

protest—drawn up by Romanists exclusively! Perhaps they realize that they are getting too much of a good thing, or else that those who thus come to the surface among themselves are not the cream, but the scum. Perhaps, even, they may be moved by a spirit of fairness.

BEYOND EXPECTATION has been the success attending Baron Hirsch's philanthropic and patriotic efforts to colonize his fellow Jews in the Argentine Republic. The Colonization Society started in 1881 with a capital of £2,000,000. Some 6,000 or 7,000 Jews are now settled there, and the time is approaching for the introduction of some organized form of internal self-government. The wheat area alone represents £30,000, or about 7 p. c. on the capital advanced thus far.

#### THE BISHOP OF ALGOMA.

The rumours lately current about the health and probable retirement of Bishop Sullivan suggest a topic which ought to arrest and hold the very serious attention of the Church public: for his case is one of peculiar features. It is the case of a gentleman who a few years ago was of robust health, splendid physique, brilliant oratorical talents, polished and refined qualities, capable of shining brightly, and wielding powerful influence in the highest social and intellectual circles. An impulse—which many at the time regarded as quixotic in a very high degree—suddenly results in his acceptance of the equally sudden impulse of popular election to make him Bishop in the extreme backwoods of Canada. There was perhaps a vague idea that such splendid talents must do splendid work anywhere. The result seems to have proved that the experiment was much like what it would have been to banish W. E. Gladstone fifty years ago to chop trees in the same backwoods. There was *no sphere* for the exercise of those splendid talents: a much "rougher diamond" would have done the work as well—perhaps better! We see now a most valuable officer of the Church sacrificed in an uncongenial sphere, shattered by hardships of unaccustomed kind, torn by anxieties as to matters hitherto unfamiliar to him, rendered (for the time being) incapable of work, and possibly permanently affected with serious injury. For a decade or so, his great powers have been almost lost to the Church at large, and it will be very difficult—to say the least—to save so much of the remainder left as may still be useful. Do not these facts advertise the truth of the saying about "putting round men in square holes," etc? Such a diocese as Algoma surely requires a young, vigorous, "rough and ready" specimen of the Episcopal order, who can stand, and *enjoy and thrive on physical hardships.*

#### "MORE BISHOPS!"

It is not the first time, by a long way, that some such heading has adorned these columns. Indeed, we take credit to ourselves for contributing very largely to the wholesome agitation of a matter which—if one can read the signs of the times—is soon "coming to a head," and destined to eliminate a serious quantity of unwholesome influences, very detrimental to the healthy and vigorous action of the Church. We refer, of course, to the condition of the *Canadian Church*, though the same kinds of evil are too rife not to have their manifestations in plenty elsewhere. The tendency of the Christian world has been, perhaps, to contrast the numerical force of the Episcopate and raise its *personnel* to the highest pitch of excellence.

#### ENGLAND IS AN EXAMPLE.

Her prelates are of the highest order of men, the very flower of the nation, the cream of social and intellectual circles in Britain, the glory and envy of the world of Christendom. But they are "few and far between"—such men are necessarily very limited in number, they cannot be gathered by handfuls. No wonder that members of the English Episcopal Bench, when they speak on the subject at all, are disposed rather to deprecate any great increase of their numbers or any great contraction of the size of their dioceses—any great lessening of the quantity of their cares. For the sake of the *dignity and weight* inherent in the present system, they are content to overburden themselves—very seriously—with the innumerable details involved in the care of hundreds of clergy and parishes.

#### HOW ABOUT THE CHURCH?

Is the Church at large really better off in the long run for all this dignity and prestige attaching to the present state of the English Episcopate? Is it too much to say that *nine-tenths* of the Episcopal work that might be done is left undone, because there are not enough Bishops to do it? We trow not. Any amount of dignity and worth and high estimation in the existing *personnel* of the Episcopate, *cannot compensate* for the "aching void" represented by work left undone. A large proportion of the energy of the Catholic Church is concentrated in that part of her machinery called the Episcopate: and if this be tied up in nine-tenths of its area or capacity, the Church must suffer proportionately. Other religious bodies with less perfect machinery (theoretically), but action for it more full and free—go ahead!

#### THE BALANCE NEEDS TO BE RELEASED.

We have had, for generations past, too much dignity and prestige and respectability—too little activity, energy and work. It is full time to see this matter right. Population has so increased while this machinery remained a mere "pony engine" that the abuses and evils have become intolerable. There is a wide-spread cry for relief and speedy cure. The principles so cherished "at headquarters" in Britain have permeated the colonies more or less. There has been a constant "pull" between the desire to furnish a *full supply* of Bishops to cover the ground effectually, and a fear of "lowering the grade" of the Episcopate by making its dignities *too common*, too familiar, too ordinary, too frequent. This fear has had too much sway with us: let it retire to the rear!

#### THE CHURCH IS AWAKENING.

There are, here and there, "straws" which show that the Church is slowly becoming aware of the serious mistake hitherto, for a long time past, made in regard to this matter. The division of a diocese, the addition of a suffragan Bishop, is hailed everywhere with unconcealed delight. Even the rather "prohibitory" figures for the endowment of a new diocese which have been set up among us, have not deterred the Diocese of Ontario—for instance—from getting already within measurable distance of the desired subdivision. Laymen have come forward with an alacrity and liberality there which must have surprised themselves, these hard times. They show that even the "heavy duty," so to speak, levied by the episcopal government on this article of Church use, cannot prevent them procuring it. They pay the tax!

#### SUCH EXAMPLES ARE CONTAGIOUS.

We trust that several other unwieldy dioceses,

that we could name between Atlantic and Pacific, are destined soon to see a similar treatment. We invite our correspondents who experience more or less the evils of the present state of things to dip into the discussion of this question in our columns. Let us have it out. If there are two sides, let them face one another fearlessly and bravely till we reach the solid foundation of agreement. There must be a line somewhere within reach, capable of being defined, between too few Bishops and too many. We grant that "too many" is a possible contingency: but let us find out where it lies and avoid it in time.

#### REVIEWS.

THE SUPERNATURAL IN CHRISTIANITY. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark; Toronto: Willard Tract Depository, 1894.

This is a small volume, containing three lectures in answer to the recent Gifford Lectures, delivered at Edinburgh by Professor Pfeiderer of Berlin. Dr. Pfeiderer is an eminent scholar and thinker; but it was a little strange to find him lecturing under the patronage of the University of Edinburgh, and denying utterly the supernatural character of the Christian religion. The real question is brought out in the first lecture by Principal Rainy. Dr. Orr, in the second lecture, shows the extreme nature of Pfeiderer's contention, that there is no such thing as a supernatural revelation or a miracle, specially remarkable as coming from a Theist, and Dr. Marcus Dods, in the last lecture, defends the Gospel record. The preface by Professor Charteris is brief but excellent. This book is not merely useful for the hearers of Dr. Pfeiderer, but will be read with interest and advantage everywhere and by everybody.

THE EUCHARISTIC OFFERING. (Skeffington).

This is the title of a useful volume by Professor Walpole of New York. The writer has in view a devotional rather than a doctrinal purpose; yet the latter is not neglected. He begins by setting forth the double aspect of the Sacrament of the Altar as a sacrificial offering and communion; and he furnishes a practical manual, founded upon the structure of the office, worked out with great insight and care, which cannot fail to be serviceable to all who approach the Altar with intelligence and devotion.

THE HOOSIER SCHOOLMASTER. By Edward Eggleston. New York: Orange Judd Co.; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

A cheap edition of this well-known brilliant and interesting story has been published in an attractive and neat form, making it most suitable for Libraries and Sunday-schools.

MAGAZINES.—*The Expository Times* for April has much that will be practically useful to teachers and preachers. Some good remarks on Inspiration are given in the Notes of Recent Exposition. Professor Davidson gives an introductory paper of a series that promises to be of great value on the theology of Isaiah. A useful feature is a department for answers to questions on Biblical difficulties. The Greek Text Commentary deals with a text great indeed, 1 St. John iv. 8. The April number of *The Pulpit* contains quite a number of complete sermons by master minds of all denominations, including such topics as "Abraham and Isaac," by Rev. J. Wesley Johnston, D.D., of Brooklyn; "The Present Craze for Non-Continuance," by Rev. S. S. Mitchell, D.D., of Buffalo; "Our Conversation," by Rev. F. A. Noble, D.D., of Chicago; "The Old Faith," by Rev. M. C. Lockwood, D.D., of Cincinnati; "Seeking and Finding God," by Rev. C. Scadding, of Toledo; "The New Communion," by Rev. Dr. Lang, of Glasgow; and others of equal interest. One dollar a year, 10 cents a copy. Edwin Rose, Publisher, Buffalo, N.Y.

There are some people who think that sermon is the best which misses them and hits their neighbours.