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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

September 18.—14 SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Morning.—2 Kings 9. 2 Cor. 10.
Evening.—2 Kings 10 to v. 32; or 13. Mark 14. 27 to 53.

"DEAD AS THE DODO," Darwin's theory of the origin of species has been pronounced in recent tractates. Sir Archibald Geikie points out that the challenge—to find a single new species, as a proof of evolution—is yet unanswered. The seeds and plants of ancient and modern Egypt are identical.

"WITH HIS USUAL POINT (says the *Guardian*), Mr. Goldwin Smith has replied to Mr. Blake. What Canada got after the rebellion of 1841 was not Home Rule, but independence. She is independent in fact: and if she wished it, might be independent in name." Would this do for Ireland?

"CHRISTIAN SCIENCE" DOES NOT BELIEVE IN BOILS!
—They allege that to say a *boil is painful* is untrue and absurd, because matter without mind is not painful. The boil simply manifests your belief in pain through inflammation and swelling, and you call this belief a boil. Would this creed have comforted the Egyptians?

"THE INSPIRATION OF SELECTION," usually supposed to be a happy phrase of the late Canon Liddon's, appears as early as 1860 in a sermon of the late Archbishop Magee (in the volume recently published, "*Christ the Light of all Holy Scripture*"), and the idea of such inspiration being real was accepted by him thirty years ago.

THE NUN OF KENMARE is after Fr. Thurston and his pamphlet on the Roman *pallium*. She has discovered the omission in the quoted oath of allegiance to the Pope, of certain words about "persecuting and attacking heretics and schismatics."

The oath seems to have been recently "toned down" for political reasons, in England.

STILL THEY GO! In the columns of the *Algoma Missionary News* there is a thoughtful article on the causes which lead to the frequent removals of clergymen from such a region as Algoma. The fact seems to be that, after a while, even missionaries get fagged out by surrounding disadvantages and seek better places. That is all!

SEVEN YEARS' DESERTION is vulgarly supposed to prove death and justify re-marriage. It does the latter legally if proper search has been made in vain for the deserter, but the deserter may turn up at any time—like Enoch Arden—and the second marriage is thus proved a mistake and a nullity. Those who re-marry must take this risk.

REV. W. CROMPTON OF MUSKOKA—everybody has heard of the energetic "Lancashire lad" who devoted so many years of mature life to evangelizing the wilds about his Canadian home—has found another partner for life in his native land. The marriage was recently performed on the Isle of Ely by Archdeacon Bedford-Jones of Brockville.

"PREDESTINED AND FOREDOOMED to irreparable disaster and disgrace," said Mr. Chaplin in his speech at the triumph of the Gladstone party in the English house of Commons, "is a party to whom the still small voice of conscience has whispered that for the sake of party and political gain, they have betrayed the highest interests of their country." A severe indictment!

THE "GRAND OLD" POET—Tennyson—has recently reached his 83rd birthday, a few months only in advance of Gladstone. Somersby Rectory in Lincolnshire, the place of his birth, should, it has been suggested, be purchased and preserved by his proud and grateful country as a memorial of him. Every relic of Schiller is carefully preserved in Germany.

IRISH "PRIMITIVE METHODISTS."—Fermanagh—according to report in the *Fermanagh Times*—has the enviable distinction of being the central point where the old and original form of Methodism survives. At the conference held last June at Maguire's Bridge, the pastor of the parish presided, and the preacher (at the parish church) was Vice-President Canon O'Leary.

MUST WE GIVE UP EVENSONG?—It is becoming really too Romish, for the Roman Catholic Church in London is going in for *congregational singing in English* in lieu of the ordinary Vespers. The same argument(?) which applies to surpliced choirs—which the Romanists borrowed from us—applies now to our English evensong. Evensong must go—or the argument: probably the latter.

THE ONLY JUSTIFICATION OF DIVORCE, or rather nullification of marriage, viz., impurity before marriage, has the weight of Dollinger's great name. He positively denies that the word (*Porneia*) can be used or ever was used of post-marital unfaithfulness, and alleges that it only applies to unmarried persons. S. Matthew, therefore, reports it as a bar to marriage, and the only effective "solvent" of the tie.

"PARSONS FLEECE," is the heading for a vigorous editorial in the *Rock* aimed against the exorbitant

fees of English ecclesiastical officials. "There is a small tribe of hungry leeches which prey upon parsons. They are known by various titles, such as Chancellors, Registrars, Diocesan Surveyors, Official Principals, and Bishops' Secretaries." The *Rock* advises that bishops should do their own work and—pay for it!

SOUND SCIENCE.—The address of Sir Archibald Geikie, as President of the British Association, at Edinburgh, has a distinctly *solid* and healthy tone. It points out to enthusiastic theorists how little scientists really know and how widely their theories of Geology, Evolution, the World's Age, and various kindred subjects, differ from one another. A volcanic eruption or an earthquake scatters their "calculations" to the wind!

"THE MELLOW RING OF THAT FREE AND NOBLE SPEECH" are the apt words of a reference to Archbishop Magee's oratory occurring in a note of Archbishop Benson by way of preface to the former's *Growth in Grace*, etc., just published by Isbister. The sermons surprise one on examination by their logical vigour and exactness as well as by the singular eloquence which those who have heard him preach can recognize.

THE BIBLE IN THE UNITED STATES.—Commenting on the last report of the American Bible Society, *Church Bells* notes:—"The fact is that the Bible, either as the Holy Scriptures or as a priceless and inexhaustible literary treasure, has practically no place in the elementary, intermediate or advanced schemes of education in the United States. From both the common schools and the colleges it is virtually banished."

EPISCOPAL INCOMES.—A great deal can be said for the arrangement which prevails in some dioceses, and is attracting considerable attention, that the incomes of bishops should be proportioned to that of their clergy, being raised as a *per centage* upon the latter. Where there is a "General Fund," of course this is easily managed. Bishops with large independent incomes are apt to prove unsympathetic towards the poorer clergy.

"CARVED OUT OF BRITAIN'S SIDE," says Mr. Goldwin Smith in a recent letter to the *Mail* "would Ireland be—an independent and hostile nation." The learned professor by this admirable letter—showing the folly of dismemberment of the British Empire—has not only done credit to his perspicacity, but earned the gratitude of all who strive to oppose the madness of the Gladstone and Blake combination.

CATASTROPHES AND MIRACLES belong to the same class of phenomena from the scientific point of view—earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, etc., proceed from causes whose operation cannot be calculated upon either as to force of time or consequences. They are beyond our present ken, and leap upon the scene without apparent law or order to interrupt the ordinary course of experience in mundane routine. They are recurrent miracles.

A FOUL BIRD.—We had occasion to animadvert rather severely on the pulpit indecencies of a half-fledged pulpit orator south of the Lakes. We are unhappily too familiar with a class of politicians who try to rise into prominence by belittling their country. We know he is happily the only example as yet