

the Word, &c. The clergy would visit the station periodically and administer the the Communion. The communicants thus gathered in would be invited once annually, at least, to communicate in the mother church. In this church the Readers were not to officiate. In answer to Archdeacon Wordsworth, the Bishop stated that the "Readers" were not to be addressed as "Reverend" and were to wear the surplice in their ministrations. What was needed was official recognition and status.

The Bishop's statement was listened to with deep attention, exciting lively interest.

### CENTRAL AFRICA.

At a meeting held at Lincoln on behalf of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, Colonel Playfair, who, as Consul at Zanzibar, had been in daily intercourse with Bishop Tozer during the last two years, gave a highly interesting description of Zanzibar and its people. He assured his hearers that the African was not the hopelessly stupid being some persons thought him, but that he could not only be taught to write in a few months, as the copy-books from Bishop Tozer's school, handed round the room, showed; but that he knew some whose intelligence, not only in the acquisition of book-knowledge, but in the acquirement of English games, was quite equal to that of our own boys. He considered that Zanzibar was a hopeful site for the Mission, his reasons for this opinion being the friendliness which the present Sultan had shown to the Mission, its position as the centre from which all trade into the interior flowed, and the protection consequent thereon.

### RUPERT'S LAND.

The Bishop of Rupert's Land has recently completed a visitation tour over more than a thousand miles across the snow. His Lordship, in a letter addressed to the *Christian Knowledge Society* from Bishop's Court Red River Settlement, speaks in terms of much satisfaction of the efforts made since his arrival to get the people to do something for themselves, which, he observes, were succeeding beyond expectation. They had the weekly offertory established in all the ten churches of the settlement, and in one of the Missions in the interior.

The Bishop was about to hold a conference, at the end of May, of the licensed clergy of the diocese, and two lay delegates from each of the four parishes of the settlement, preliminary to the calling of the first Synod of Rupert's Land. His Lordship also contemplates the reusucitation of St. John's College, for educating catechists and teachers for the Missions, and these again as clergymen—as well as for giving a general education. The Bishop considers such an institution an absolute necessity, and if successful, the greatest boon that could be conferred upon the country. "I shall," he adds, "be prepared to take part in the theological instruction, or, if necessary, part of the general course of instruction myself."

### TASMANIA.

The *Church News* for this diocese speaks in terms of great satisfaction of the results of the meeting of the Synod held at Hobart Town in the course of April last: instancing particularly the attempt made to extend into the parishes the ramifications of the agency of the Synod, by the establishment of "Parochial Associations," whose representatives are to have an official place in the Finance Committee of the Synod.