

a soldier in Scottish uniform and kilt. This was a Mr Sullivan who lived in Banbury with his family for many years. The Service was very joyous and colourful. The hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers" was always sung in procession with the Cross leading and a blue banner with a white cross.

[f.8] One Sunday service that stands out in my memory was an occasions when the Crown Prince of Siam who was then an undergraduate at Oxford came accompanied by Sir Garnet Wolseley or Sir Evelyn Wood and sat in the pew that Mayor occupies on Mayoral Sunday. In those years the Confirmation Service was always held on Palm Sunday afternoon. I was confirmed in 1903 by Bishop Francis Paget of Oxford. He was followed by Bishop Gore. When Canon Porter left and was followed by the Rev. A.J. Jones in 1906, Bishop Paget lent his chaplain, the Rev. J.M.C. Crum, to help in the Parish for several months. He later married the Bishop's daughter.

To go back to old remembered customs. Every May Day morning children went about the town from door to door carrying May garlands. These were made with two small hoops, tied together and covered with flowers and greenery and the Queen of May, a decorated and crowned doll sat in the middle. The whole was covered by a small sheet and on payment of a copper or two out into a tin box the sheet was slowly raised for the garland to be viewed and admired, the owners always very proud of their pretty handiwork.

There were frequently quite exciting events to be seen in the streets. Sometimes a Swiss or Austrian man in national costume would bring a bear, which would stand up on its hind legs when its mater played some sort of instrument and clumsily dance. At other times a German band would appear and play really well, music by good composers. An occasion for wonder was a one man band, the one man having various instruments attached to different parts of him and somehow managed to play them all at once, drum sticks to his elbows, triangles, cymbals, bells on his ankles, pipe to blow and so on. Barrel organs or hurdy gurdys made weekly rounds playing topical tunes. Often accompanied by dark pretty Italian women wearing bright coloured head-scarves and shining ear rings. On or by the organ would be a cage with also colourful "love birds" which we now know as budgerigars. If not birds then there would be a small monkey wearing [f.9] a little suit of scarlet and perhaps a feathered cap. He would hold a tin cup and chatter when a copper was put in.