Each in turn should try to appreciate what is good in other types of music, and in any case should not grudge the enjoy ment to others which he seeks for himself. We desire that, may be induced to come forward with offerings for this purour church music should be as excellent as it can be made, and we believe that our congregation think so too, and will not grudge the indispensable means of maintaining its high level. The aid of a small orchestra at Christmas is a suggestion we commend to Mr. Ford and the music com mittee. And a promise of long date, Gaul's 'Ten Virgins,' will find before Easter, we venture to hope, a complete and successful performance.

The Annual Sale and Tea, undertaken by the zealous efforts of the Association of Lady Workers, has been subjected various alterations of date, owing to competing, attractions, but will now be held on Thursday and Friday, December 8th and 9th. The object, as our readers know, is to clear off the remaining floating debt on the Sunday School. If the result is only commensurate with the zeal and energy already displayed, it will assuredly be satisfactory. When once this burthen of the Schoolhouse debt is removed, our "Workers' may indeed look back with satisfaction, as the rest of the congregation with gratitude, upon the labours of the past, although we do not doubt that new efforts will speedily be planned for some new work of renovation or improvement.

A similar tribute is due to the other faithful band of workers who, having enriched the Schoolroom with a fine organ, have now almost entirely defrayed the cost by their unaided efforts. In a short space of time, three bright entertainments have been arranged by the Senior Branch of the Girl's Association. Most of the performers were members of the Association, but efficient aid must be gratefully acknowledged from Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Hogarth Swann, and Miss Tibbits.

Our chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood have received their charter from Toronto, and held their first regular meeting after the Service on Wednesday, Nov. 30th. It is proposed to hold bi-monthly meetings for mutual intercourse and prayer. It would be pleasant if our Chapter could be represented at the Conference of Canadian Brotherhood, to be held at Kingston in February next. We are sure that a warm welcome would be extended to a delegate from the first Chapter as yet formed in the Maritime Provinces.

We were glad that the resolution to maintain the customary offertories for Foreign Missions and the Algoma Diocese Fund, was unanimously carried in the Vestry. The former collection was taken as usual on Advent Sunday, and realized \$37.50. The offeriory for Algoma will be taken up on New Year's Day. This, it may be remarked, will be independent of the offering of \$40 already raised as the contribution of our Church towards the fund for providing a year's rest to the Bishop, who so sorely needs it.

Our Sunday School Librarian, Mr. W. H. Merritt, was enabled to make an acceptable gift of books to the parish of Welsford, through the Rev. W. B. Armstrong, and another grant to a Sunday school in the parish of Simonds, through Mr. R. B. Gilmour. Our recent collections devoted to the object of buying books will enable part of the gap thus created to be filled up, but we hope that members of the congregation pose. Really good standard books alone are needed. The poor literary stuff that is manufactured by the ton each Christmas under the name of "juvenile books," and which consists of gay binding enclosing an inferior story, an article made to sell and to be forgotten, this class we decline. But we shall gratefully welcome the gift of good stories, travels and biographies, and also hope to found a small theological library of reference for teachers.

A large photograph of the late Metropolitan has been presented to the church and placed in the vestryroom, and also an engraved portrait of one who we trust will long be spared to give the same living example of probity and ability in secular matters, as the deceased Bishop in his ministerial career. Perhaps our Parish portrait gallery will in time gain further addition. Enlarged photographs of former Church wardens and assistant ministers might easily be obtained, and would be treasured by those who attach a right value to the personal associations of our Church.

A correspondent makes a useful suggestion about the Christmas decorations of our Church. We are glad to say that his advice has been anticipated by the Young Men's Association. At a meeting of the committee, held at the Rector's house recently, it was resolved that the whole scheme of decoration should be intrusted to a special committee, consisting of two members of the Lady Workers' Society, two of the Association, and a member of the Vestry, with the Rector as chairman. For the representatives of the Association, Messrs. A. O. Skin, er and G. G. Ruel were nominated and we hope will be able to help. Mr. Beverly kindly consented to undertake the purchase of the material. The usual grant will be asked from the Vestry : but in any case would readily (we are sure) be raised by voluntary subscriptions.

Devotional Readings from the works of the older Divines of the Church of England have been a feature of the present Advent daily service. During the last week the readings have selected from the works of Archbishop Leighton. Extracts from Barrow, Jeremy Taylor and Herbert will follow.

One of the old-world insignia of our parish Churches was the wand of office, placed by the pew of each Churchwarden, and on state occasions borne in procession. It symbolized his authority in maintaining order in the Church, like the staff used in some Cathedrals and University Churches, carried by the verger as he precedes the preacher to the pulpit. At the last meeting of the Vestry Mr. W. M. Jarvis offered to provide such staves for our Churchwarden's pews. The offer was accepted, and Messrs J. & J. D. Howe were entrusted with the work. They will probably be placed in the Church on Christmas Day.