

LOOKING 27 YEARS FORWARD.

"If the next twenty-seven years of your successes and mine shall by God's grace add such another church as this to the city and diocese, such another asylum built at a cost of \$18,000 and sustained, such another mission as Henshaw, now about to build a \$20,000 edifice, the money for which has nearly all been raised, such another record of young men given to the ministry, of 1,500 souls added to the church and 1,000 confirmed, and of offerings of nearly \$450,000, and above all, by God's blessing, the church be found true to the gospel in the one line of her devotion to Christ, then indeed may they who survive say, 'Hallelujah, for the Lord reigneth!'

CAUSES FOR GRATITUDE.

"I thank you for every remembrance of your hospitality and of your rich gifts to me on the twenty-fifth anniversary of my ministry. They will be a lasting testimonial of your love. Yes, all your patience and forbearance with me, for all your sympathy in my sorrows, for all your welcome to your homes. Never do I expect to have such friends, such parishioners, such a church again. When shall my eyes ever look upon more genial skies or kindlier faces? Surely never. Can this moment be filled with any emotion but that of gratitude? Few men have had such health, such privileges, such a home, such prosperity. Few have built such a church and remained in it for twenty-one years, kept from the strife of tongues, saved by the grace of God, sustained amid the experiences common to our life and with unabated vigor of mind and heart.

REASONS FOR RESIGNING.

"I have resigned because the charge is large and the responsibility has become a severe strain upon me. It is far better to retire than succumb utterly under an exhausting pressure. There are considerations of what is due to you as well as to myself which have influenced me. There has been no strife or misunderstanding. The church has a noble body of confessors. The report shows its capacity for future and continued usefulness. The vestry have been my steadfast friends, and have at heart a most solicitous interest for the church. They have done all for me that I have asked, and the responsibility of my resignation rests with me. May every pew-holder and contributor, every teacher and scholar, every member of St. Peter's be pledged to stand by this church. Pray and work and give for it. Cling to it, and keep it ever in harmony with its historic affiliations in doctrine and worship. Keep it true to the faith, and may it become an eternal excellency and the joy and promise of this diocese and city. For each and all I invoke God's richest blessings, and pray that you may be gathered among the jewels of Christ in the church of His redeemed in Heaven."

DOCTRINE AND SERVICE.

For the evening sermon Dr. Grammer's text was from Philippians 1, 27: "Only let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ, that whether I come and see you or else be absent I may hear of your affairs that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the Gospel." After speaking of his love for the people of St. Peter's Church and his regret at the necessity for his retirement from the pastorate, he said:

"We have sought to administer the doctrine and worship of Christ as this church hath received the same. This pulpit has given no uncertain sound. This chancel has not witnessed novelties fitted to disturb our peace. The order and dignity of the service have been observed according to the rubric, and its integrity preserved free from excess or defect. No study of esthetics or appeals to a dramatic and spectacular taste has tempted us to symbolize error or indoctrinate the congregation into a preparation for Romish ritual or teaching. We have striven to walk in the old paths and keep the people of St. Peter's as a distinctively evangelical church. Every episcopalian worshiping here has had no difficulty in identifying it as the church of his fathers, and as the mother at whose feet he has been taught to