

The Parish Guide.

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1894.

No. 3.

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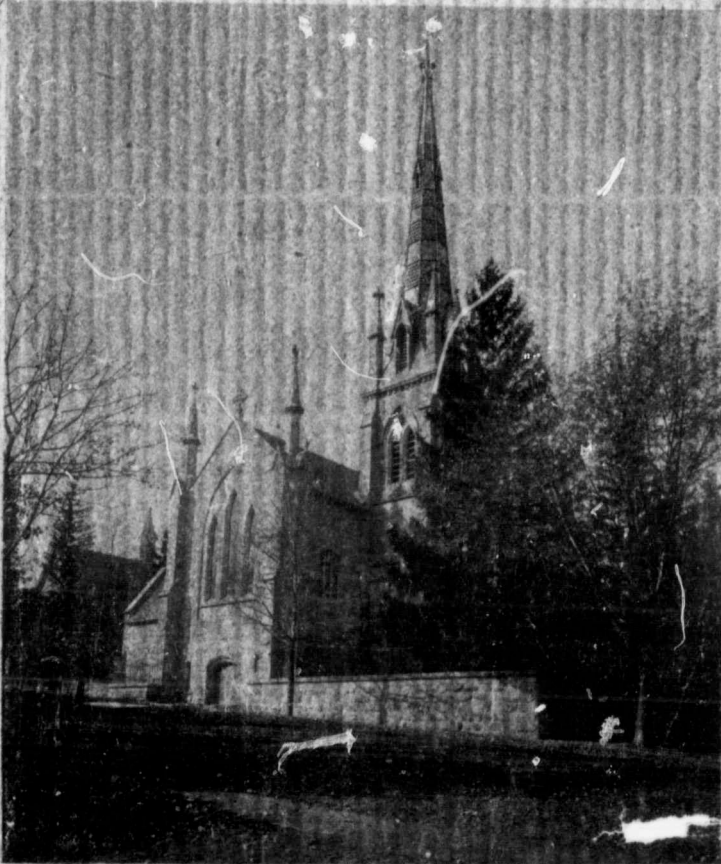
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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION,
CORNER JOHN AND HANNAH STS.

HAMILTON.

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Newman



CLERGY:

REV. W. H. WADE, RECTOR,
Cor. Hannah and McNab.

REV. F. E. HOWITT, ASSISTANT,
224 Bay St. South.

SERVICES:

Sunday.—Morning service, 11 o'clock.

" Evening " 7 "

" Sunday-school, 3 p. m.

" Rector's Bible Class, 3:15 p. m.

Holy Communion—1st Sunday in month, 11 a. m.

" " 2nd " " " 9 "

" " 3rd " " " 7 p. m.

" " 4th " " " 11 a. m.

Baptism—2nd Sunday in month, 4:15 p. m., and
at any other time upon notice being given.

Service at the Mission Room, Wellington Street,
every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

Monday.—Daughters of the King, 7:30 p. m.
Weekly.

Tuesday.—Woman's Auxiliary, Missionary Association,
2:45 p. m. Weekly.

" District Visitors—1st Tuesday in
month.

" Dorcas Society, as arranged.

" Temperance Society, 8 p. m. Monthly.

Wednesday.—Service, 8 p. m. Weekly.

" S. Andrew's Brotherhood, 9 p. m.
Weekly.

Friday.—Confirmation Class.

" Service in Advent and Lent, 8 p. m.

Saturday.—W. A. M. A., Junior Branch, 10 a. m.
Weekly.

" Choir practice, 8 p. m. Weekly.

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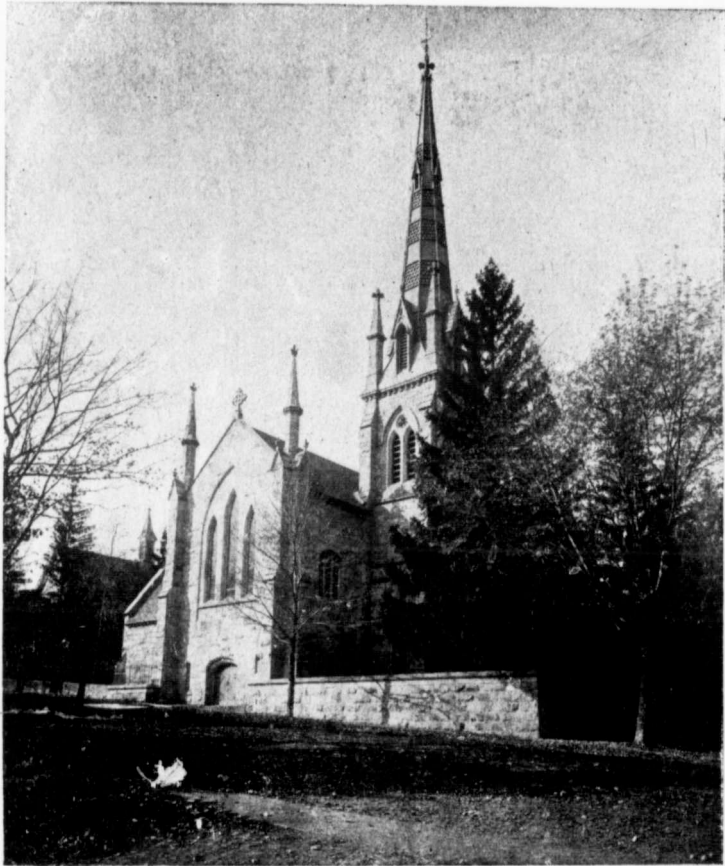
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The Parish Guide.

VOL. I.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, MARCH, 1894.

No. 3

The Calendar.

MARCH.

4. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
11. Fifth Sunday in Lent.
18. Sixth Sunday in Lent.
19. Monday before Easter.
20. Tuesday before Easter.
21. Wednesday before Easter.
22. Thursday before Easter.
23. Good Friday.
24. Easter Even.
25. Easter Day.
Annunciation of B. V. M.
26. Monday in Easter week.
27. Tuesday in Easter week.

The Time for Keeping Easter.

We have been asked to state why the date of Easter varies so much. We can only reply very briefly. Originally Easter was designed to take the same high place in the Christian Church that the Passover did in the Jewish Church—indeed, one was a type of the other. Christ rose on the day after the Passover began. But the Passover was a fixed period. It commenced on the 14th day of the month Nisan and lasted seven days.

Very early in the Christian Church a controversy arose as to the proper time of keeping Easter. In various countries the time varied. The Asiatic Church kept it at the same time as the Passover was kept, no matter what day of the week that might be. The Western Church always kept it

on the Lord's Day, because it was in memory of Christ's Resurrection. In the great Council of Nicaea held during the reign of Constantine, A.D. 325, the subject was fully discussed, and it was finally decreed that Easter should be observed at the time now specified in our Book of Common Prayer. Accordingly, Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon.

By this arrangement Easter may occur as early as March 22nd, or as late as April 25th. It is, therefore, a moveable feast.—*Church Work.*

The Power of Prayer.

The following anecdote was related by the Bishop of Truro at a recent meeting: He would give, he said, just one instance of the power of prayer. On Saturday night, in his parish in London—on the following Thursday they were to set apart a church for the glory of God in a poor district of the parish—they held a prayer-meeting. Both laity and clergy felt it would be a crying disgrace, in a rich parish like theirs, that the church should be consecrated whilst still in debt. They were a mere handful of people, twenty at the most, gathered at that prayer-meeting, and they wanted £3,000 to complete the church. Their ordinary collection was about £80 or £90, or at the most £200 for some special purpose. He read that pas-

sage which speaks of the silver and gold belonging to God (Hag. ii. 8), and then they all knelt down, and he asked them to be silent on their knees for two minutes, and pray to God, to whom the silver and gold belonged, to put it into the hearts of those who had money to give; and he could trace the answer to their prayers, for the next morning there came to the church one who was very seldom there, who owned some property in the neighborhood. Before the service began his heart was touched, his eye fell upon the papers placed on the seats giving the simple statement of the case, and asking for generous help to clear the debt; whereupon he wrote a check for £2,000, and God so stirred the congregation that they gave the other £1,000, thus enabling them to open their church free from debt. He prayed God that the cathedral might fulfil the idea and manifest the love of Christ, and he trusted that the result of the festival of that day would be that those who were worshipping in that church would live a life of repentance, of joyous faith, and of entire surrender of body, soul, and spirit to Him who gave up everything on the cross for them.

Things to be Remembered.

1. Let nothing induce you to speak disparagingly of your parish. Stand up for your church as you would for your mother.
2. Pray for your ministers. They need it. They are but men, with

great responsibilities, and have many to please.

3. If an acquaintance of yours needs the aid or counsel of a clergyman, or if there is any opening to do a fellow creature good, let your minister know about it.

4. Let your minister know if there is any one sick in your family, or in the family of any member of the church.

5. Speak to strangers about the church, and invite them to attend it. Be polite and attentive to those who do come. Give them a welcome, a seat, and a book, and invite them to come again.

6. Make no engagements on week nights when there is service at the church. Church engagements stand before all others.

7. Consult your minister before you appoint the day and hour for a funeral or a wedding.

The Power of Christ's Resurrection.

So now, how weak soever I am in myself, yet in the confidence of this victorious resurrection of my Saviour, I dare boldly challenge and defy you, all ye adverse powers! Do the worst ye can to my soul! in spite of you it shall be safe. It is *sin* that threatens me. Behold! this resurrection of my Redeemer publishes my discharge. My surety was arrested, and cast into the prison of his grave; had not the utmost farthing of my debt been paid, He could not have come forth. He *is* come forth; the sum is fully satis-

fied. What danger can there be of a discharged debt? It is the *wrath* of God! Wherefore is that, but for *sin*? If my sin be defrayed, that quarrel is at an end; and if my Saviour suffered for me, how can I fear to suffer it in myself? That infinite justice hates to be paid twice. He is risen, therefore He hath satisfied: "Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather that is risen." Is it *death* itself? So my Saviour, that overcame death by dying, hath triumphed over it in His resurrection. How can I now fear a conquered enemy? What harm is there in the serpent, but for his sting? "The sting of death is sin;" that is pulled out by my powerful Redeemer, it cannot now hurt me; it may refresh me to carry this cool snake in my bosom. Oh, then, my dear Saviour! I bless thee for thy death; but I bless thee more for thy resurrection. That was a work of wonderful humility, of infinite mercy; this was a work of infinite power: in that was human weakness, in this divine omnipotence; in that Thou didst "die for our sins," in this Thou didst "rise again for our justification!"

BISHOP HALL.

"It is on the resurrection side—the heavenly side of Christ's grave—that we now stand, and have life and peace."

J. SMITH.

Prayer is the wing wherewith the soul flies to heaven, and meditation the eye wherewith we see God.

ST. AMBROSE.

Do You Know the Love of Jesus?

Do you know the love of *Jesus*?

Have you lean'd upon His breast,
Heard His tender invitation,
"Come, and I will give you rest?"
If you know the love of Jesus,
You will yearn to know it more,
And, with truer consecration,
"Live to serve" as ne'er before.

Do you know the love of Jesus?

Passing knowledge, boundless,
free?
Love that made Him stoop from
heaven
That He might *your* Saviour be?
If you know the love of Jesus,
If to you has been reveal'd
All His grace and matchless mercy,
Why those lips in silence seal'd?

Do you know the *love* of Jesus?

Higher than the heights above,
Deeper than the deepest ocean,
His immeasurable love.
If you know the love of Jesus,
Tell it o'er and o'er again,
Till you bring this priceless treasure
To the dying sons of men.

Do you *know* the love of Jesus?

Sweetly *rest* in His embrace,
Growing daily in the knowledge
Of His changeless love and grace.
If you know the love of Jesus,
Why that anxious, fretting care?
Roll on *Him* your every burden,
Tell Him all your heart in prayer.

Would you know the love of Jesus?

Would you taste heav'n's sweetest
joy?
Would you learn the songs of glory
Which the angel-harps employ?
Think upon this love of Jesus
Till your heart is all aglow
With a holy, glad surrender,
Thus the love of Jesus know.

JOHN BURNHAM,

The Parish Guide.

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Communications to be addressed to
224 Bay Street South.

Notes.

EASTER Day is March 25. As this is one of the days when *every* church member ought to communicate, the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 7 p.m.

THE annual offertory for Diocesan Missions will be taken on Easter Day. The amount "apportioned" to this parish is \$625. We hope that this amount will *at least* be raised. After such a year of blessing and prosperity let there be a hearty response to this appeal, showing our gratitude to our blessed Lord. This will be an "Easter offering" acceptable to Him.

SERVICES for Holy Week will be as follows: On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5 p.m.; Good Friday at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., and the usual service on Wednesday, 8 p.m.

OUR Sunday-school orchestra is a *fait accompli*. Everybody was delighted with their first performance on Sunday, the 11th February.

UNDER the leadership of Miss Flewellyn, a choir of scholars from our Sunday-school is in training for a missionary service to be shortly held, entitled, "Open Doors." We want everybody to encourage our young friends in this effort.

WE shall all miss the familiar face of our old friend, Mrs. Evans, who died on January 28th, aged 97 years. She was one of the oldest members of the church, having been present at its opening service in 1851. Up to the time of her illness she was most regular in attendance and always in time, though she lived a long distance from the church.

THE Daughters of the King invited the S. Andrew's Brotherhood to an "At Home" on the 5th ult. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

WE always expect something good and successful when certain active members of our church take an entertainment in hand, especially in connection with the Temperance Society. This was so on the 6th ult., when the school room was well filled and an interesting programme rendered.

THE Rector preached at the reopening of S. Luke's Church, Burlington, on the 11th. Canon Belt and his parishioners are to be congratulated on the enlargement of their church.

NOTWITHSTANDING the storm and "mountains" of snow, there was a good attendance at the W. A. meeting on the 13th. The touching and interesting address of Mrs. Young, wife of the Bishop of Athabasca, will not soon be forgotten. We are glad to know that she will be present at the Annual Diocesan Meeting.

THE choir was hospitably entertained by Mr. S. S. Ryckman, M. P., and his esteemed wife and family,

on the 15th. A most delightful evening was spent.

THE Rev. Rural Dean Clark preached one of the Lenten special sermons on February 14th, and the Rev. George Forneret the following Wednesday.

THE Hon. R. Moreton is not only an old friend of the Rector's, but is known and loved by many in this parish. We all regret the possibility of his leaving Hamilton, and hope that after a rest in the Fatherland, and recruited health, he may return to work and witness for Christ in Canada.

WE have been gladdened by the presence of so many young people at the monthly special service. The next sermon of the series will be preached on Sunday evening, Mar. 4.

THE annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary was held on Tuesday, the 20th, when the following officers were appointed and elected: President, Mrs. Wade; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. John Stuart; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Henry McLaren; 3rd Vice-President, Mrs. W. Griffith; Treasurer, Mrs. Newcomb; Rec.-Secretary, Mrs. Gunn; Cor.-Secretary, Mrs. G. Glassco; Delegates, Mrs. J. Hoodless and Miss Freeman; Members of the Board, Mrs. J. G. Williams, Mrs. J. B. Browne; Supt. of Junior Branch, Mrs. Davis; Buyers, Mrs. Bunbury, Mrs. Sadlier; Collectors, Mesdames Freeman, Glassco, Davis, Pringle and Shaw, and Misses Gates, Martin, Simpson, Gaviller and Freeman.

OWING to the loss sustained from fire, in January, by Rev. Mr. Boydell, of Bracebridge, the Church of the Ascension branch of the W. A. contributed liberally to a bale sent to him by the Diocesan Board of W. A. These contributions included new blankets, house-linen, and several articles of substantial clothing.

LET us expect and prepare for a glad and happy Easter Day. A meeting of ladies interested in decorating the church for the occasion will be held on Friday, March 16th, immediately after the service at 5 p.m.

EVERY member of the Vestry should remember the annual vestry meeting on Easter Monday. In addition to the ordinary most important business relating to finance and the election of wardens, delegates to Synod and other affairs, there will be the consideration of other matters. Every one who has a right to be present should attend, and show his interest in the work of God in the parish.

A Historical Sketch of our Parish.

(Continued.)

THE crowning work of finishing the spire was due to the munificence of Mrs. Richard Juson, who was now a widow in England, her husband having, some few years before his death, generously supplemented the fund by which a lovely peal of bells had been placed in the bell tower. This was in 1875, the same year that saw the division of the Diocese of Toronto, and the erection of the new Diocese of Niagara.

The edifice being thus completed, it was but fitting that it should be formally consecrated and definitely set apart for the service of God. The consecration took place on Sunday, Oct. 10th, 1875, Dr. Fuller, who had then but recently been made Bishop of Niagara, officiating. The following clergymen also took part with the Bishop and the Rector: The Very Rev., the Dean of Niagara, the Rev. Rural Deans Osler and Bull, and the Rev. E. J. Fessenden.

Upon the formation of the Diocese of Niagara, in which he had taken an active interest, Mr. Hebden was appointed by the Bishop one of the first Canons of Christ Church Cathedral. In 1876 Canon Hebden had the satisfaction of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the church and of his ministry therein. At a special service held to commemorate the occasion, he thus referred to the united character of the congregation:

"During an incumbency, which has now continued for 25 years—and for a period when the religious world has been greatly agitated, and most important church movements have taken place—it is something to say and be thankful for, that our congregation has been undisturbed by any theological disagreement. I feel that we have deep reason for thankfulness to the Author of Peace and Lover of Concord, that a fourth part of a century's retrospect sees us at this day, as heretofore, 'at peace among ourselves,' and, I believe, at peace 'toward all men.' I feel deeply thankful that I can

truthfully say this, and I pray that, as in the past, so in the future to the close of my incumbency, what may remain of it, may pass on without a single ripple of disagreement ruffling its course."

Canon Hebden's health, which had never been particularly robust, now began rapidly to decline. Again and again he had sought to recuperate it by travel, but with only temporary benefit. He was just contemplating another voyage to England with this end in view, and only waiting for the arrival of summer in order to carry out his plans, when suddenly and all unexpectedly, at last the end came, and he died on Feb. 2, 1878, greatly beloved and deeply lamented by all who knew him.

On Sunday, Feb. 10th, the Very Rev., the Dean of Niagara, who had been one of the late Canon's warmest friends, and who had faithfully attended him in his last hours, preached, at the request of the congregation of the Church of the Ascension, a memorial sermon in that church.

In the course of his remarks he thus alluded to the principles and character of his deceased friend: "Educated in what is called the evangelical school and attaching the chief importance to the doctrines of grace, he was, nevertheless, no ascetic—there was no harshness or asperity in his divinity—his amiable and kindly disposition pervaded all his ministrations, and led him to regard with charitable feelings all those who differed from him, There

was, however, no luke-warmness nor cold indifference to the principles of his own church; her primitive form of worship, the scriptural character of her liturgy, and her steadfast adherence to the faith once delivered to the saints."

(To be continued.)

Greet One Another.

Shake hands with somebody as you go out of church. The more of it the better, if it is expressive of real interest and feeling. There may be a great deal of the spirit of the gospel put into a hearty shake of the hand. Think of St. Paul's four times repeated request, "Greet one another," after the custom then in common use, and one which is expressive of even warmer feeling than hand-shaking. 1 Cor. xvi. 20; 2 Cor. xiii. 12; 1 Thess. v. 26.

Preaching Christ.

In preaching Christ we ought always to bear in mind three things:

First,—That Christ is absolutely *necessary* to salvation. "I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John xiv. 6. "If ye believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins." John viii. 24.

Secondly,—That Christ is absolutely *sufficient*. "In Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him." Col. ii. 9, 10. "Of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and

sanctification, and redemption." 1 Cor. i. 30.

Thirdly,—That Christ is absolutely *accessible*. "Him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out." John vi. 37. "I am the door: by Me if *any* man enter in, he shall be saved." John x. 9. "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Rev. xxii. 17.

ADOLPH SAPHIR, D. D.

An Infidel's Courage.

I remember, says the late Bishop of Saskatchewan, many years ago listening with great delight to a story I heard from a missionary in North Canada. He said that some years previously a humble missionary was travelling through the Canadian backwoods. He lost his way, but presently was rejoiced to see a glimmering light. Soon reaching it, to his surprise he found a large congregation of settlers gathered round a fire listening to an able discourse. To the horror of the missionary, he found that the man was trying to prove that there was no God, no heaven, no hell, no eternity. A murmur of applause went through the audience as the orator ceased.

The missionary then stood up and said, "My friends, I am not going to make a long speech to you, for I am tired and weary; but I will tell you a little story. A few weeks ago I was walking on the banks of the river not far from here. I heard a cry of distress, and to my horror I saw a canoe drifting down the stream and nearing the rapids. There was

a single man in the boat. In a short time he would near the waterfall and be gone. He saw his danger, and I heard him scream, 'Oh God! if I must lose my life, have mercy on my soul.' I plunged into the water and reached the canoe. I dragged it to the land and saved him. That man whom I heard, when he thought no one was near, praying to God to have mercy on his soul, is the man who has just addressed you, and has told you he believes there is neither God, heaven, nor hell."—*Montana Churchman.*

The Price of a Soul.

"I recollect how Mr. Rowland Hill once held an auction over Lady Anne Erskine, who drove up in her carriage to the edge of the crowd, while Mr. Hill was preaching. He said: 'Ah! I see Lady Anne Erskine.' A careless, thoughtless woman she was then and he said: 'There is a contention about who shall have her. The world wants to have her. What wilt thou give for her, O world? I will give her fame, and name, and pleasure. And sin wants to have her. What wilt thou give for her, O sin? A few paltry, transient joys. And Satan wants to have her. What wilt thou give for her, Satan? And the price was very low. At last Christ came along, and He said: I give myself for her. I give my life for her, my blood for her.' And turning to her ladyship Mr. Hill said: 'You shall have her, my Lord Christ, if she does not object. My lady, which shall it be?'

he said, and she bowed her head and said that she accepted Christ's offer, and would be sold to Him, and would be His forever."—C. H. SPURGEON.

A Strong Church.

"Is it a strong congregation?" asked a man respecting a body of worshippers.

"Yes," was the reply.

"How many members are there?"

"Seventy-six!"

"Seventy-six! Are they so very wealthy?"

"No; they are poor."

"How, then, do you say it is a strong church?"

"Because," said the gentleman, "they are earnest, devoted, at peace, loving each other, and striving together to do the Master's work. Such a congregation is strong, whether composed of five or five hundred."—*Church Record.*

"When we cannot see the way,
Let us trust and still obey;
He who bids us forward go,
At each step the way will show."

Parish Register.

BAPTISMS.

- Feb. 4. Ernest, infant son of James Mulholland.
" 11. Ada Alice, infant daughter of John H. Hewson.
" " Gertrude, infant daughter of Henry Morley.

BURIAL.

- Jan. 31. Ellen Evans; aged 91.