

Dominion Churchman.

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LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

May 25...WHITSUN-DAY.—
Morning...Deut. 16 to v 18. Romans 8 to v 18.
Proper Psalms 48, 68. Athanasian Creed.
In Communion service, Proper Preface till 3rd inclu.
Evening...Isa. 11, or Ezek. 36, v 25. Gal. 5, v 16, or
Proper Psalms 104, 145. [Acts 18, v 24, to 19, 21.
26...MONDAY IN WHITSUN-WEEK:—
Morning...Gen. 11 to v 10. 1 Cor. 12 to v 14.
Evening...Num. 11, v 16 to 31. 1 Cor. 12, v 27, & 13.
30...TUESDAY IN WHITSUN-WEEK:—
Morning...Joel 2, v 21. 1 Thess. 5, v 12.
Evening...Micah 4 to v 6. 1 St. John 4 to v 14 to 24.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1882.

THE Raikes' Memorial church in the city of Gloucester has been begun. The Mayor laid the foundation stone. The proceedings began with a service at the cathedral, where a sermon was preached by the Dean of Llandaff.

St. Mary's, Newton Solney, is one of the most interesting churches in Derbyshire, and has been carefully restored at a cost of £9,700, raised chiefly through the liberality of Mr. R. Ratcliff, the patron. The Bishop of Lichfield conducted the re-opening services which were largely attended.

The assassinations of Lord Cavendish, and Mr. Burke continue as great a mystery as ever, and the police are said to despair of finding a clue to the discovery of the perpetrators. Mr. Parnell says they probably belong to some branch of the Fenian organization; and he most likely knows: if not, Mr. O'Donovan Rossa assuredly does.

Rome keeps pretty well to her old lines. Monsignor Capel lately published a pamphlet on the desirability of diplomatic relations between the Queen of England and the Pope of Rome. The following is a specimen of the Monsignors' arguments:—"The Pope has a supreme jurisdiction over the people of God. He can stop the ordinary course of sacramental mercies. . . and he can remove again the ban. It is the rule of Christ's providence that what His Vicar does in severity or mercy on earth, He Himself confirms in heaven. The individual Catholic knows. . . that every blessing that comes to his soul is derived ultimately from Christ's Vicegerent. Therefore kings of the earth who have despotic authority, which their subjects obey in deed, but disown in their hearts. But we must never murmur at that absolute rule which the sovereign Pontif has over us, because it is given him by Christ, and in obeying him we are obeying the Lord. . . . He has the responsibility of his own acts, not we; and to his Lord must he render account, not to us even in secular matters,

it is ever safe to be on his side, dangerous to be on the side of his enemies."

The festival of the choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester will be held at Hereford during a whole week, commencing September 12th. The preliminary arrangements have been made, and several oratorios to be given are announced.

The Bishop of Manchester states that there are in his diocese seventy benefices having each an annual income of less than £200. He proposes to raise a fund extending over seven years to apply to these parishes. The Bishop actually considers it a matter of very great importance for the clergy to be relieved from the incubus of financial embarrassment, which, he says, seriously affects their usefulness.

Now that the science of statistics has become so popular, it has become interesting to institute comparisons which formerly were but little made. For instance—in London the total number of churches is now 907, as against 620 in 1869. Of these 488 have a weekly celebration of the Holy Communion, an increase of 384 in thirteen years; 46 have daily Communion; 150 choral celebrations; 268 daily service; 476 surpliced choirs; 319 free seats; 37 eucharistic vestments; 10 incense; 59 altar lights; and 270 the eastward Position. The use of incense seems to be declining; as, in 1876, eighteen churches were returned as using it: on every other point there is a steady increase.

The Dean of Wells, the Rev. Dr. Plumtre, proposes to submit to the lower House of Convocation at its next meeting:—"1, That the Act of Uniformity, as far as it concerns the Ornaments Rubric, be repealed. 2, That the Convocation of the two provinces of Canterbury and York should apply to the Crown for leave to frame a canon regulating the dress and ornaments of the clergy and others taking part in the public worship of the Church. 3, That the canon to be so framed should provide (1) that the clergy shall wear at all times of their ministrations, over their ordinary apparel a cassock black or coloured, and the hood belonging to their academical status, and, where there is no such status, a decent black hood, not of silk; and (2) that lay persons taking part in public worship may wear over their ordinary apparel or over a cassock, black or coloured, a white linen garment with sleeves.

The second annual conference of theological professors, bishops' chaplains, and representatives of theological colleges, was held in the chapter-house of Christ church, Oxford, April 12th and 13th. Canon Ince, the Regius Professor of Divinity, presided, supported by the Margaret Professor of Divinity, the Archdeacon of Oxford, the Cambridge Regius Professor of Divinity, and others, including the Rev. Prebendary Gibson, of Wells Theological College. Representatives were also present from numerous other colleges and schools. The principal thing of general interest, was an expression that there should be a uniform system of inquiry into the fitness of all candidates, whether graduates or non-graduates, so that no men likely to do good service shall be excluded, while those who have failed in entering Holy Orders through one

avenue should not, by any negligence, be allowed to obtain easy excess through another.

It is authoritatively stated that since the remission of the appeal in the case of Martin v. Mackonochie from the Judicial Committee to the Arches Court no proceedings have been taken by Martin. Judgment was given on the 22nd of February, and notice have been given on the part of Mr. Mackonochie that steps will be taken in the event of an application being made by Mr. Martin. Unless the promoter proceeds the case will collapse.

The annual conference of the clergy and laity in the Archdeaconry of Salop was held at Shrewsbury, the Bishop of Lichfield presiding. After the celebration of the Holy Communion, his Lordship delivered an address, which was followed by a discussion of the following topics; 1, How can all classes of the people best be reached by the Church in town and country places? 2, What is wanted in our parishes in order to give more general and steady assistance to our foreign missions? 3, Village reading and coffee rooms as parochial agencies.

The second session of the fourth synod of the diocese of Salisbury was opened by the Bishop in the Chapter-house at Salisbury, April 19th. More than three hundred clerical and lay members were present, including the Earl of Eldon, Earl Nelson, Lords Heytesbury and Ashley, the Archdeacons of Sarum, Wilts, and Dorset, the Dean of Salisbury, and many influential heads of families in the counties of Wilts and Dorset. The Bishop who is in his 80th year preached with great force and ability.

M. Monsabre in his Lent lectures at Notre Dame cathedral defended Papal infallibility and the Inquisition. M. Hyacinthe Loyson has been moved thereby to challenge the Dominican orator to a public discussion on these points; asserting that he himself, when occupying the same pulpit, preached a very different Catholicism, and that M. Monsabre's doctrines would not have been tolerated by any previous Archbishops of Paris or by monarchical governments. M. Monsabre suggests a private conversation on the subject as preferable to a public discussion.

New Zealand is rapidly establishing for more than a merely ornamental claim to the title of the England of the Pacific. Her commercial activity and innate resources as a consuming and commercial community are rapidly placing her in the centre of the Pacific trade. This trade extends to America; and should the Panama canal ever become a reality, it will be important for New Zealand to establish a coaling station somewhere half-way across the Pacific. But France is seizing or acquiring a suzerainty over one island after another in the Pacific Ocean.

When the late Earl of Beaconsfield purchased the Suez canal shares, it was somewhat extensively felt that for an English Premier to meddle in anything like stock jobbing would be sure to involve the nation in trouble as well as in loss. Events have proved however that, from a financial as well as a national point of view the purchase of the