

St. George's

PARISH MAGAZINE.

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VOL. III.

Parish of St. George the Martyr, Toronto.

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THE PARISH KALENDAR.

JULY.

- 1 S. 6TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. 8 A.M., Holy Communion. 4.15 P.M., Baptisms.
 3 Tu. 8 P.M., Temperance Guild.
 8 S. 7TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. 11 A.M., Holy Communion.
 10 Tu. Annual Sunday School Pic-nic.
 15 S. 8TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. 8 A.M., Holy Communion.
 22 S. 9TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
 24 Tu. 8 P.M., Temperance Guild.
 25 W. ST. JAMES. 11 A.M., Mattins and Holy Communion.
 29 S. 10TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY. 11 A.M., Holy Communion.

NOTE ON ST. SWITHUN'S DAY

July 15th is St. Swithun's Day. St. Swithun was consecrated Bishop of Winchester A.D. 838. He devoted himself with great zeal to the work of his Diocese, and was celebrated for his humility, as well as his austerity, and works of charity. He died July 2nd, A.D., 862, and was buried at his own request outside the church, where men might walk over him, and the rain water his grave. In A.D., 971 the relics were translated to a rich shrine within the Cathedral; but it is recorded that a most violent rain fell on the destined day, and continued for thirty-nine days, whence arose the popular notion that if rain on St. Swithun's Day, it will for thirty-nine days following. The festival is kept on the 15th in honour of this translation, and Winchester Cathedral, which before had been dedicated to St. Peter, was now dedicated also to St. Swithun. More than fifty churches in England are dedicated to this Saint.

PARISH NOTES.

OFFERTORY.—June 3rd, \$47.09; 10th, \$43.36; 17th, \$37.90; 24th, \$41.02: total, \$169.37; corresponding period last year, \$164.29.

ON Wednesday 6th June, Mr. Phillips, aided by some well-known performers, both professional and amateur, and by some members of our choir, gave a concert in the School House. The performance was exceptionally good. The weather unfortunately was unfavourable, and the result was very disappointing, as far as audience was concerned; and Mr. Phillips was requested to repeat the performance, which was accordingly done on an evening later in the month. On this occasion, also, the audience was by no means so large as it should have been, and were surprised to find so few of our own congregation present. If a musical treat was not a sufficient attraction, at least so polished a congregation as ours is said to be, should have shown the politeness to Mr. Phillips and his musical friends which such an occasion would undoubtedly have called forth in many a less refined body.

THE annual meeting of the Synod was held during the past month in our School House. The opening service, however, took place at St. James's, where our clergy took a prominent part, and our choir, in their surplices, joined with others to aid in giving to this service a dignity and grandeur which has hitherto been unknown on such an occasion.

IN the membership of Synod our congregation has this year an unusually large representation. Besides the three delegates from our own Parish, the following gentlemen were elected for other places: Dr. Snelling, Mr. Cumberland, Mr. McMurray, Mr. Gosling, Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Cartwright, and Mr. G. F. Harman, making ten in all. We think also that we had a representation on every Special Committee named, and as usual there are some one or more of our members on most of the Standing Committees. The Rector has again been chosen one of the Clerical Delegates to the Provincial Synod, and Dr. Snelling is one of the substitutes in the Lay Delegation. Mr. Cartwright was elected a Lay Member of the Cathedral Chapter, which is a position tenable for life.

The *Evening News* has lately been publishing notes on Toronto Church Choirs, and, in the issue of 26th June, gave forth a long paragraph composed chiefly of errors and inaccuracies which the public are supposed to accept as a full, true, and particular account of St. George's Choir.

We must give the *Evening News* credit for some discernment however, as their remark on the "unfaithfulness of the choir in attending the practices," is, we regret to say, fully borne out by the facts. They might indeed have gone farther and criticised the not unfrequent "unfaithfulness" of the choir in attending services also.

The Churchwardens would be glad to be notified by pew-holders, leaving town with their families for the summer, of their intended departure, and the length of time they expect to be absent. A good deal of difficulty is sometimes experienced in summer in finding places for strangers, which might be avoided if the Churchwardens had any means of knowing of pews about to be unoccupied.

Mr. Phillips has taken up his residence in the neighbourhood of the Church at No. 149 John Street, where he is prepared to receive pupils for the Piano, Organ, and Vocal Music. Mr. Phillips success as a teacher of vocal and instrumental music, will, we hope, secure him a good many pupils, now that he has come to live in this locality.

The Annual Sunday School Picnic is to be held on Tuesday, 10th July. The place has not yet been decided upon. The expenses will no doubt be much the same as in previous years, about \$60. for which contributions are required. As the congregation are called upon but twice a year for the Sunday School, we hope they will respond liberally to the Rector's appeal for this object.

A small coin, on which the initials "C. C. A.," are engraved, was found lately in the offertory. If the owner wishes to have it again, he can do so on applying to the Churchwardens.

The Rector purposes taking a vacation shortly, leaving the parish in the charge of Rev. Mr. Clark, with Rev. Mr. White. He expects to be absent from about the 11th inst., until the end of the month.

ST. SWITHUN'S DAY.

Those who are curious in such matters will find a note on this day on the first page. It would seem as if in this year of grace we are having the thirty-nine days of rain before instead of after St. Swithun's Day.

THE SUMMER IS COME.

It has become the habit of our people to break up their home life and scatter abroad for two or three months during the hot weather. With this dispersion of families comes a suspension of nearly all kinds of missionary and benevolent work in many of our parishes. Those who cannot go away are left to take care of themselves as best they may. This is a great evil, and how it is to be remedied we do not know. But we think it would be well if our people considered more carefully the effects of these changes. For our active men and women to be taken away for so many weeks or months from their accustomed associations and labours, is not good for them or for the parishes to which they belong. We ask, therefore, of all who think of going away, to consider: 1. What will be the effect upon their parish—upon the benevolent work—upon the Sunday School—upon the collections—in a word, upon all its interests? 2. What will be the effect upon their families—upon the children—upon the servants? and 3. What will be the effect upon themselves individually? Will it promote or retard their spiritual growth? Will it enable them to be more, or less, useful? Will it inspire them with a warmer love for Christ or not? It will not do to shut our eyes and ears to such questions. We must remember that we are not our own, and, therefore, have no right to consult our own comfort and convenience alone. Linked as we are with our fellow men, we are bound to consider how our actions will affect them. It is too much the custom when the time comes, to drop everything, and go off on our summer excursion, without stopping to think what will become of our work and of those for whom we are working.

One thought more. Is it right for families to go to regions and places for the summer where they cannot possibly have many, if any, religious privileges? This is often done. Again, is it right for men and women to suspend the offerings at their parish church, during the period they are away? This is also often done. Once

more. In leaving their homes and parishes for weeks or months, should they not carefully provide proper persons to take their places in the Sunday-school and other benevolent work in which they are engaged when at home? If our readers will kindly consider these various points, it will probably set them to thinking, which will do no harm.—*From Parish Visitor.*






THOUGHTS OF THE WISE.

WORLDLY PLEASURES UNSATISFYING. — Reader, let no man ever delude you into supposing that you can be happy in this world without repentance. Oh, no! You may laugh and dance, and go upon Sundays in excursion trains, and crack good jokes, and sing good songs, and say "Cheer boys, cheer!" and "There's a good time coming;" but all this is no proof that you are happy. So long as you do not quarrel with sin, you will never be a truly happy man. Thousands go on for a time in this way, and seem merry before the eyes of men, and yet in their hearts carry about a lurking sorrow.—*Bishop Ryle.*

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE, ITS REWARD.—The conscientious man, who husbands one day of existence every week; who, instead of allowing the Sabbath to be trampled and torn in the hurry and scramble of life, treasures it devoutly up—the Lord of the Sabbath keeps it for him, and, in length of days and a hale old age, gives it back with usury. The savings bank of human existence is the weekly Sabbath.—*Dr. Blaikie.*

SUNDAY. GOD'S RAINBOW.—How beautiful to Noah, when escaped from the waters of the deluge—how beautiful to his posterity—how beautiful to us—the bow of the covenant, blushing on the bosom of the impending cloud, and telling that God has not forgotten the world, and will no more overwhelm it with the waters of a flood! How beautiful—yea, how unspeakably more beautiful—is the "rainbow of the Sabbath" round about the throne of a nation, encircling its constitution, its laws, and its liberties! the sign that God hath a covenant with the people, the national sign that the people have a covenant with their God.—*Stowell.*

TEMPTATIONS TO BE SHUNNED.—He who has no mind to trade with the devil, should be so wise as to keep away from his shop.—*Dr. South.*

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