REV. W. B. KING, OF HALIFAX, AND HIS CHURCH WORK.

An Eloquent Preacher, a Good Business Man and Popular With His Congregation -St. Luke's Fine Choir and Impressive

Halifax is Rev. W. B. King, rector of St. it is perhaps owing to his example that the Luke's. His connection with St. Luke's cathedral commenced during the incumbency of the late rector, Rev. F. R. Murray, and during the period he filled the position of curate or clerical assistant he gave great satisfaction both to the congregation and his rector. On Mr. Murray's resignation of the rectorship the subject of this sketch was by universal consent of the parishioners chosen as priest in charge, their choice being ratified by the Bishop of the diocese. During the year he filled this position Mr. King became a great favorite with the people of the parish by the untiring assiduity with which he performed the duties of his sacred office, and the very satisfactory way in which the services of the church were performed. At Easter of 1888 he was unanimously chosen rector of the parish, and was shortly after, by a solemn Bishop of the diocese.

At this time Mr. King had not attained est rector St Luke's

had ever had. During the incumbency of the late rector, Mr. Murray, the services had gradually become more and more of a musical character, approaching the choral service. Mr. Murray had secured the services of a choir master, a pupil of, and trained by, the celebrated Sir John Stainer-Mr. R. K. Pooley. Under his tutelage the singing of the surpliced choir had gradually improved and a strong men's choir was added. It became necessary that the clergyman officiating should be more or less artists, and trained musicians. The rector devoted himself to further improving this very important part of the church services, and with very great uccess. Mr. King

equal to those of any church in the dominion, being barely, if at all, surpassed by the services in some of the great churches in the United States. With six fine bass due to the untiring energy of the rector. and the warm interest he takes in the perfeeting of that portion of the service of the

It is a remarkable fact in this connection (taken in contrast to church choir practices generally) that the weekly practices in St. Luke's cathedral are almost as solemn services as the actual Sunday services themselves, such practices being always attended and supervised by the rector

The daily services held in the church are two, viz., a celebration of Holy Communion in the morning at 9 o'clock and evening at 5 p m. On holy days and festivals there are always extra services.

Mr. King was brought up in close companionship with Rev. George Hodgson, at Charlottetown, P. E. I., and from the time of his ordination showed that some portion at least of the manfallen on him. Having been educated in such a school, it is not surprising that some of the peculiar views, and with them much of the eloquence which distinguished Mr. | the colonel, but that it would be all right among the clergy of the diocese, should have descended to his pupil.

Mr. King took his B. A degree at King's college, Windsor, having graduated with distinction, and in due time the degree of M. A. was conferred on him by the same college. His post graduate theological course demonstrated the fact that in choosing the church as a calling he had that he possessed abilities far above the average to devote to his work. Like all the later graduates in theology from Windsor Mr. King is high church in his views: in other words is a sound liturgical churchman, his intercourse with Mr. Hodgson having, no doubt, done

much to bias his mind in that direction. During the early years of Mr. King's ministry he invariably preached from MSS., each sermon being conspicuous for its preaches extemporaneously altogether.

There is a certain freshness of treatment and originality of thought conspicuous in all Mr. King's sermons which give them a peculiar interest. He by no means confines himself to the beaten track in teaching his subject, and becomes at times perhaps almost unorthodox, in the sense that there is an attractive newness of illustration and treatment; and the mere fact that the hearer is likely to be surprised by some new view of some old subject tends to fill the church whenever it is known the rector will preach.

The writer remembers Mr. King's treatment some time ago, of the subject of the Tower of Babel, when he boldly disavowed the belief in any physical or actual collec- For those who did not Mr. Eagar proposes tion of stones or masonary representing a to dispense it in Messrs. Manchester, tower, but treated the phrase as allegorical | Robertson & Allison's next week.

RECTOR OF ST. LUKE'S. or illustrative of the terrible state of men's minds at that time. This view may not be new to the theologians, but it was novel to

Rev. Mr. King never himself forgets that the church is a sacred edifice and never permits others to torget it. His demeanor when within its walls or precincts is strikingly reverent, and unconsciously perhaps produces a corresponding sentiment in One of the most popular clergymen of those who observe him at such times; and congregations in the cathedral are always, or with rare exceptions, reverent in demeanor and observant of the forms at least ot reverence and attention

Mr. King has a very elevated opinion of the position, duties and responsibilities of a parish of the Church of England, vet a more genial and entertaining companion it would be difficult to find. He has succeeded to a marvel in ingratiating himself with the younger people of his parish and is yet always sought and welcomed by the of his parishioners.

With great energy and perseverance he, about a year ago, perfected and carried wandered aimlessly over his cranium which out a scheme for remodeling and improving the interior of the cathedral, which is larger of us boys did not stand in any now as attractive as its architectural great dread of his anger as he was not able peculiarities will permit. Mr King is also to cope with us in a go as you please race a good financier, a quality not always per- and we could easily tire him out by dodgand imposing ceremony, inducted by the taining to wearers of the cloth. When he accepted the cure the church was a pro- matter would be compromised by our asprietary institution, that is, the pews were senting to undergo some mild form of punowned or hired by the parishioners. He long | ishment. the age of thirty years, and was the young- combatted this system as unchristian and



REV. W. B. KING.

has a fine tenor voice, a good knowledge of utterly at variance with the idea of a music and a somewhat imposing presence, "House of God," which, he said, should be and it soon became apparent that the ser- free to all, rich and poor, saint and sinner. vices at St. Luke's had no equal in the The church was always in debt and not maritime provinces, and were at least getting out of debt. The rector called the parishioners together and asked them to free the church. There was great opposition, but gradually teaching, preaching and working, and in fact abandoning a considvoices, six excellent tenors and some thirty erable portion of his salary he at length boys, the singing in the church, which is accomplished his object, and for the past antiphonal, is beyond question the finest of vear the church has been "open and free its class in Canada. All this is largely to all." The result justified the rector's prevision. It is incomparably more flourishing, both financially and in the matter of attendance, a vacant seat is the exception where previously it had been the

> St. Luke's has a brilliant preacher, a wise administrator and in the proper acceptation of the word, a good man. May she long retain his services.

He Fought the Guard.

Those who went to Sussex while the militia were in camp are telling a number of good stories now. One young man has grown eloquent over his experience with a guard who attempted to stop him while he was getting outside the lines one night. He had arranged with some of his friends to go on a midnight expedition, and one of them undertook to "fix" the guard. When tle of that great preacher had the time come for starting the story teller was informed that his friend been ordered off on duty by had Hooper and made him facile princeps to pass the guard. So he started off. The guard challenged him, and he ran past like a deer, but soon was in the arms of another guard. Then there was a tussle, which ended in the creek, but the deserter got away and has been talking about it ever since. The "guard" with whom he had the trouble, however, was none other made no mistake, and it became evident than his friend who had promised to see that the way was clear, and had taken it into his head to give him a fright.

A Frenchman's English.

A gentleman in this city received a postal card recently which was a startling example of "English as she is spoken" and written in France. The card was a request for old postal stamps, and read as thorough preparation and clear argumenta- follows: "I have heard to talk of your tive tone. For the past three years, how- Honorable House I whrited you to ask you ever, he has abandoned manuscript and to look in your old letters if you have old stamps post of you country or others countrys I shall buy them to you to the prices than will indicate you to me and I shall send you the amount by post I shall pay you expenses postage. Trusting in a answer favourable and to do of affairs with you."

Free Cocoa.

Mr. M. F. Eagar, of Halifax, has been pushing Bensdorp's cocoa energetically tnis fall, and Toronto, St. John and Halifax people who attended the exhibitions have a pretty good idea what it tastes fike. "THE WORLD GONE MAD."

Mac Dee" Tells Where and When he First Heard the Expression.

"The first time I heard that expression," said 'Mack Dee,' as he passed round the cigars and sat down to a quiet chat with a couple of friends, one of whom was a clergyman, after all the other guests had retired. "The first time I heard that expression was when I was a ten year old away down at what is now Piedmont on the eastern extension of the Intercolonial. There was no railway then nearer than Truro, excepting the little coal road between Albion mines and the loading ground, which was built in '37-8, and is the oldest road in

"I was going to school in an old country school house, where the presiding genius was an old toothless man of sixty, who was elders. He has none of that aceticism unable to articulate distinctly on account which prompts some clergymen to eschew of the almost entire loss of his molar systhe lighter gatherings and amusements of tem, besides some injury in his early days. society. Among these he is always wel- Both his knees were bent to the left formcome, and so keeps in touch with all classes | ing almost an acute angle and greatly interfered with his locomotion. On hot days he used to go soundly to sleep and the flies was as bald as the palm of your hand. The ing around the benches and ultimately the

"It was the custom on Monday mornings to recite some portion of scripture committed to memory during the long Sundays, as owing to the distance we rarely went to church. Frequently we would be doubling on our tracks by coming boldly with some psalm or pharaphrase which we had learned long before, and to obviate any such lack of application the old man passed an edict that all the scholars would commit the same portion of scripture to memory, and those who were unable to read were to invoke the assistance of some elder member of the family.

"Three of the older boys were determined to circumvent the new order of things, as for months previously, they had by judicious management contrived to get along without learning any new piece. boys were to stand in a circle and repeat two lines, next in rotation to repeat the two remaining lines of the verse, and so on. The psalm selected was the 133rd, beginning:

"Behold how good a thing it is,

Two of us boys volunteered to learn our smaller brothers who could not read, and the third captured a little nephew and proceeded to inculcate the lesson after his own peculiar fashion. Monday morning arrived, and we were called up, placed in a row amid a general clearing of throats and a moving about from foot to foot as if to get thoroughly braced for the ordeal. Each of the three big boys took their younger protege alongside of them, but as this was a natural order of things, no notice was taken FIVE LINES IN THIS COLUMN cost 25 cents for one insertion—\$1 for one

"The boy who stood at the head o the class was a burly fellow, with leather lungs and a stentorian voice that jarred the sheet iron stove door and made the windows rattle every time he lifted it up, while the second boy had a piping little up, while the second boy had a piping little up, while the second boy had a piping little up. jarred the sheet iron stove door and made roice as shrill as a tin whistle.

All was attention for a trial of the new order of things and the old dominie chuckled to see how entirely he had cirpay strict attention to their lessons, when the big boy at the head of the class lifted Progress "Circulation Department," St. John, cumvented the boys and forced them to up his voice with becoming gravity and these words:

Behold how good a thing it is And how becoming well.

Immediately followed by the piping voice, with:

Colin Haggert's pussy cat Fell into the well.

I was the third, and without giving time for remark, I started out with:

Like precious ointment on the head Which down the beard did flow. When the next in order followed with-

Colin tried to pull her out, But had to let her go. The old man's jaw fell. We could see his toothless gums back to the sixteenth

allotment. His eyes stood in his head, but he was struck dumb with astonishment and the recital went on. The fifth boy was the son of an Orkney

man who had a strong Scotch dialect, and he put in his oar with-

As Heermoons doo the doo that doth Oon Sion's hill descend.

Quickly followed by his little brother

She fell dune in the wel again An thees waur pusseyes eend. The astounded teacher stared at us with a

look of horror. All his puritanical ideas rebelled against such a new version of the psalm. At length he recovered his voice and screamed rather than spoke:

"Has the world gone mad!! ta yer seats, ta yer seats every one of you. Hand me that bible. Johnney Cameron go out and get a big birch switch, I'll learn them scripture, see if I don't.'

Hearts.

We met: we loved: We quarrelled, and With angry words we parted. A rival came And won her hand, And left me broken-hearted. Long years have passed Since that sad day;

And still I am Not, truth to say, Lonely or unbefriended And this I think When this I tell-

My heart is still unmended;

What joy it would betoken If other things Would work as well As hearts do when they're broken.

A Shoemaker's Epitaph. The following peculiar epitaph is in the churchyard at Alston, and was erected by the sons of Crispin to commemorate a

brother of the craft, who was esteemed by

them worthy of a monument:

My cutting-board's to pieces split,
My size-stick will no measure meet,
My rotten last's turned into holes,
My blunted knife cuts no more soles,
My hammer's head is from the haft,
No more St. Mondays with the craft; My nippers, pincers, stirrup, and rag, And all my kit have got the bag; My lapston's broke, my color's o'er, My gumglass froze, my paste's no more, My heel's sewed on, my pegs are driven, I hope I'm on the road to heaven. CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS.

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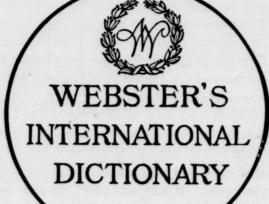
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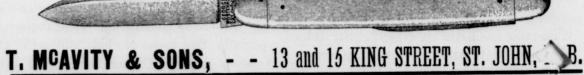
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