

rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

STAFFORD.—On Sunday, Feb. 28th, the Rev. J. P. Smitheman exchanged services with the Rev. H. Charlton, of Beachburg. Mr. Charlton being only a deacon, Mr. Smitheman went to Beachburg to administer the Holy Communion. During Lent the Rev. J. P. Smitheman proposes to give a series of six lectures on the history of the Church, in St. Stephen's Church. The first lecture was delivered on Wednesday, March 2nd; the subject was "The Church of the First 300 Years." The following are the titles of the lectures to be delivered on the five following Wednesdays:—March 9th, "The Council of Nicea to Gregory the Great." March 16th, "Conversion of Europe, the Holy Roman Empire." March 23rd, "The Medieval Church." March 30th, "The Church During the Reformation." April 6th, "The Church from the Reformation to the Present Time." Each lecture to commence at 7 p.m. "Truth is great and will prevail."

FRANKTOWN.—The Rev. R. B. Waterman arrived in Franktown on Thursday, 10th inst., accompanied by the Rev. Rural Dean Nesbitt, who came over from Smith's Falls to introduce the new rector to his parishioners. Mr. Waterman began his duties here on Sunday morning, by holding Morning Prayer in the parish church, preaching an earnest sermon on "Life with Christ." He also announced that there would be week-day services during Lent, and urged upon his hearers the necessity of doing their best to make Lent a season of blessing to themselves and those outside the church. Owing to the recent storm, it was impossible to make connections on Sunday between Franktown and the Churches of St. John and St. Bede. At the present time the roads are blocked with snow, in some places almost five feet in depth. Such a storm has not visited these parts for many years.

TORONTO.

St. James' Cathedral.—The noon addresses at this church are exceedingly earnest and practical, and are attended by increasing numbers. We recommend them to all Church people as a source of instruction and refreshment during the slight interval which is allowed them from business distractions. Canon DuMoulin is preaching a course of sermons on Sunday mornings during Lent on "Prayer."

St. Anne's.—A missionary service was held in this church on Sunday evening, 18th inst. After the shortened form of evening service, with special collects for missions, Mr. Kirkpatrick delivered an instructive address on the subject of Diocesan Missions. He showed the need for funds, arising from a variety of causes, e.g., removal of populations from country to city, &c., and suggested a systematic offering on the part of every man, woman and child, of the congregation to meet the need. Rev. Mr. Lewis followed with an earnest address, in which he said there were two things incumbent on all true Christians; first, to live a holy life, a matter especially impressed upon Church-people during the Lenten season, and secondly, to spread the Gospel, which was the guide to right living, and the source of so many blessings of which civilization and Christianity could boast. With respect to this latter he said the work was both tremendous and imperative. He then showed that the work was tremendous because of the vast millions of heathen, the rapid increase of those millions, and the almost innumerable difficulties of a general character, which the servant of Christ in the mission fields had to encounter. The work was imperative, because it was the Divine purpose that God and His love for man should be universally made known, because it was the Son of God's express command to His soldiers and servants that they should do this work, because it was the natural work of human brotherhood, both natural and Christian, and last, because it was a duty in view of the benefits so abundantly received through the self-sacrificing labours of others before them. The speaker then showed from statistics how this tremendous and imperative work was being done, both in England and in this country, and earnestly besought his hearers to remove the reproach which too clearly attached to us as Christians in not giving more to the cause than has heretofore been given.

Wycliffe Missions.—At the missionary meeting last Thursday afternoon, Rev. H. J. Hamilton presided. Mrs. Hodgins, wife of the ex-Deputy Minister of Education, read a paper on the history of the Church of England's missions in Rupert's Land from the arrival of Mr. West in 1820 till the present time. A paper on missionary work in Africa, with special reference to the work in Uganda, was also presented.

TORONTO JUNCTION.—Rev. C. C. Miles, rector of St. John's Church, has resumed his pastoral work after a three months' holiday.

NIAGARA.

MERRITTON.—St. James' Church was entirely destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock last Wednesday night. A committee meeting had been held in the evening, and it is supposed the fire originated through the hot air apparatus. It was a frame structure, and burned with such rapidity that only a portion of the contents could be removed. The loss is estimated at about \$3,000; insured for \$2,500 in the Aetna and Citizens.

British and Foreign.

Dr. Alexander, the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, sailed for Liverpool in the "Teutonic," on the 5th. He will deliver lectures at Columbia and Harvard during his stay in this country.

A movement has been set on foot in Belfast for the purpose of creating a permanent memorial of the late Rev. Hugh Hanna, D.D., LL.D. All classes are joining in the movement. What shape the memorial will take has not yet been decided on.

At its formal annual meeting recently, at 19 Delahay-street, the income of the S.P.G. in 1891 was reported as amounting to £116,520. While there was a decrease under the head of legacies, the subscriptions to the Society had increased, as compared with the previous year, by £1,100.

For twenty-five years there has not been a public "May Meeting" in connection with the S.P.C.K. It has, however, been resolved to revive these gatherings, and the first will be held on May 20th, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Rev. Dr. Edward A. Bradley, who for many years has been the hard-working and successful rector of St. Luke's Church, Brooklyn, has been asked, by Fraternity corporation, on nomination of the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, to be a senior assistant of Trinity parish, in charge of the new St. Agnes' Chapel. It is understood that the salary offered is \$10,000 (£2,000.)

At the instance of the Funeral Reform Association, the Bishop of Chester has sanctioned the use in his diocese of an alternative order for the burial of infants and very young children, at the request of the relatives, friends, or legal representative of the deceased child.

The Marquis of Bute has sent a cheque for £20 towards the restoration of Llanthony Abbey parish church, of which the Rev. Lewis Lewis is the vicar. The work is going to be commenced immediately.

A suggestion has been made in Limerick, and has been received with much favour, that the Freemasons of the city might restore the western front of St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, as a most suitable memorial to their late beloved Provincial Grand Master, Sir James Spaight, who was a zealous and intelligent Churchman. It is pointed out that English Freemasons offer an excellent example in such work.

The democracy of the Church is well illustrated in the recent appointment of bishops in England. Dr. Bardsley, the Bishop designate of Carlisle, is the son or grandson of a working-man, while Archdeacon Straton, the new Bishop of Sodor and Man, claims his descent through both his parents from the Duke of York, who was captured and afterwards slain at the battle of Wakefield, in 1460.

At a recent meeting of the Stratford-on-Avon Auxiliary, Sir Arthur Hodgson, K.C.M.G., said that it had been his privilege to spend the best and happiest years of his life in a distant colony, and he had seen the working of the Bible Society to some considerable extent. He had visited the islands of the South Pacific where missionary work had been carried on so successfully for many years. He believed the Bible Society was daily growing in popularity. Anybody who thought of the subject must feel the great amount of good the Society conferred on the whole civilised world.

The increasing circulation of the Scriptures in Italy is significant. In 1888 the returns in connection with the Society's work were over 139,000; this was the largest till that date. In 1890 the figures

were close on 154,000, and the agent's report just received shows a further increase in the issues for last year of 18,000 copies. This is welcome and important intelligence. The returns from the Russian agency—North and South Russia, with parts of Central Asia and Siberia—are also good, amounting to over half-a-million copies. Of this the northern countries have taken 360,000, and the southern and Asiatic 154,000. There are few countries in which the increasing popularisation of the Bible means more than in the Italy of Victor Emmanuel and the dominions of the Czar.

Here is a recent extract from the journal of a French colporteur—a glimpse, and with some significance, of the people's life and mind: "The fruits of the Roman Catholic system are very visible here and very sad; disgusted with religion, people turn away from God, and when we come they think it is the same thing. Children are generally willing to buy 'portions,' but with Bibles it is different. Many communes are often visited before a single Bible can be sold. At one 50 portions were sold, and 301 in the course of the month. At L—, after I had spoken to a numerous crowd, a young man observed that it was not possible that I should be a reformed Protestant, because I abstained from using injurious expressions against the priests. I do not wish to be associated, were it only apparently, with those scoffers and unbelievers who desire to make the priests responsible for their unbelief."

On a recent Sunday the Pope's lengthy Encyclical to the French Bishops was read in all the churches of the country. It is regarded as a "snub" for the Bishops. The Pope has pointed out to Roman Catholics in France that it is their duty to submit to the Government chosen by the country. Leo XIII. is silent about the document of the Cardinals, and even while condemning certain laws of which the Church complains, he points out that Roman Catholics have no right to base on those grievances the justification of a revolutionary opposition to the Government of their country, taking pains to show that the Republican Government is as legitimate as any other, and going so far as to say that once this Government has been sanctioned by the vote of the nation, it is the duty of all citizens to accept it and to attempt nothing which would tend to overturn it or to change its form. Political feeling is likely to cause a split in the Roman camp.

The Clergy Friendly Society.—The tenth annual meeting of the above mentioned society was held recently at the church vestry of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, which, by permission of the Rev. William Rogers, has been the registered office of the society since its establishment in 1892. The object of the society is to enable the clergy to secure an allowance at the rate of one guinea or two guineas a week during sickness. It was reported that the number of members on December 31, 1891, was 140, that the claims for sick pay during the year amounted to £96, and that the balance in hand stood at £1,988, of which £1,919 was invested in Government securities. The society has recently been valued by Mr. Wyatt, actuary of the Clergy Mutual Assurance Society, who reported favourably upon its financial position.

A proposal has been made for the establishment of a Missionary Bishopric to comprise practically the whole of Northern Australia west of the Gulf of Carpentaria. By this arrangement the Bishop of Adelaide would be relieved of the "Northern Territory" (a part of the Colony of South Adelaide, which he says he is "utterly unable to work"), and the Bishop of Perth of the northern portion of his diocese down to the 26th parallel of latitude. At present the diocese of Perth embraces an area of 1,060,000 square miles, and it is satisfactory to know that, by the Society's aid, Church work is rapidly extending with the new era of progress on which the Colony has entered.

The Rev. T. J. Welland, D.D., the popular incumbent of St. Thomas's, Belfast, has been elected by the Diocesan Synod of the Bishopric of Down and Connor and Dromore, left vacant by the death of the aged Dr. Reeves. No less than 196 clergy and 309 laity took part in the voting, which throughout was largely in favour of Dr. Welland, though the claims of the Dean of Dromore (Dr. Murray), Canon Crozier, and the Archdeacon (Meade) of Armagh received considerable support. Considerably more than the necessary two-thirds of the final votes of clergy and laity having been accorded to Dr. Welland, he was declared duly elected; but in any case, as the voting had stood, his name would have had to be placed before the Bench of Bishops. The *Irish Times* speaks of the new Bishop as an admirable preacher, with great parochial experience, and in perfect sympathy with Church opinion in Ulster.