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Quebec

DIOCESAN

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A

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OF

CHURCH WORK

IN THE

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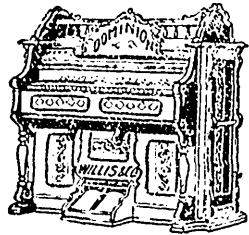
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The Bishop's Engagements.

The Bishop, having exhausted all the demands of the Clergy upon him for Confirmations, will be at home in Quebec during nearly the whole of this month, but he has to travel to Ottawa on Tuesday, January 9th, in order to assist, in an Appeal case, upon the Court of the Metropolitan of Canada. For the remainder of the month, the Bishop will assist at the Cathedral and City Churches, and will, besides attending to his correspondence, prepare (1) a Lecture on the coming Bicentenary of the S. P. G. and (2) a Visitation Charge on the Diocese of Quebec, its condition and its needs.

Those of the Clergy, who are likely to have any Candidates ready to be confirmed within the next few months, should give the Bishop timely notice, so as to enable him to arrange to take his work—as much as possible—in districts.

The Bishop had intended this winter to visit the Gaspé Coast, but, on inquiry, he finds that there would be little object in doing this, and that the Clergy would, on the whole, prefer to be included in the Summer Visitation to the Labrador and Magdalen Islands. For this purpose, therefore, the Bishop will (D.V.) leave Quebec about June 12th, and will be away, confirming, &c., on the Gaspé and Labrador Coasts and in the Magdalen Islands until about the middle of August. It will be well for the Clergy of Quebec, Megantic and the Eastern Townships to note this, so that their needs may all be attended to by the beginning of June.

The Bishop's New Year's Greeting.

The Bishop takes this year the opportunity of sending special New Year's Greetings to all our readers.

The design chosen is certainly a beautiful one and the ideas expressed in it are true and timely. For from the Bells we are to learn to

‘Ring out the old, ring in the new ;
‘Ring out the false, ring in the true ;
‘Ring out all wrath, ring in all peace ;
‘Ring out hard terms, ring in release.

And from the Text we are taught, not only with regard to the terrible war that is in every one's mind, but also with reference to all that we propose to do or carry out during this new year, that nothing can be accomplished successfully in our own strength, but that we must all put our real trust in the Lord, our God, our most merciful Father, remembering that it is He and He alone, who is in very truth the Stronger than the strong.

Subscriptions.

We are grateful to those of our friends, who have made a ready response to our request for the sending in of subscriptions and renewals. But there are still a good many who owe their subscriptions for 1899, and some even, who owe for 1898 and 1897. Many also have sent small extra donations towards the expense of our Pictures. We hope that more still will follow their good example.

But above all we trust that all those who themselves find pleasure in receiving and reading their GAZETTE, will now try and think of one or more of their friends, whom they might induce to take it. The true plan is to show to Church friends a copy and urge it upon them, as drawing the whole Diocese into one. It is hardly fair to leave all this kind of thing to the Clergy. The difficulties they meet with in the matter are well portrayed in the following extracts from letters:—

One writes, "I have done my very best to lengthen the list of names of subscribers..... I like the people of this Mission very much, but they will look longer at a penny before spending it than any people I have ever known, without exception; and that is not saying a little, I assure you. It is not an uncommon thing at X——— to have six or eight cents in the Plate from a congregation of 20 or upwards; and as far as talking to them goes, they are absolutely, imperiously, pachydermatous (thick-skinned)".

Another writes, "I may say at once that I have not been paid anything yet, and indeed have been paid only about half of last year's (99) subscriptions. Some of my friends suffer from defective memories; but their principles are good, and I have no doubt about being paid sooner or later—especially later!"

Now much of this kind of thing would be avoided, if our readers would themselves take the matter up, and secure for the GAZETTE new subscribers, asking for the twenty-five cents—a very small sum for so much that is interesting and profitable—and sending the money up to the Editor. In this way we should have an ever-growing circulation, enabling us to do more and more for our readers; and more and more of our people in all our Parishes would know something about their Church, and would realize that they are members, not only of a Parish but of an old and distinguished Diocese.

The Robert Hamilton Memorial.

A great many of our readers will be glad to learn that considerable progress has been made at Lennoxville. Already the new Dining Halls of Bishop's College and School are fast approaching completion; and while the Classical Professor's Lecture Room has been doubled in size, there has been added a new Lecture

Room, much larger than any in existence before. The Kitchens and Domestic Offices have been much enlarged and greatly improved, and there have been added in the upper flat new Paths and Offices and accommodation for six additional Students. With all this the elevations, both in front and rear, have been greatly enhanced, so that by the erection of the first section of the work, there exists already a grand standing Memorial of our late Benefactor and Friend, Mr. Robert Hamilton.

But the promoters of this design are most anxious to be able to proceed with the next section of their undertaking, for they have reasonable tenders, which they must accept or lose; and it would, moreover, be a very opportune time, now that the Principalship of Bishop's College is vacant, to be able to go on, and carry out the improvements contained in what is known as Section III of the proposed work. This section involves a well built, reconstructed Principal's Lodge, an improved Principal's Lecture Room, a new Lecture Room, and new Rooms for six more Students. In carrying out this portion of the plan, there would be improved Elevations both back and front on the right wing to balance the improved Elevation already erected on the left.

But for the present, alas! it seems to be impossible to go forward and do all this for lack of funds. Undeniably we have felt grievously in this matter the loss of the late beloved Principal Adams, who, had he been at his post, would have led our Montreal friends to understand how true it is that nearly all the expense undertaken thus far has been incurred in favor of the School and not of the College. The College has always had full and sufficient Dining Hall accommodation for its own needs; but now there has been erected an entirely new Dining Hall solely for the service of the School Boys and with no entrance to it from the College. If this had been fully understood, there is no doubt the friends of the School would have assisted to a far greater extent, and this would have set the money actually subscribed free for improvements, which belong more particularly to the College. Dr. Adams, too, would have found his way to many others, whom, for various reasons, no one else has seemed able to reach.

Even throughout the Diocese of Quebec, it is only in comparatively few Parishes that the matter has been thus far ade-

quately attended to. What is much to be desired is that there should be a general house to house canvass everywhere, and that thus there should be under every Parish a large number of names, making up a vast, or at any rate a considerable aggregate, expressing, (as Archdeacon Roe well put it the other day at the S. Francis Deanery Board at Sherbrooke) "the gratitude felt not by a few wealthy men only and by the Clergy, but by all the members of the Church, high and low, rich and poor alike, for the many great and valuable gifts and benefits bestowed by Mr. Hamilton upon the Diocese and its Institutions during his long life." We are very glad, therefore, to know that the S. Francis District Clergy, or in other words the Clergy of the Eastern Townships, have agreed that such a house to house collection shall be made by themselves or by duly appointed Collectors in all their Parishes, and as far as possible in the last week of this month; and we earnestly trust that this movement will extend to the whole Diocese, so that there shall be an ample Roll of the names of our people, all eager to do honor to the memory of a great Benefactor and true Christian Friend.

The Bishop's Visitation.

The next Visitation will be held at one centre, i.e. at Bishop's College, Lennoxville, in September, during the week previous to the opening of the College and School. There were many advantages in holding the Visitation of two years ago at seven different centres, but there are also other advantages in meeting all at one place, and consequently the Bishop hopes to adopt the two plans alternately, and since this time all are to be invited to meet at Bishop's College, it is earnestly hoped that all the Clergy will note the fact and make their arrangements, so that they shall be present and help to render the occasion both profitable and pleasant.

Ad Clerum.

PRAYERS.

Since the sad war in South Africa seems likely to continue for some time, the Bishop requests us to state that he hereby authorizes the following prayers recom-

mended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and York, in addition to, i.e. as alternatives for, the Prayers already authorized in our issue of November, 1899 :

Lord God of Hosts, our only Strength and Refuge, we come before Thee confessing our many sins and forgetfulness of Thee in the time of our wealth. Pardon, we beseech Thee, all these our offences and cleanse us from our sins. Forgive whatever may have been amiss in us in the controversy which has led us into this present strife, and grant in Thine own good time a righteous issue and the blessings of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Most Merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, let Thy protecting care be over those who have now gone forth to fight the battles of their country for the deliverance of the oppressed and for the maintenance of justice and equity between man and man. Comfort their families in their absence, and soothe all anxieties with Thine own consolations. Relieve the sufferings of the many that must inevitably suffer; and finally, we pray Thee, hasten the time when war shall cease in all the world and all mankind shall dwell together in the spirit of brotherhood and godly love. Grant this, we beseech Thee, for the sake of our only Master and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Duty at the Present Time.

The following appear to be some of our most pressing duties, with reference to the sad war, now being waged in South Africa :—

(1) A full and free confession to God of our National and Imperial shortcomings, which deserve and which must be expected to bring upon us Divine Judgments, with a view to our repentance.

(2) Acknowledgment of our great responsibility to bring the blessings of good, even-handed government, solid education and of true religion to our whole Empire, and, as far as we are able, to other lands.

(3) An absolute renouncing of the self-confidence, which makes us feel certain that we *must be* Victors, simply because of our greater wealth and superior power and numbers, leaving the Almighty entirely out of the question.

As long as we think of success as arising merely from our possession of good officers and men and equipment, and do not fully and practically recognize that it is ours to do our best, but that we are utterly in the Hand of God, and that He alone gives victory, so long we may expect reverse and humiliation. Whereas, if we place ourselves, as an Empire, in God's Hands, He will uphold us and give us further opportunities which will entail, of course, further responsibilities in His Sight. It would seem to be well, therefore, that we should add the following Prayer from our Prayer Book, or something like it, to our daily private Prayers, thus doing our part towards placing the whole of this serious matter in God's Hands :—

O most powerful and glorious Lord God, the Lord of hosts, that rulest and commandest all things; Thou sittest in the Throne judging right, and therefore we make our address to Thy Divine Majesty in this our necessity, that Thou wouldest take the cause into Thine own Hand, and judge between us and our enemies. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come and help us; for thou givest not always the battle to the strong, but canst save by many or by few. O let not our sins now cry against us for vengeance; but hear us Thy poor servants begging mercy, and imploring Thy help, and that Thou wouldest be a defence unto us against the face of the enemy. Make it appear that Thou art our Saviour and mighty Deliverer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Letter from the Rev. J. Almond.

Rev. J. Almond, Anglican chaplain of the Canadian contingent, has written to Rev. B. Watson, Curate of St. Matthew's Church, Quebec, a descrip-

tion of his experiences on board the Sardinian on her voyage out to the Cape, which he says was, after a few days rough weather at starting, a most enjoyable one. He had under his charge at least 550 of the men. The Services on board, he says, will never be forgotten. Every man sang, and responded in a way that brought out the grandeur of the Church Liturgy. On the second Sunday of the voyage he had a Celebration of the Holy Communion on deck just as the sun was rising. It was very impressive and most of the officers and many of the men were present. The Methodist and Presbyterians to the number of about 250 are under the charge of Rev. Mr. Fullerton, and the Roman Catholics, to the number of about 200, are under the charge of the Rev. Father O'Leary. The evenings on board were spent in a social way and a concert was given every evening by one of the companies. Every profession in life seems to be represented among the men and a splendid tone prevails. Mr. Almond says he is very much encouraged in the work and will never cease to be thankful that he has been privileged to go and minister to such fine young fellows. Mr. Almond received his official appointment as Chaplain on arrival at Cape Town, which means that he has now accompanied the contingent to the front.

CHURCH SOCIETY.

CENTRAL BOARD.

A stated meeting of the Central Board was held on 19th December, the Lord Bishop in the chair. The Treasurer submitted a report. A grateful acknowledgment of the \$100 granted by the Society towards the erection of their new Church was received from the Incumbent and Wardens of Kinnear's Mills. A communication was received from Lt.-Col. Ward, re school at Clapham. It was resolved that the grant in aid of said school should be paid in full. A grant was made in aid of school at Hemison. The Dean of Quebec and Professor Gunn were appointed a committee to co-operate with the Lord Bishop in making arrangements for the Anniversary Meeting. Canon VonInland, Mr. John Hamilton, and the Secretary were appointed a committee to review

the Clerical reports, preparatory to their being printed. The Secretary received permission to print in the Annual Report the names of all Subscribers to the Society's Funds. In view of the very great importance of the Society having in its possession a complete record of all properties possessed by the Church in the Diocese, the Executive Committee of Synod was respectfully requested to see that the steps already taken to effect this end were pushed to a successful issue. The opinion of the Hon. Counsel with reference to the management of the Mountain Endowment Fund and with reference to the Archdeaconry of Quebec was submitted to the Board. The report of the Committee on By Law XIII. (Pensions) submitted at the last meeting, having come up for consideration, its character was, with the permission of the Board, altered, and its consideration deferred until January. The Lord Bishop submitted a statement of mission work carried on in the Diocese independent of the Diocesan Board of Missions, hitherto largely supported by money received from time to time from the late Hon. Senator Price, and his Lordship made a proposal to hand over to the custody of the Society a portion of the bequest left by Mr. Price, on condition that the Diocesan Board assume the responsibility of these special works referred to. The proposal was submitted to a Committee of the Central Board to act conjointly with a Committee of the Diocesan Board and to report thereupon. A resolution was passed expressive of the profound sense entertained by the Society of the manifold services rendered to the Church in this Diocese by the late Hon. Senator Price and of the great loss which the Church is called to bear through his death, and expressive also of the Society's deep sympathy with his bereaved family.

Parochial Missions.

In a recent issue we explained, that the Bishop has now at the disposal of himself and the Diocesan Board a fund for the purpose of bearing the necessary expenses of Parochial Missions. After a time the Bishop will endeavor to lay before the Clergy a few names of priests of the Diocese who will be willing to hold a Mission in one or

more of our parishes. But for the present the Bishop cannot help thinking that among our Clergy there are some who might with great blessing hold a Mission in a brother Clergyman's parish, and he will be very glad to hear from those of the Clergy who would like to have a Mission held in their parishes, so that he may have an opportunity of conferring with them on the choice of a missionary, as well as upon the preparation that should take place before a Mission is held.

Paper on Religious Music,

By A. CECIL SMITH, B.A.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—In preparing a paper on Religious Music, the difficulty is not so much to know what to say, as to know what to leave unsaid. With its various branches and aspects, all of pressing importance and almost equal interest, it is hard to decide what line to take, while to deal exhaustively with the subject would be the work of a life time. If then you will bear with me for a few minutes, I will endeavor to lay before you just a few points, which I hope will be of practical value and not devoid of interest.

In all ages of the world, in every nation under the Sun, wherever man has felt the need of religion in any form, music has formed an essential part of the expression of this feeling, whether in the most highly civilized and cultured nations, as amongst the Ancient Greeks, or among the simplest races of mankind. Music has been called the effort of the soul to speak, and everywhere religious sentiment finds expression in this glorious gift of God. Consequently, the Church, in providing that certain portions of our Services shall be sung, is only obeying a universal law of Nature.

Let us then turn our attention to these portions of our Services, with this special object in view, viz., to learn by what means the greatest number of the congregation may be induced to take their part in the music. In other words let us ask ourselves the question, "How are we to get Congregational Singing?"

In the first place, let us try to discover some reason why individual members of the congregation fail in this respect. Is it lack of interest in

the Service? If so, the fault lies not at the door of those who have the direction of the music, and is a matter to be treated of in next Sunday's sermon. It is a favorite sneer of our German cousins, that the British people are not musical. But so long as our cities can supply material for choirs, whose match can be found in scarcely any country in the world, such a sneer may be regarded as idle conceit. British people are not less musical than most of their neighbors. I am inclined to think it is our natural reserve and diffidence which is at the root of the matter. An Englishman is not fond of talking for the sake of talking, and on the same principle, perhaps, he is shy of commencing to sing. The late Mr. John Curwen (I think it was) once said that the number of children in the Board schools of London who were absolutely unable to learn to sing, was extremely small, in fact almost nil. Let us take it for granted, therefore, that the majority of an average congregation have voices more or less musical, and it only remains to induce them to make use of them. The voices are there, but we must remember that many of them are untrained voices, and consequently are most likely of limited compass. We shall have, too, amongst our congregation all classes of voices, natural sopranos, altos, tenors and basses, each class with its own compass. To suit all, therefore, we see that the first requisite of our music is that it shall have a limited range. From C to C or D should rarely be exceeded. Again, a singer besides a highly trained voice possesses a highly trained ear, which enables him to recognize and reproduce the most difficult intervals with ease and certainty. Let anyone, even with a good ear, who has had no training, try to sing such an interval as say from C to F sharp, after hearing the notes sounded. He will find considerable difficulty in reproducing the notes in tune: or a succession of three or four semitones—there will be a similar difficulty. Just as we must not exact too much from the voices, so we must not expect too much from the ears of untrained singers; our tunes must contain as few Chromatic notes as possible; Accidentals or notes foreign to the key should be avoided. No skips or difficult intervals should occur. Our ideal melody would move by simple scale or arpeggio passages.

Thus limited, the amount of music available might seem at first sight to be extremely small; and so it would be, were we to insist to rigidly on these principles. But, however true, they may be in theory, yet in practice I think we shall find it unnecessary to be too strict, especially with regard to high notes. To put a tune on one side solely because it has an E in it would be absurd. Some of our most popular hymn tunes, tunes which always rouse up a congregation most certainly have high notes which, nevertheless, do not prevent their being heartily sung. Take for example Sullivan's well-known tune to "Onward Christian Soldiers." It goes up to F and yet nobody is afraid to sing it. Or look at another old favorite, the Old Hundredth going as high as E natural: Yet a more congregational hymn tune could scarcely be written. Again there is Mendelssohn's Christmas Hymn, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," with several high notes, which nevertheless present very little difficulty in their production. The secret is the high notes are so naturally approached, one does not realize they are out of the ordinary range. They seem to fit so naturally into their places, that they are sung before one has time to think about them. We shall have therefore to modify our former statement. It is not an occasional high note, that takes away the confidence of the average singer. It is rather, when the general pitch of the tune is above the ordinary, that the strain tells, and one by one the voices tire and become silent. Can any one expect a congregation to sing verse after verse of a psalm whose reciting note is D or E, when even a trained choir would with difficulty get through it without reproach?

Our other restriction, too, with regard to difficult intervals, may in rare cases be relaxed. For instance, in a sequence of fourths, we may get an augmented fourth between the subdominant and leading note, a most difficult interval when taken by itself, which, however, gives no trouble in this exceptional case. But cases of this kind are extremely rare; in fact, I can scarcely quote a single instance in the melody of any familiar hymn tune. We come then to this conclusion, that our melodies must flow along in a simple and natural manner, without any unexpected skips or high notes.

Thus being confined to notes of the natural scale, with which every ear must be familiar from the cradle, our tunes will be readily, unconsciously and correctly acquired by the congregation.

There is one other essential point we must notice, which has perhaps received too much attention in certain quarters, and which has led to most alarming productions in the way of hymn tunes so-called. It was very rightly assumed that to catch the popular ear a tune should have a "good swing." Quite true. And so to get this most desirable quality certain compilers, throwing overboard every consideration of musical excellence and appropriateness to the words, have given us for hymn tunes a conglomeration of trash, written in some trivial waltz or march measure without one spark of feeling or genius, whose only recommendation is that, when once heard, they go dinning through one's brain, driving one to the point of distraction. It is bad enough to get the latest popular song on the brain, but when you find your self humming, "Shall We Gather at the River," or "O Let Us Be Joyful, Joyful, Joyful, Joyful," it becomes unbearable. Without doubt they have plenty of swing; and precious little of anything else. Most assuredly, with our noble heritage of music handed down to us from countless generations, we have no need to descend to such worthless commonplaces. Consider the majestic rhythm, the sublime simplicity of such tunes as S. Anne, Melcombe, Rockingham, Winchester Old and numbers more. Add to these the more modern productions of such men as Stainer, Dykes, Barnby, Elvey, Sullivan and others too numerous to name, and we shall confess that there is no lack of hymn tunes, uniting with the highest musical excellence all the qualities demanded for congregational use, which seem to breathe the very spirit of the words we sing, and uplift the soul away from earth into the very presence of its Creator.

So far we have confined our attention more especially to hymn tunes, though much of what has been said will apply equally to all our music. Let us now turn for a few moments to the Psalms. Here we have to decide between two distinct and wholly different methods of chanting, commonly known as Gregorian and Anglican.

Each has much to be said in its favor, and each no doubt has its defects.

In the first place Gregorian Chants have all the dignity and veneration derived from centuries of use. It is truly an inspiring thought to think we are singing the very melodies, which generations of our forefathers sang, which saints and martyrs used of old, and which were possibly heard even in the courts of Solomon's Temple.

Secondly, they are distinctly ecclesiastical. Plain-song is a kind of music which the Christian Church may claim as its own peculiar property. Between modern secular and sacred music there can be no distinct line drawn. Our Gregorian Tones and a few other melodies are the only survivals of ancient music, and stand out clearly, a class by themselves; totally different to any modern compositions.

Thirdly they are of easy compass, well within the range of almost any voice. One of the simplest and most beautiful of the Tones, the Sixth, has but three notes; and the widest of all, the Parisian Tone, only extends an octave.

Moreover, they are sung in unison, and in consequence there is no danger of their being spoilt by extemporized harmonies on the part of some well meaning amateur in the congregation. For this reason, too, they are particularly suitable for men's voices, and in this respect possess one of their greatest advantages over Anglicans. Another important point also depends on their being in unison. It gives the organist great latitude in his accompaniment. He varies his harmonies in every verse and so the necessity for a change of chant is never felt, even in a long psalm. The simplest chant so treated cannot become wearisome.

Now all these points make a very strong case in favor of Gregorians for Church use. But will they ever make them popular? Some of their most excellent qualities are just what are likely to have the opposite effect. Their antiquity, however exalted the sentiment connected with it, gives them an archaic and obsolete savour. Modern music has developed on such different lines. Of the eighth Modes of Gregory we have but two, the Major and Minor, corresponding to the Plagal Aeolian and Plagal Dorian modes of the old system. The other six modes, with the semitones in various positions in the scale, to our ears

sound very uncouth. Play a scale of natural notes on the piano from D to D, and we get one of Gregory's other Modes (the Authentic Dorian). To get an idea of the effect of using such a scale, find a hymn tune in the key of D, and play it without taking account of the sharps in the signature. It would hardly sound satisfactory in places, and I think you will admit would not be much easier to pick up by ear in its new form. The music written in six Modes out of eight then presents this difficulty in a greater or less degree, and it is this fact which gives to Plainsong music its strange unfamiliar effect. It sounds as if it stopped in the middle, because our ears have always been accustomed to hear the key note at the end, and in the Modern sense Plainsong has no keynote at all.

One of the advantages of Gregorians which we mentioned was the fact of their being sung in unison, and as a result the possibility of a various accompaniment. A good organist will make Gregorians really most effective and interesting to listen to, so much so, that there is a danger of making the hearers stop to listen to the wonderful effects, instead of joining in the singing. The accompaniment may become so elaborate, that the chant loses all its importance, and is dwarfed into nothing by reason of what is intended to give it interest. Truly the sins of some organists in this matter are great. Not satisfied with the liberty of almost unlimited harmonies, they seem to think they have "carte blanche" to introduce all sorts of descriptive effects, which no doubt are extremely clever, but which totally wreck the dignity and majesty of the psalm. In one psalm we sing "The lightnings shone upon the ground" and away goes a flash of lightning up the key-board in the form of a Chromatic Scale, followed by its natural consequence a peal of thunder executed on the 32-foot pedal stop. "The waves of the sea raging horribly," or "the lions roaring after their prey," are all faithfully portrayed in vivid language. Bearing on this point a very good anecdote is told, and though it may be rather old is perhaps worth repeating. Several ladies were discussing among other matters the performances of the organists of their various churches. "Oh," said the first, "our organist is a wonderful man; you

should hear him play the Psalms when he makes the birds sing among the branches." "That may be very clever," said a second, "but Mr. Brown does the thunder and lightning and the bulls of Bashan to perfection." "Very fine, no doubt," put in a third, "but just you wait till you hear Mr. Jones grin like a dog and run about the city." Such an abuse of liberty is of course indefensible, and in the case of an Anglican with its fixed harmony almost impossible.

Another grave defect in Gregorians for congregational purposes is this. However simple and natural some Tones may be, many of them are quite the reverse. Take for example the Third Tone, third ending, or some of the more elaborate Festal forms, winding about, up and down in the most unexpected manner. They would hardly be likely to get on one's nerves after being once heard. Again, having no pretensions to be rhythmical, they are lacking in the swing and go which are such marked features of the Anglican chant, and which in the case of hymn tunes we found to be so essential.

I do not intend to hold up the Anglican chant as perfection. It has its advantages and defects. But this I do say, that no other form of chanting is so likely to catch the popular ear, or presents fewer difficulties to the untrained or partially trained singer.

There are good and bad Anglicans, but fortunately there is such an unlimited stock to select from that we need never be driven to use the bad. Chants with high reciting notes or difficult progressions may with a little discrimination be easily avoided.

Finally, whatever method of chanting we adopt, it will be impossible to get Congregational Singing, unless the choir is well in hand. The chief fault of most choirs is to hurry the recitation. How often we hear a long verse degenerate into a mere unintelligible gabble, as if every voice was anxious to get first to the accent. The recitation should be quite deliberate, with every comma kept, just as in good reading. Good chanting should combine as far as possible good singing and good reading. If the choir start off at a break-neck pace, scamping half the little words, and rushing over three or four commas, they can hardly fail to leave behind the panting and breathless congregation after the first three

verses. When the choir sing antiphonally, too, they often seem to have still less mercy on the lungs of the congregation, so promptly are the verse picked up by the responsive sides of the choir. It would be a good plan and not at all difficult to accomplish, if the congregation had some understanding so that they might sing alternate verses. Thus in addition to the relief gained by the rest, a spirit of rivalry might perhaps be aroused, which possibly would lead to some improvement in the volume of sound, and would add considerably to the general effect of the singing.

Bicentenary of the S. P. G.

In 1898 we were keeping the Bicentenary of the S. P. C. K., and early last year we celebrated the Centenary of the C. M. S., and now, in June this year, we are to rejoice before God over the grand work which for two hundred years He has permitted to be performed by the S. P. G.

Seeing that it was this noble Society, which from the first provided and paid the Clergy of this great Dominion, and which, when unable to do the whole, still continued to do a very large part, and does so even to the present day, surely we shall rise up like one man and return thanks unto Almighty God for these His inestimable benefits, and we shall make a real, self-denying and general effort to raise, for the Venerable Society, a true thank-offering, showing that we are not ungrateful to God's favored Instrument, and that we desire to see its work prosper amongst others, as it has already done so marvellously amongst ourselves.

The Bishop of Algoma's Collections.

Friends of the Diocese of Algoma will be glad to learn the result of his recent visit to Quebec.

Cathedral.—

Subscriptions Cards \$111.50	
per annum, for three years.	\$ 334 50
Sunday School.....	2 45
Offertory.....	28 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 364 95

S. Matthew's.—

Subscription Cards, \$23 per annum, for three years....	\$ 69 00
Mrs. and Miss Hamilton....	60 00
J. Winfield, Esq.....	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 144 00

S. Paul's Church.—

Donation.....	\$ 5 00
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Missionary Meeting.

Collection \$20 80 less \$2.....	\$ 18 80
Subscription Cards, \$32.50 for three years.....	97 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 116 30

SPECIAL—S. Michael's Branch	
W. A.....	\$ 40 00

Total.....	\$ 670 15
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This is a good shewing, and if we add to it \$72.50 collected by Mrs. Sharples from the Cathedral Cards of previous visit, we see the good Bishop's Diocese benefited to the extent of \$742.75.

The St. Francis District Association and Deanery Board.

On the fifth of December last the St. Francis District Association of the Church Society held its annual meeting in St. Peter's Church Hall, Sherbrooke, when there were present the Lord Bishop of the Diocese and 22 of the Clergy of the District. This Association was formed in the year 1843, when there were only 9 Clergymen in the District, and their Stipends were wholly paid by the S. P. G. The Missions of the District then were Hatley, Compton, Eaton, Bury, Lennoxville, Sherbrooke, Melbourne, Kingsey and Durham, and Drummondville.

After 56 years there are now 28 Clergymen in the District engaged in Parochial work, and counting the new Principal of Bishop's College soon to be appointed, & employed in Educational work, making with the Ven. Archdeacon, whom we all hope to be able to reckon for some years to come among the Clergy of the District, a total of 33 actively employed—a gain of 24 in 56 years, or an average of one Clergyman added for every 2 1/4 years—or a gain of 366 per cent.

Reports were received from every parish and mission but one—the new mission of Milby, Johnville and Sand Hill—and the Secretary's summary show-

ed that a great deal of real, earnest work is being done all over the District. The Baptisms for the year were 322; those confirmed numbered 257; the Marriages were 55, and the Burials 169. The amount of money raised for all Church purposes was \$28,305.56. Of this \$1,918.27 was for various objects within the Diocese, such as the funds of the Church Society, and \$1,103.68 was sent outside the Diocese for missionary purposes.

The Treasurer, Mr. J. A. Wiggett, could not make a complete report, as part of the money raised had been sent to the Treasurer in Quebec, but he stated that he had received over \$1,000 for the funds of the Society. Mr. Wiggett was elected for another year. He has shown great interest in the work and has introduced a better system of book-keeping. No doubt next year he will have a fuller report to present.

In the evening there was a grand Service in St. Peter's Church, when two Bishops and about 25 Clergy were present. The preacher was the Lord Bishop of Algoma, who delivered a most thoughtful sermon from the text "Lord, show us the Father and it sufficeth us,"

The next morning a large number of the Clergy and Lay Helpers of the District received the Holy Communion, the Bishop of Algoma being the Celebrant, and at 10 A.M. there was a meeting of the Deanery Board, which is composed of the Clergy, Lay Delegates, Church Wardens and one Delegate from each Congregation in the District. This Board owes its existence in great measure to the zeal of the Ven. Archdeacon Roe and the chief end in view was to interest the Laity in the Spiritual work of the Church by bringing them together to confer with the Clergy on various topics connected with the Church's welfare. Besides the reports of the 4 Rural Deans in the District, and the reports from the Vice-Principal of Bishop's College, and the Head Master of the School and the Lady Principal of Compton Ladies' College, there were two valuable papers read and discussed, one on "Sunday Observance" by Rural Dean Hepburn and the other on "Church Music" by Mr. Cecil Smith, of Bishop's College. And in the evening there was an enthusiastic missionary meeting in the Church Hall when a large number of people were present to hear the Bishop of Algoma give some account of his vast Diocese—its present position, its needs

and its future prospects. The Bishop of the Diocese also spoke a few cheering words and the meeting was closed by the singing of the hymn "Thou Whose Almighty Word" and "God Save the Queen" and by the Bishop's benediction.

As one attends these meetings year after year, one cannot but feel how good it is to be there. The Clergy go home with fresh enthusiasm and new courage. The one great lack is that the laity do not attend in sufficiently large numbers. This we hope will be remedied as time goes on for many of our people need just such a stimulus and just such instruction as these meetings furnish.

A Second Army Chaplaincy.

In our last issue we reported the choice of the Rev. J. Almond to be Chaplain of the First Canadian Contingent going to the Transvaal. We are now delighted to congratulate the Rev. F. G. Scott, M.A., Rector of St. Matthew's, Quebec, on his appointment by Major-General Hutton to be Chaplain of the Royal Canadian Artillery. He will certainly prove to be the right man in the right place.

Resignation of the Rev. Principal Adams.

We are sure that hundreds of our readers will be greatly grieved to hear that after an illness extending over nearly eighteen months, our good friend, Canon Adams, has felt it to be his duty to place, in the hands of the Bishop, his resignation of the position of Principal and Mathematic Professor of Bishop's College, Lennoxville. It is true that Dr. Adams trusts he is improving, but not rapidly enough to give him hope of being equal to the toils of his old position. Let us hope that he will presently be able to compass with comfort some less extensive work.

A Committee of Corporation, consisting of the Bishops of Montreal and Quebec, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, with the Dean and Archdeacon of Quebec, is at work endeavoring to find a new Principal, but this must necessarily be a matter of time. Every well-wisher of the Church and University will pray that the Committee may have upon their labours God's help and blessing.

IN MEMORIAM.

LLEWELLYN PRICE.

After only a few days' illness, Llewellyn Price, a nephew of the late Hon. Senator Price, and brother of William Price Esq., passed away at Wolfesfield, deeply mourned by a large circle of relatives and friends. His family, who have suffered of late several sore bereavements, have our sympathy and that of many of our readers—*R.I.P.*

DISTRICT NEWS.

LEEDS.

The Rev. J. Rothera reports—

Our Bishop paid a welcome visit to this Mission on Tuesday, Nov. 27th. His Lordship was met at St. Agapit Station and was taken to St. Giles' Church, a distance of about six miles. Three candidates were presented for Confirmation, one being Mrs F. Pratt, the wife of the Rev. Francis E. Pratt, who had been recently married at St. James' Church, Leeds, and left the same evening for the North West Territories. The Bishop stayed all night at St. Giles, at the residence of the warden, Mr. A. Lefebvre. The next morning he was driven to St. Sylvester, a distance of about ten miles, to the residence of Dr. King, who kindly entertained us for dinner. At 2 p.m. a Confirmation Service was held at St. George's Church. Three candidates were presented, and the Service was most impressive. The same evening at St. James' Church Leeds, about seven miles from St. Sylvester, the Bishop delivered his second instructive lecture on Church History, which was listened to with great attention. Such visits from our Chief Pastor are a great help, and are profitable both to the Clergy and laity. The Church was tastefully decorated with evergreens and banners on the occasion of the marriage of the Rev. F. E. Pratt, of Gainsborough, N.W.T., to Miss Mary E. Hume, of Leeds, on Nov. 23rd, and the decorations were left up till after the Bishop's visit.

NEWPORT.

The Rev. A. H. Moore reports:—

It is some time since the Gazette heard from this Mission, but our work has been steadily and quietly going on. Concerning temporalities I would say that, through the energy of Mr. G. G. Hurd and others, the Randboro' Church was newly painted before the cold weather set in, and the Island Brook Guild made the necessary repairs to the spire of their Church, while Mr. G. W. L. French built a fence around the grounds. The Sawyerville congregation have purchased an organ for their Church, the amount of the first payment, \$22.50, being raised by voluntary subscriptions. The Church Society collections in this Mission show a considerable increase over previous years.

In Mr. Ernest Smith, the new Principal of the Sawyerville School, we have a most welcome addition to our congregation. Mr. Smith is an accomplished musician, and an efficient teacher, and he holds the Bishop's license as Lay Reader.

We have had some most impressive Services here recently. On December 7th our beloved Bishop visited us to administer the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation to twenty-four candidates.

At Island Brook a class of fourteen young people was presented and the Congregation was deeply moved by the impressive words of the Bishop to these young soldiers of the Cross, who came to volunteer for the service of our King on that occasion.

The Service at Randboro' will also be remembered. Five of the ten candidates were of major age. The Church was filled to the doors, and the excellent catechetical addresses given by the Bishop not only helped the candidates to feel the truth and security of their position, but they also made clear many truths, after which some of those present had been groping. It was a pleasure to have the Rev. L. C. Wurtele and Rural Dean Robertson with us during the day. The latter acted as Chaplain at both Services.

We trust and pray that these and the following Holy Communion Services on subsequent Sundays, at which twenty of those confirmed have made their first Communion, shall prove to have been a fresh impetus to many, yes, to all of us, to press on in the

service of the Master.

The Randboro' Church was suitably decorated for the Christmas Services, when a good number of our people assembled to praise and worship Him, whose birthday it is, in the Holy Eucharist. A successful Christmas Tree for the children was arranged and admirably managed by Mrs. A. F. Bowen, at Learned Plain, on Dec. 23rd.

Mr. Richard Dawson, of Randboro', received the sad news that his son, J. Wilbert, died in New York on the third Sunday in Advent. Although Wilbert had been in New York for some eight years, his steady faithful life here was not forgotten, and now he leaves some \$5,000 to help his parents through their declining years. His remains were brought to his home, and the funeral service was held at Randboro' Church.

I must not prolong these notes beyond one item more. On Tuesday evening, December 19th, we were treated to a complete surprise at the Parsonage. A ring at the door-bell announced a large party of parishioners, who, on entering the parsonage, requested our attention to the following kind words read on behalf of the party by Mrs. H. H. Hunt:—

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Moore:—The members of the Randboro' Ladies' Guild have requested me to ask your acceptance of this Couch as a small expression of the high regard in which we hold you both.

"Your loving sympathy and kindly manner towards us at all times have bound us to you and to the Church by a tie, which cannot be broken; and we trust that in God's providence you shall long continue to help to build us up in that Faith on which rests our "sure and certain hope of eternal life."

After the party had been thanked for their kindness and for the beautiful Couch they brought with them, the Incumbent was asked to present two handsome lamps to Miss Annie Cowan and Miss Florence Planche for their kind services as Organists.

Coffee and cake were then served by the ladies and after a most happy evening, interspersed with music, readings, etc., the company dispersed, leaving our hearts warm with thankfulness to God for their appreciation of our humble efforts.

BARFORD.

The Rev. G. H. A. Murray reports: The Perrythoro' Congregation is now the happy possessor of one of the prettiest little country Churches in the Diocese. The new Church which was completed about a year ago, including the arch leading from the Nave, is beautifully finished in hardwood. The East Window is filled with stained leaded glass, the work of Messrs. J. C. Spence & Sons, Montreal. In the centre panel there is a three-quarter size representation of Christ as "The Bread of Life," while the side lights are filled with suitable ecclesiastical designs; the whole being very beautiful and effective. Before the Church was enlarged, the Holy Table was necessarily very small, but this defect was remedied by the substitution of a new one, which, thanks to the efforts of a few willing workers, was covered in a neat and seemly manner so as to be ready for the Consecration Service. Another feature in the improvement of the Church has been the removal of the stovepipes out of the sight of the Congregation so that their ugliness no longer offends the eye.

On Saturday, Dec. 2nd, the Bishop was met by the Incumbent at Coaticook, and driven to Mr. Hobson's for lunch. A two-fold Service of Consecration was held at 2.30 p.m., for following the Consecration of the Sacred Edifice, four candidates, a mother and her two sons, and a young woman lately married, consecrated themselves anew to the service of Almighty God, and received the Apostolic Rite of the "Laying-on-of-hands." The Bishop's addresses to the candidates, setting forth their duties, privileges and responsibilities, were full of earnestness.

After the service the Congregation, at the kind invitation of Mr. Hobson, repaired to his commodious new house, where refreshments were served, and the people had the pleasure of spending an hour in the company of their Chief Pastor.

Next morning there was a Celebration of the Holy Communion at 7.30. About 40 were present, 21 of whom communicated. This Service was followed by the Baptism of a little child four years old. After breakfast at Mr. Hobson's, the journey to Dixville was begun at 9.30, and the ten

miles were made just in time to begin the Service at 11. This was also a combined Service, consisting of Adult Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Communion. The candidate for Baptism was a young woman lately married, who thus had the opportunity of renewing her vows at Confirmation, and partaking of Spiritual Food in the Lord's Supper. The other candidate for Confirmation was a man aged seventy-two years. He also partook of the Blessed Sacrament. The whole Service was very instructive and inspiring; the addresses to the candidates and Congregation were plain, but forcible, and the attendance at the Holy Table, compared with the total number of Communicants on the roll, was very good, indeed.

This Service ended, his Lordship partook of lunch at the Parsonage, and at 2 p.m. started for Stanhope, so as to reach there in time for Service at 3 p.m. Heres at Dixville and Perryboro', there were two services in one; viz., an Adult Baptism and Confirmation. The candidate for Baptism was a little girl who used to belong to the Stanhope Sunday School, and who came all the way from Canaan, Vt., in order to have the opportunity of being baptized by the Bishop, and confirmed with her class mates. She answered the questions clearly and distinctly. Six candidates were confirmed. The Bishop delivered his addresses in catechetical form, by which means he brought the great truths of our religion plainly and forcibly home to each individual conscience.

As soon as this Service was ended, the return journey to Dixville was made, where Mr. E. Molony was in readiness to convey his Lordship to Coaticook. There was just time for a hurried lunch at the Rectory before the Confirmation at St. Stephen's Church, at seven p.m. Thus was brought to a close a day's work during which the Baptism and Confirmation Services were taken three times, the Communion Service twice, six addresses were made, and twenty-five miles were covered.

A very successful Christmas Tree entertainment, for the benefit of the children of St. Cuthbert's Sunday School, was held in Baldwin's Hall, on Dec. 23rd. Every scholar received a sumptuous treat, while the most deserving were awarded prizes.

The Stanhope Children fared as well, minus the entertainment. Nor were the Perryboro' children forgotten.

Christmas Services were held at Dixville, Perryboro' and Stanhope; at the two first mentioned the Holy Communion was administered, the attendance at which was up to the average Sunday attendance. All the Services were hearty.

Mrs. Blamy, the oldest member of the Church of England in the Mission, passed to her rest, in the eighty-fourth year of her age, on the 20th, and was buried on the 23rd of December. Though four miles from the Church, she lost no opportunity of attending the Services until prevented by the infirmities of old age, since which time she has enjoyed the Celebrations of the Holy Communion held from time to time for her benefit. The last one she took part in was just five days before her death, after which the spark of earthly life gradually smouldered, until it passed away to develope, let us hope, into the higher spiritual life that has no ending.

WATERVILLE.

The Rev. R. C. Tambs writes:—

Waterville—The Misses Millie Hodgson and Ruperta Wiggett recently collected \$12.00 for the Church Society.

On Nov. 21st, the ladies of the Guild gave a very pleasant social supper and earned thereby \$26.00 for the Parsonage Fund.

On Saturday evening, Dec. 16th, we were gladdened by a passing visit from the Bishop of Algoma. The Church was decorated for the occasion and a good Congregation listened with intense interest to his Lordship's graphic account of the missionary work in his Diocese. The offertory amounted to \$20.45.

On Dec. 20th, Mr. George Lavers and Miss Annie Reed were united in Holy Wedlock. The Incumbent was assisted in the Ceremony by the Rev. T. Ball, M.A. The bride and bridegroom being widely known and esteemed, the assemblage of friends was very large. The Chancel was tastefully decorated and altogether the wedding was pronounced one of the prettiest ever witnessed in St. John's Church.

North Hatley—The Misses Lily

Springs and Fanny McNeil have collected \$11.50 for the Church Society.

Miss May, with money collected by her from personal friends, has bought twenty-five prettily bound books and presented them to St. Barnabas' Sunday School Library.

Eustis and Capelton—The Misses Lillian McDonald and Lizzie Kinder have collected \$11.39 for the Church Society.

Miss Alice Vear with the hearty cooperation of other Church workers, gave a social at Capelton on Dec. 9th, and, notwithstanding the darkness of the night and muddiness of the roads, succeeded in obtaining for the Church Funds \$26.50.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vear, of Eustis, is so associated with the Church here in the way of manifold helpfulness, that it affords the Incumbent pleasure to allude to a happy incident in connection with the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage, namely, the presentation to them of a handsome silver tea service by their neighbors.

MELBOURNE.

A new bell has been purchased for St. John's Church, Mission of Melbourne, by the Ladies' Guild. It was rung for Service for the first time on Christmas morning. Its tone is melodious. All are pleased with it.

The Congregation of St. John's, Melbourne, presented the Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Lewis with an address and a Dinner and Tea Service at Christmas-tide, as a token of their good-will and affection.

POSTSCRIPT.

The Editor begs to acknowledge the following additional subscriptions and donations received for 1900:—

Rev. W. G. Lyster (17), Rev. J. S. B. Dickson (3), Rev. W. J. Curran (3), Rev. J. W. Wayman (5), Rev. J. B. Gauthier, Rev. C. B. Washer (15), Rev. H. Gomery, Rev. J. Sykes (13), Rev. G. G. Nicolls (17), Rev. L. C. Wurtele (9), Rev. C. T. Lewis, (5) ; Miss Price (2), Miss Jones, Mr. H. J. Pratten (2), Mr. H. Smith, Miss Irvine (22), Quebec; Mr.

Ethelbert Baker, Lake Edward; Mr. A. MacFarlane, Kamunisticqua; Mr. J. Murray, Roberval; Mrs. Joseph Filion, Beauvillage; Mrs. Buchanan (2), Mrs. O'Neil, Bedford; Mr. W. J. Fosdick, Toronto; Mrs. J. C. Robins, Mrs. Jas. King, East Sherbrooke; Mrs. R. M. Bernard, Danville; Mr. Albert Ascah, Peninsula; Mr. R. J. Little, Irvine (2), Mrs. A. Boyle, Gaspe South (3), Mr. Allan Ritchie, Levis (5), Mrs. Furnivall, England (3), Rev. Canon Richardson (2), Rev. T. W. Fyles (2), Rev. J. B. Debbage (12), Rev. A. C. Scarth (15), Rev. H. A. Dickson, Mr. F. Wurtele, Mrs. Sharples, Quebec; Mr. G. O. Smith, Lennoxville; Mrs. McCord, Montmorency; Miss K. Simpson, Melboro'; Mrs. Henry Roe (4)

Also for 1899:—Rev. J. S. B. Dickson, Rev. W. J. Curran, Rev. J. B. Gauthier, Rev. J. Rothera (21); Miss Price (4), Mrs. Scougall, Quebec; Mrs. Holland, Melbourne; Mrs. W. Smith, Valcartier; Mr. Ethelbert Baker, Mrs. Fenton Damon, Dixville; Mrs. O. L. Young, Stanhope; Mrs. J. C. Robins, Mr. J. Murray, Mrs. Jos. Filion, Mrs. L. W. Alger, West Stewartstown; Mr. J. Fosdick, Toronto; Mrs. Seeds, Stoneham; Miss M. Hart, Marbleton; Mrs. Ross, Aubert Gallion, Mr. Robert Ascah, Mr. R. J. Little (2), Mrs. Jas. King, Mrs. W. H. Brider, Granby; Mrs. Furnivall (9), Rev. H. A. Dickson, Mrs. McCord, Miss K. Simpson, Mrs. J. Blossom, Compton.

Also for 1898:—Rev. J. Rothera, Mr. J. Murray, Mrs. L. W. Alger, Mr. W. J. Fosdick, Mr. Robert Ascah, Mr. R. J. Little (2), Mrs. Furnivall (4), Rev. H. A. Dickson.

Also for 1897:—Mr. J. Murray, Mrs. Furnivall.

Also for 1896:—Mr. J. Murray.

Also for 1901:—Mr. J. Murray (3 yrs.) Mr. W. J. Fosdick, Mr. Robt. Mitchell, Lennoxville; Mrs. Sharples (3 yrs.)

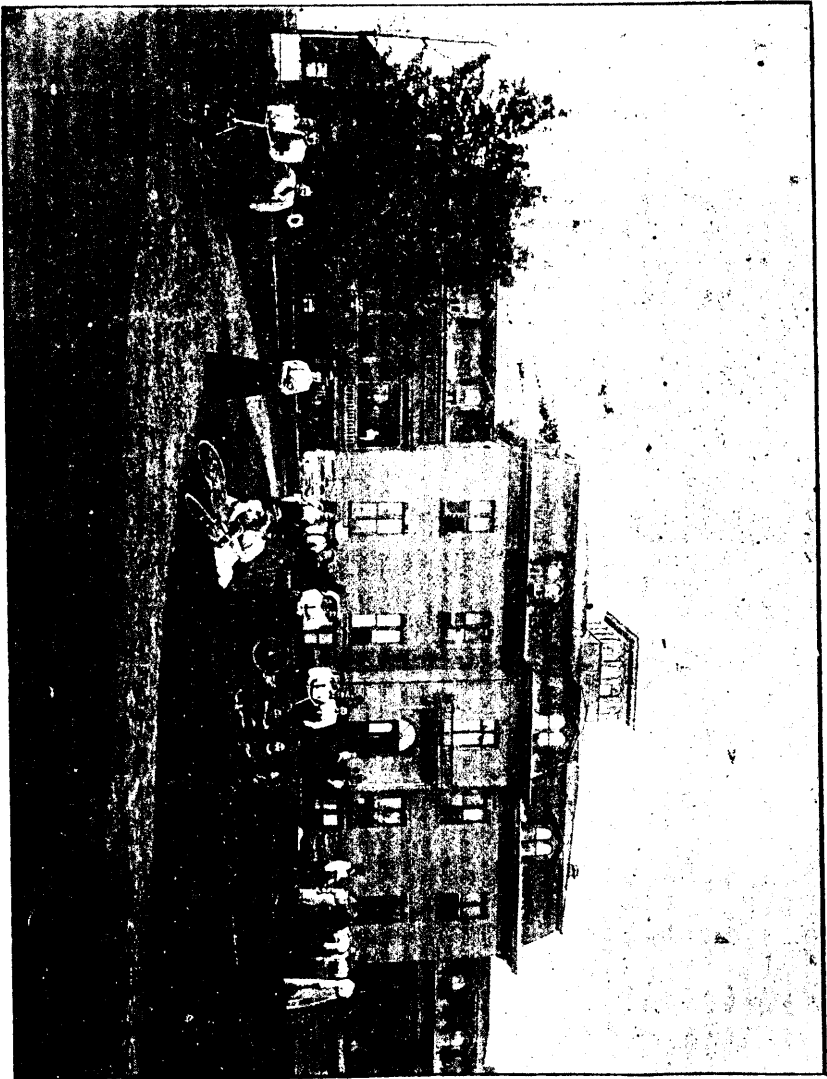
All items of news, etc., intended for the February Number should reach us on or before January 20th,

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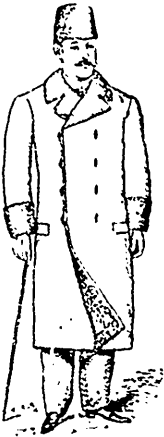
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