

The Christmas Services.

ST. GEORGE'S.  
The grand festival was duly observed at St. George's in a bright and attractive form. Last week the faithful workers of the congregation, young and old, devoted themselves to the decoration. There is nothing ornate or gaudy, but the effect of the beautiful wreaths, especially in the chancel arch, is very pleasing, as it is also in the feet and pulpits. On the Sunday morning the Rev. Ross preached a sermon appropriate to the close of the Advent season, the text being from the Epistle "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice." At the children's service, which was held at 3 p.m., the Sunday school choir sang very sweetly, and appropriate hymns, and Mr. Ross gave a pleasing address on the lessons impressed upon all by the grand festival. In the evening the choir was crowded, and the Archbishop preached on the preparation needed to secure the full blessings of Christmas. The text was from Isaiah 21 v. 10 v. "The morning cometh, especially dwelling on the mission of Christian love to comfort and alleviate as far as possible the poverty and misery it cannot wholly remove. After the close of the service a large portion of the choir, who had joined in singing the old English custom of Christmas wassail, stood in front of the chancel and sang several of the old Christmas hymns and carols which had been so highly appreciated during their month of visits the previous week.

There was an early celebration of the Holy Communion Christmas morning, at which a large portion of the congregation were present. There was a full attendance at the midday service and a very strong choir. The services began with the usual Christmas hymns, "Christians, awake, salute the happy morn." "The Yuletide" was by Ambrose, and the anthem "Behold I bring you good tidings" by Sir John Goss. All the musical parts of the services were tastefully rendered. The sermon by the Archbishop was from the text, "God was manifest in the flesh," 1st Tim. 3: 16. He dwelt on the manifestation of God in the design of the material world, in art and science, in the conscience, and especially in history. But God's manifestation in the flesh differed from all these; by his incarnation alone could He be brought home to the thoughts and affections of frail humanity. After dwelling on the various aspects of this manifestation he urged upon all to give the Holy Jesus the birthday gifts He would most prize—the gift of loving hearts devoted to his service. At the close there was another large attended celebration of the Holy Communion.

ST. JAMES.  
The decorations at St. James this year were the prettiest with which this church has been adorned. Long festoons of cedar and holly hung from the beams of the walls, presenting a very graceful appearance, while the three arches aided to give the church a very festive dress. The large chancel arch had suspended from it a star of flowers, while other groups of flowers from their brilliant colorings so beautified the chancel. On the wall under the gallery, panelled in green, was the word "Emmanuel" in red, and under the south window "Peace on Earth" in green. After the service on Sunday evening, the eighteen choir boys proceeded to the residence of Miss B. Chisholm, the leader of the choir, where they sang Christmas hymns and carols, leading off with "Hark, the herald angels sing." They presented Miss Chisholm with a finely bound copy of Whitman's poems. Proceeding next to the residence of Mr. Wm. Reynolds, County Treasurer, the boys repeated their Christmas music, and presented Miss Kate Reynolds, organist of the choir, with a handsome volume of Longfellow. At both houses they were hospitably entertained, and a pleasant hour was spent before parting with mutual Christmas wishes.

Christmas morning services were held at 8 and 11, both being very largely attended than ever before. The pastor, Rev. A. J. Bell, preached from Isaiah 9: 6. The musical service was appropriate to the Christmas festival. In the anthem, "O Come Unto Bethlehem," Miss B. Chisholm and Miss Thomas took the solo parts, and during the offertory Miss Chisholm sang a Christmas carol. Next Sunday evening the musical service will be repeated. The Christmas tree decoration will be held in the schoolroom on Wednesday evening.

CHURCH OF OUR LADY.  
The services in the Church of Our Lady were of a character befitting well the festive occasion. Masses were said at 6 and 7:30 a.m., and at 10:30 a.m., solemn high mass was celebrated, Rev. Father Ryan, S. J., delivering the sermon and the choir rendering "Pueri Nati" after the composition of J. A. Fowler, of Montreal. The tenor solos were taken by Mr. O. Dalgarno; soprano, by Miss Rose Jefferson, Mrs. G. Gallagher, Miss Minnie Hayden, and Miss Emma Quinn; alto, by Miss Anderson, Miss Aggie Quinn, and Miss Annie Gay; bass, by Messrs. T. J. Scanlon and J. A. Gallagher. The Mass abounds in beautiful quietude, view and music. The Christmas tree decoration was sung by Rev. Father Kavanagh, who also preached a very eloquent sermon suitable to the occasion. The "Gloria" was by Mrs. Campbell, the "Salve Regina," by Miss Hayden, and the "Agnus Ergo," the full choir, Mr. J. A. Gallagher singing the obligato, were features of the musical part of the service. The regular Christmas hymns, "Advent" and "Hark, Hark, Herald Angels Sing" were sung both morning and evening.

ST. ANDREW'S.  
Rev. J. C. Smith, B.D., preached in the evening from Galatians 3: 12 chap. 4th and 5th verses. He spoke of the process of preparation the world had been going through for the inauguration, in respect to religion and intellectual culture, and also of the "age of enlightenment," the "age of science," the "age of Greek language and the ascendancy of the Roman Empire; and a general expectation of some stupendous event in the history of the world, which would interpret all that had gone before and throw a new light on the whole. The advent of the end and the end of that event. In the evening choir preached an able sermon—an hour for the poor. His text was Psalm 11. The subject was generally the rights of benevolence. One of the most difficult problems the world has to solve is the right administration of charity, the condition of things which make the exercise of charity, the principal causes were enumerated—poverty, improvidence and intemperance. Another regarded it as no part of the duty of the Word that any portion of community should be needlessly repressed, or personal direct responsibility—words, that there is no sanction of the Word of God that the State should furnish support for any portion of community within the limits of its resources; that the necessities and duties of life should in every instance be met for by the consumers, when practicable. For any class to be fed or even housed at the public expense, tends to a fostering of a servile spirit, which is highly undesirable. As to the wisdom or expediency of the plan, which is to be met by the State, he would not undertake to say anything. As to the exercise of the rights or liberties in all such questions he believed it was not the duty of the christian pulpit to interpose as a secret of the Great God, who thought chiefly by laying down general principles he would leave to the people of his charge to settle at their particular.

It shall be in entire harmony with His blessed and righteous will. In conclusion, he urged the practice of the Gospel of true charity, which will always be expressed in sympathy and fellow feeling according to our several ability. At the close of the service a collection was taken up in behalf of the poor. It was a liberal one.

ROSEVILLE ST. METHODIST.  
The music at this church on Sunday was special, the choir giving some fine Christmas anthems in excellent style. In "There were shepherds," Mrs. Moore took the obligato, and also gave a solo during the offertory, "How Brightly Dawns." In the evening the first anthem was "It came upon the midnight clear," and the second "Calm on the listening ear." Mr. Wilson taking the solo. Miss Maud Stevenson sang "Jerusalem" during the offertory. The pastor preached from Psalm 94: 20, on the prohibition plebiscite question. His main theme was the responsibility of the people for the evils of the liquor traffic, if they acquiesced in the licensing of the sale of liquor.

On Christmas day, service was held at 11 o'clock, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Henderson preaching on the Advent of Christ.

DUBLIN STREET METHODIST.  
Rev. A. H. Rankin, evangelist, occupied the pulpit of Dublin street church on Sunday morning, and the Rev. Geo. Fowler in the evening, both sermons being the exposition of Truth. The choir, under the leadership of Miss Patterson, gave three Christmas anthems in capital style with a full choir.

On Sunday evening Rev. John D. Freeman, pastor of this church, preached a strong sermon dealing with the plebiscite, taking as his text, John 3 and 6. He pointed out the Haman of our land to be the liquor traffic. He vividly depicted the havoc which this traffic had wrought upon the family, community and state. The common arguments of the day against prohibition were refuted and met in a clear and masterly manner by the speaker. The national and individual responsibility in the matter was impressed upon the hearers, and an urgent appeal made for every man to discharge his duty when the ballot is placed in his hand. Mr. Freeman in discussing the question showed by his arguments that it had received careful thought at his hands.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.  
In the First Baptist church Prof. Patton preached in the morning. Mr. Raymond presided at the song service. After evening there was good congregation at both services.

DEATH OF MRS. ROSE MARTIN.—Mrs. Martin, (Elizabeth Wigham Kennedy), wife of our well known and highly respected citizen, Mr. Robt. Martin, died in Bowmanville on Saturday morning, at the residence of her son in law, Mr. Geo. Laing. After being a short time with her son, she went, early in November, on a visit to the various members of the family, to her sons John and George in Toronto, thence to her daughter Robina (Mrs. O. F. Stewart) Whitby, and about the middle of December proceeded to Bowmanville to visit her daughter Jessie (Mrs. Geo. Laing). It is supposed she caught cold on the journey. She was taken to her bed on her arrival, and never arose from it. Every possible care and medical attention was bestowed upon her. Notwithstanding all that kind friends and medical attendance could do she passed away on Saturday morning at eight o'clock, at the ripe old age of 77 years and 6 months. The deceased was fully prepared for the great and final change. Mrs. Martin was one of the old residents in Guelph. She came here in 1836 with her sister Mrs. Hugh Macdonald, Ermose, and settled in that township. For forty years she underwent all the hardships incidental to the early pioneer life. She was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and was one of a family of 14. Mrs. Andrew Quarrie, formerly of Paisley, being the only surviving member. She was married in 1840, to Mr. Robert Martin, who was then a general merchant of Guelph, and is today one of our most respected citizens, who has been a leading elder and member in Knox church from its inception. This is the first break in the family, during the period of 54 years of married life. The cause of her death was indigestion, general debility and old age. She leaves behind a sorrowing husband, five sons and two daughters, and 23 grand children. The remains were interred in the Knox cemetery, on May 5, 1888, from the station to the cemetery, where Rev. R. J. Battie conducted the funeral services of the Presbyterian church. Mr. David Allan was groomsmen and Miss Dinwoody (Mrs. Hunter) of Fergus, was bridesmaid at their wedding—both of whom are alive.

THE REVISED VERSION OF THE BIBLE.  
Thousands of Bible readers, it seems, much prefer the Bible of their fathers, the one that for centuries, in all the languages of the world, has been the standard of Scriptural wisdom and theological doctrine in the home and the pulpit, to the Revised Version of the Holy Scriptures, which was published in 1885, and which has since been the subject of much controversy, and there appears to be no good grounds for the present time for making a change. This will come later, they say. The Revised Version in all respects is claimed to be almost absolutely perfect. In constructing it the "three greatest treasures" the Christian church possesses—the oldest copies of the Bible in the world—were used. These are the Vatican, the Sinaitic and Alexandrian manuscripts, which were not accessible to those who prepared the Authorized version in 1611.

Naturally the Revised Version has met with opposition. That has been the history of the Bible these past eighteen hundred years. Tyndale's New Testament was revised in 1534 by himself, and later 1535. In Matthew's Bible the same thing occurred. That was improved in 1537. The Great Bible, 1539, was followed by the Geneva in 1560, and by the Bishop's in 1568. That gave way to the authorized, or King James' Bible, 1611, which still is very generally read.

My stock of Presentation Books is large and varied, and as many of them were bought at auction, I can offer them at 20 to 40 per cent. reduction from current trade prices. The Christmas Numbers of Illustrated Papers are rapidly diminishing and will soon be gone, but we have a few copies left of most of them. Call early.

THE HAT HOUSE OF THE CITY.  
We are showing the Newest Hats in Derby and Fedoras in all the Newest Colors. Close Prices. STEWART & Co., The Hatters.

NEW FLOUR AND FEED STORE.  
CHEYNE BROS., OF Pipe's Mill, beg to announce that they have opened a flour and feed store on Quebec street, where they carry all kinds of Flour and Feeds of First and Lowest Price. 100 lbs. Roller Flour \$1.00. Orders promptly filled. CHEYNE BROS., Opposite Chalmers Church. MISS A. F. SODEN.

THE latest things in Hair Nails at my store. Try the Hair Restorer! It will keep equal for gray hair or dandruff, it makes the hair grow as fast as any other hair. It is for 10 cents. Hair Goods all kinds of combs, brushes and hairpins made to order. Opposite.

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