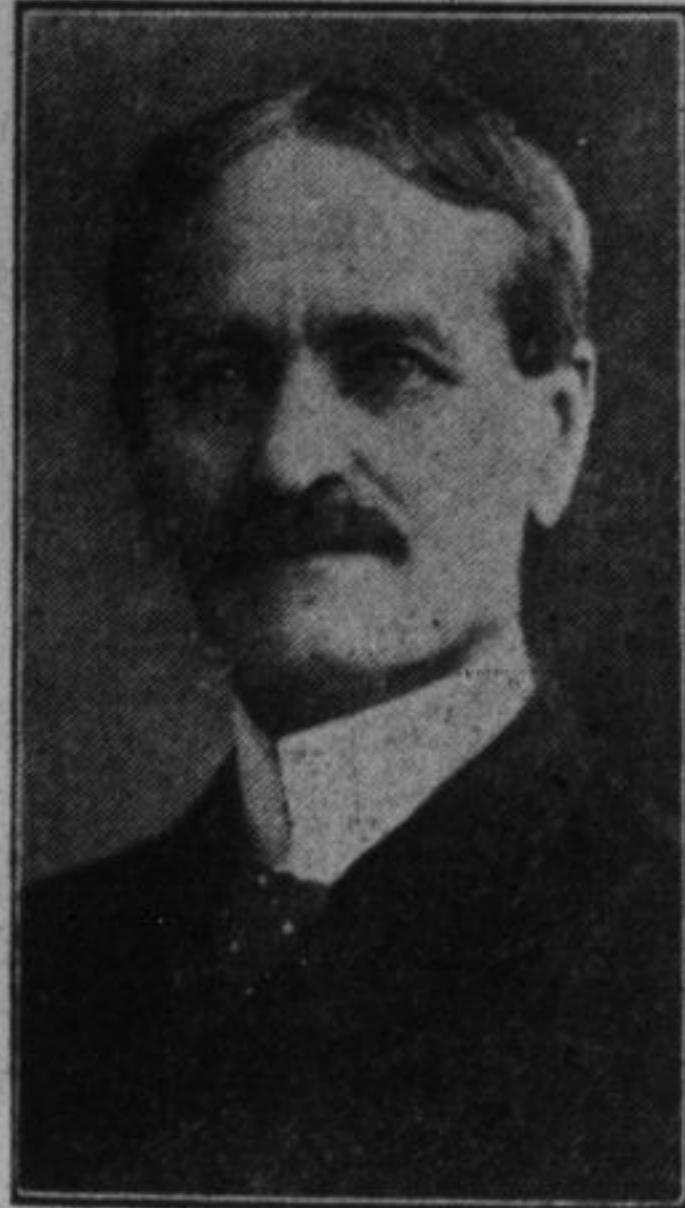


# THE CHOIRS OF KINGSTON: THEY SING THE GLAD, SWEET SONGS.

## St. Mary's Cathedral.

Of all the arts open to man's cultivation and appreciation, music—that heavenly maid—undoubtedly is the sweetest and most captivating. It appeals to our very souls, speaking to us a language distinct with divinity. That the pipe organ with its multitude of stops, its flutes and reeds and strings, should be called the "King of instruments," is not to be wondered at. From its tiniest notes to its most majestic, the soft-voiced Aeoline to the strong sound—



PROF. PAUL DENYS.  
Organist of St. Mary's Cathedral.

ing trumpet, the sharp, shrill piping of the piccolo to the low, deep trembling boudon, together with its triple and quadruple manuals, its electric coupling and combining, the modern instrument furnishes the skilful performer an almost boundless opportunity for shading and coloring his work, alternately bringing forth here, melodies mellow and plaintive, there strains superlative, rejoicing and triumphant. It does or delights with you, shares your grief or gladness, ever sympathetically responding to the innermost sentiments of your soul. When we contemplate one of these modern creations of man's ingenuity and look back to the eighth century, which saw the first attempt at church



SIDNEY SALBURY,  
Organist and choirmaster, First Baptist  
Church.

organ building, we are filled with pride and amazement.

Let us now say briefly that the powerful instrument at which presides the modest Professor Paul Denys, who styles himself a simple "amateur"—

To whose virtues men are most kind  
And to whose faults a little blind—comes from the D. K. Co. Limited, Woodstock, Ont., and is the gift of the late Mrs. Ellen Ward to the Episcopal Corporation of Kingston. It was built in 1905 and is considered one of the best ever constructed by the firm. Its cost was \$10,000, or thereabouts. It has hydraulic electric power, some forty speaking stops distributed over three boards of keys, a magnificent case of chene antique, beautifully carved, large gilt show pipes in front and stands altogether a fine and imposing structure. In compliance with the wishes of the holy see in its "notio proprio," the local clergy have deemed advisable to favor as much as possible the Gregor-



PROF. JAMES SMALL.  
Organist and choirmaster, Sydenham  
Street Methodist Church.

ian chant in keeping with the liturgy of the church. Modern music is not excluded so long as it bears the solemn impress proper to the place and office to which it is put.

The choir composed of male voices to the number of about thirty, has been very faithful and has done eminent service under the able baton of N. E. O'Connor, whose reputation as

a singer and lover of music is too well known to call for lengthy commendation. Sanctuary choir has also been formed by Rev. Fr. Halligan, whose work has repeatedly elicited the highest encomiums. During the consecration ceremonies of his grace, Mgr. Spratt, there were present dignitaries of church and state, from far and near, who had but one voice to praise and proclaim the excellence of the music furnished by these joint bodies on that memorable occasion. The rector and associate priests of the parishes have shown their appreciation by not a few improvements tending to comfort and increase helpfulness of the choir as well as to the general appearance of the church, and as "nobis oblige," still greater things may be looked for in the near future from our St. Mary's musical friends.

Here is a list of those comprising the choir:

N. E. O'Connor (conductor) C. T. Cross, F. C. Milo, F. E. Halligan, L. E. Cochrane, E. F. Roach, J. F. Kane, J. S. Hanley, J. W. Marriott, Roy F. Maguire, F. X. O'Connor, B. J. Tierney, J. J. Norris, J. J. Guirey, A. E. Corrigan, W. J. Roach, E. Lapointe, Archie Kane, J. A. Kearns, J. O'Brien, A. Goudeau, V. A. Beatty, J. Garrigan, W. C. Bailey, L. B. Crowley, J. Hurley, J. B. Gratton, F. Eaves, T. O'Connor, W. Taylor, M. Deroche

## First Baptist Church Choir.

The choir of the First Baptist church is a rather remarkable aggregation, inasmuch as it not only is responsible for the musical part of the service, supplies its own music, etc., but also is a source of financial strength to the church of which it forms a part. Ten or twelve years ago, when the Baptist congregation worshipped in the old building on Johnson street, now known as the Christian Science church, the choir had only a medium-sized reed organ to assist it in leading the singing. At that time the choristers resolutely set themselves to the task of procuring a more suitable instrument in the shape of a pipe organ and bravely took upon themselves the responsibility of raising one-half the sum required to purchase it. One member of the congregation generously guaranteed the other portion, and as a result, the congregation has since, from Sunday to Sunday, enjoyed the sweet tones brought forth from a Karn-Warren two-manual pipe-organ.

The last enterprise of this energetic choir was the placing of a magnificent upright grand piano in the Sunday school. This was done in April and already the instrument is almost paid for. Needless to say, this is a splendid addition to an already well-equipped Sunday school, and helps materially in all the meetings in connection with the church. The present choir-master and organist is S. A. Salbury, who assumed charge in October, 1910, upon his return from Utica, N.Y., where he resided for the year previous. Mr. Salbury also held a similar position for two years in St. Mary's church, Barriefield.

The choir has made marked advancement during the past year, and at present has a record membership of twenty. The following is the list of members:

Miss Mary Linton, Miss Winnifred Phillips, Miss Jean Kines, Miss Daisy Smallridge, Miss Mabel Smallridge, Miss Ed. Musselwhite, Mrs. T. J. Turner, Miss Louise Jones, Miss Muriel Breathwaite, Miss Laura Cruse, Mrs. N. Stanton, Miss Pearl Campbell, Miss Ida Hughson, Miss Edna Singleton, Mrs. S. A. Salbury, Ernest Potter, Arthur Singleton, W. J. Salbury and Mr. Buchanan.

The choir lost during the past year, by removal from the city, two valuable members, in the person of Miss Lillian Wright, now of Toronto, and Harold Singleton, now of Fort William, Ont. Miss Louise Jones is the choir librarian, and Miss Jean Kines, the treasurer, both ladies fulfilling their duties most satisfactorily.

## Sydenham Street Methodist.

One of the leading church choirs of the city is Sydenham Street Methodist, which is composed of over thirty voices. The organist and choirmaster, Prof. James Small, is a musician of marked ability. Prof. Small, who is of Scotch parentage, studied under celebrated Scottish masters, and was organist of several prominent churches in his native land before coming to Canada.

Previous to his coming to Kingston, three years ago, the professor was organist of St. James Methodist church, Montreal. As an accompanist, Prof. Small is in the forefront, having been in great demand as such in Scotland and also in Canada.

While Prof. Small has been in Canada he has given organ recitals in many towns and cities.

Under his leadership, and that of his wife, Sydenham street choir has reached a high degree of excellence, and perhaps is heard at its best this winter. The anthems rendered, Sunday by Sunday, are very much enjoyed, and it is owing to the expert handling of the organ, and the way in which the choir leads, that the congregational singing is so good. The choir has given many recitals and cantatas, often assisted by outside talent, and all were highly commented upon.

The soloists are Mrs. James Small, Miss G. Laidley, Miss Ardelle Elder, Messrs. Harold and Harvey Argroves, and Dr. A. W. Winnett. The choir is fortunate in having splendid mixed and male quartettes.

Among the members are the following:

Mrs. James Small, Mrs. John Angie, Mrs. Van Dresar, Misses G. Hoag, I. Jenkins, E. Turner, E. Gwatkin, G. Laidley, M. Hunter, H. Haycock, J. Rogers, E. Norris, E. Culcheth, A. Elder, M. Wheeler, S. Hanson, B. Pound, Dr. A. W. Winnett, Messrs. John Angie, Noble Armstrong, E. Pound, Harold Angie, Harvey Angie, Ernest Leach, James McCandless, A. E. Hunt, George John, William Mellor, Vernon Craig, Gordon Cameron.

## FIFTY-NINE YEARS A CHORISTER



J. A. B. SMITH.

A record unique even for the old land, but much more so for Canada, is that of Alfred Joseph Bacon Smith, a present one of the main supports of the tenor line in St. George's cathedral, Kingston. Mr. Smith, affectionately called "Jab," a transposition of his initials, is of English extraction, his father coming from Dartmouth, Devonshire, his mother, however, being a Newfoundland girl. Born in 1846, he went into training to be a chorister at six years old, and at seven was given a new suit and was admitted to the choir of the cathedral of St. John's, Nfld. Bishop Field was there at the time, and Rev. John Pearson, now rector of Holy Trinity, Toronto, was choirmaster. When the chorister's voice broke he still helped in the services by blowing the organ, and later coming to Quebec, he joined St. Matthew's, the first surprised choir in that

## St. George's Cathedral Choir.

St. George's Cathedral has the reputation of having one of the very best choral services in Canada, and this excellence is due to the cathedral's splendid organist and choir director, Robert R. F. Harvey. The choir of St. George's has been surprised and composed of men and boys since 1894, about which time the church was en-

able to sing, in their attendance and have the hearty co-operation of the congregation in their efforts to make the musical part of the service as worshipful and excellent as any one could desire.

Mr. Sheas has been leader for some years; has an excellent tenor voice and his geniality is such as to win the confidence of those associated with him. Miss Mabel Meek is the very efficient organist, a most worthy successor to Miss Singleton, who so long presided at the instrument. Miss Meek has a graceful touch and her music is always of a sweet and harmonious character, subdued in tone and reverential.

The members are of a decidedly social type and their weekly gatherings are looked forward to with pleasure in view of the harmony and good nature that prevails. The membership is comprised of the following:

Mrs. John Evans, Mrs. Herbert Cooke, Mrs. John Shea, Miss Letitia Shea, Miss Margaret Campbell, Miss Mamie Merritt, Miss Edna Lake, Miss Gertrude Wartman, Miss Kathleen Pitcher, Miss Alice Merritt, Miss McBroom, Miss Florence Donaldson, Miss Lowry, Miss Flossie Sharman, Miss Dolly Pritchard, Miss Edna Freeman, Miss Jessie Chapman.

Messrs. John Shea (leader), Herbert Cooke, John Marshall, Gordon Jacobs, George Birch, W. E. Manhard, E. W. Skinner, William Doherty, F. G. Hall.

W. Bassam and Capt. Crawford are helpers and energetic ones, too, on special occasions.

## Chalmers Church Choir.

Chalmers was the First Presbyterian Church in Kingston to install a large pipe organ for its services of praise. This was done in the year 1873, in old Chalmers church on Earl street, below Sydenham. Chalmers was always noted for the excellence of its choir. To-day it possesses one of the old-time singers, in the person of Ex-Mayor Couper, who is the mainstay of the male department. Chal-

mers placed in the new chancel. The first organist to take charge of the male choir was J. D. Martin, who was succeeded in 1896 by the present organist, Mr. Harvey. On New Year's, 1899, the old organ and all the vestments and music belonging to the choir were destroyed in the disastrous fire which occurred on that winter morning. The following year the present organ was installed in the rebuilt cathedral at a cost of \$7,000. It is one of the finest instruments in the E. Paul, J. A. Scott, Professor C. F. Gummell, C. B. S. Harbass.) The following is a list of the members of the choir, which at the present time is about thirty-six strong:

Honorary members—Major L. W. Shannon, London; Charles Dalton, Vancouver, B. C.

Men—A. E. Weller, Prof. P. G. Campbell, Prof. R. E. J. Davis, C. E. Paul, J. A. Scott, Prof. C. F. Prof. C. E. Gummell, V. B. S. Harbass, John Sawyer, G. H. Gillespie, R. E. Burns, J. A. B. Smith, J. S. Black, A. G. Williamson, A. Richards, Boys—Alfred Harvey, Albert Cook, Stuart McGall, Aubrey Seels, Fred Brooks, James Stafford, Allen Gogo, Orrin Carson, George Carson, Edward Watts, Fred Thompson, Robert Irwin, Willie Johnston, Wilfrid Fair, Samuel Hall, Robert Sutherland, George Kirkpatrick, Cecil Beardell, Wilfrid Frizzell, Harry Gould, George Bell, Willie McLaughlin, Harry Spriggs, Sanford Rawley, Reginald Beardell.

Among the members are the following:

Mrs. James Small, Mrs. John Angie, Mrs. Van Dresar, Misses G. Hoag, I. Jenkins, E. Turner, E. Gwatkin, G. Laidley, M. Hunter, H. Haycock, J. Rogers, E. Norris, E. Culcheth, A. Elder, M. Wheeler, S. Hanson, B. Pound, Dr. A. W. Winnett, Messrs. John Angie, Noble Armstrong, E. Pound, Harold Angie, Harvey Angie, Ernest Leach, James McCandless, A. E. Hunt, George John, William Mellor, Vernon Craig, Gordon Cameron.

## Queen Street Methodist Church.

Queen street Methodist church has long been noted for the excellence of its choirs. It has been in existence for over half a century and its leaders, in later years, the late William Tandy, Captain Robert Crawford, and now John Shea, have been devoted to the work and surrounded themselves with those musically inclined, who have loyally assisted in the upbuilding of the organization. The choir that fills the chairs in the above, at the present time, render

rick's Cathedral, Dublin, Ireland, and professor of music in Trinity university, of the same city.

The present choir roll of Chalmers Church numbers some thirty voices, many of them of exceptionally fine quality. The regular soloists are Misses Massie and Tweddell (soprano), Misses Rosevear, and McLeod (contralto), Messrs. Bankier and McCrea (tenor), and Messrs. Couper and Spalding (bass), but a large proportion of the other members are capable of solo singing and several of the young vocalists are giving promise of creditable work in the near future.

The choir has from time to time produced, sometimes in collaboration with the disbanded Vocal Students Club such works as the "Messiah" (Handel), "Edith" (Mendelssohn), "St. Cecilia Mass" (Gounod), "Stabat Mater" (Rossini), "Seven Last Words" (Dobois), "Crucifixion" (Stainer) and others of a lighter character.

It is intended this season to give a series of short recitals to be held at stated intervals at the close of the Sunday evening services.

The choir membership list is:

Ladies—Mrs. Matheson, Misses Massie, Tweddell, Rosevear, McLeod, Knight, Slater, Macdonnell, Driver, Anglin, Drury, Merrick, Weese, Losse, Lee, Arnold and Woodward.

Gentlemen—Messrs. Couper, Spalding, Bankier, McCrea, Dobois, Tudhope, Macdonnell, Rutledge, Whytock, Campbell, Brown, McFarlane, Shields and MacKenzie.

J. A. ARTHUR CRAIG.

## St. Andrew's Church Choir.

If one of our great grandfathers were to walk into the Presbyterian church of to-day, he would hardly recognize the service or praise, as compared to his own day, when a preacher from his roostum, intoned the Psalms of David, or occasionally

sang for a time in St. James', but when the surprised choir was organized in the cathedral, under the late Dean Smith, he joined it and has been there ever since. Thus he has a record of fifty-nine years service in leading the praises of the church, and remembering the counsel of Bishop Field, in boyhood days, says he counts it an honor and a privilege to be allowed a place in the choir. Fellow-choristers in St. John's were Cyrius Pinkham, now lord bishop of Calgary, and Admiral Cyrius Bridges, son of Archdeacon Bridge, of St. John's.

Conductor of St. Andrew's choir:

Conductor of St. Andrew's choir: