

Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1878.

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THE WEEK.

THE *Saturday Review* has some exceedingly pertinent remarks on the recent Lambeth Conference which may be pondered with advantage:—The Lambeth Conference has, with laudable promptitude, published the summary of its conclusions, which fully carries out the expectation which was expressed upon its assembling, that its deliberations would be of a practical character. It had not been convoked to ratify with real or seeming unanimity any strange dogma or novel pretension. Its task was neither to push forward nor to retract such prerogatives as the Anglican Church already possessed or desired to make good in the face of the civil polity. Rather its task was to make abstraction of civil accidents, and calmly review those opportunities of moral and religious good which appertain to the spiritual mission of the body for which it claimed to speak. Composed as it was of representatives of several communities, each possessed of a legal status differing from that of all others, although joined together by spiritual but very appreciable bonds of union, it recognized its inability to enact formally binding canons, and it had the prudence accordingly to confine itself to recommendations with which each of those communities is at liberty, according to its constitution, to deal in a formal way. Being a gathering of Bishops of churches in communion with each other, precisely because they all hold the episcopal regimen, and supplement their paramount reliance on Scripture by referring to the creeds and the other conclusions of the Primitive Church, the Conference does not scruple to say so. By this acknowledgement, it will no doubt subject itself to the sneers or criticisms of the Romanist, who looks on Anglicanism as schism dashed with heresy, of the ultra-protestant, who taunts it as Popery diluted, and of all those loosely-hanging members of its own body, who stick to it in spite of, not because of, its destructive positions. Candid men, however, whether or not they are Anglicans, must own that so long as any body, spiritual or secular, continues to exist for the proclamation and furtherance of any opinions, the honest course is not to be afraid to proclaim them. Neither Romanism nor Wesleyanism has ever made the mistake of supposing that shamming the

beliefs of any other community makes it popular with the persons whom it endeavors to court.

In reference to the Conference as a permanent "Institution" the *Review* concludes its article with this aspiration: We very heartily concur in the desire that that which has so signally falsified the hopes of its enemies and the fears of its timid friends may be recognized and perpetuated at intervals of time sufficiently distant to make its gatherings realities, and with improvements in its procedure dictated by the experience of 1867 and 1878. The complaints which, with more or less foundation, have been made about the migratory habits of colonial bishops, can certainly not be brought up against reunions separated from each other by spaces of some ten years, for a work so self-evidently useful and intelligible as mutual deliberation between men whose experience is as various as the climate or natural productions of the various colonies and federated States in which they are chief pastors.

The Yellow Fever scourge in the Southern States is becoming alarming, and has spread to a considerable extent; and while sympathy is shown in the Northern States for the victims of it, yet such is the state of feeling in the South, that the whites show no compassion for the negroes, and the negroes none for the whites. Whatever may have been gained in the first instance by the transportation of slave labor there, the curse has in every respect, far outweighed any gain that could have resulted from it. And if the scourge which is now accomplishing so much devastation should continue to increase, it may entail large and important changes in the political constitution of the regions where it prevails. A few facts are sufficient to show that it is no ordinary visitation. In Grenada, Miss., we are told the misery defies description; for the dead are actually buried in front of the houses where they breathed their last. Canton, Miss., is depopulated; only one hundred people are left out of a population of three thousand five hundred. The quarantined towns are all suffering from want of the common necessaries of life. There were 311 deaths from yellow fever in New Orleans last week. At Memphis the disease is rapidly spreading. About three thousand dollars have been subscribed in Chicago for the relief of the sufferers; and in New York, five thousand dollars. The Howard Association expend twenty thousand dollars daily for nurses and other purposes. Philadelphia has raised over seven thousand dollars for the relief of the sufferers.

The Bishop of Gibraltar is to have charge of any interests the Church of England will have in Cyprus. When the Bishopric of Gibraltar was founded, it was specially provided that the Bishop should "superintend the British congregations in Gibraltar and

Malta, and on the shores and in the islands of the Mediterranean Sea." The Bishop has already arranged to visit Cyprus during the autumn. There are, of course, Christian churches on the island with which the Bishop will in no way interfere. The Bishop has requested the Military Chaplain, who has been commissioned by the Chaplain General to minister to the British troops now in Cyprus, to minister also to such civilian members of the Church of England as may be in need of his services, until a civil chaplain is appointed for the purpose.

The Church Missionary Society in England has just sent out twenty missionaries—fourteen of whom go forth for the first time. Six are sent to Africa, nine to India; one each to China, Japan, and North America, and two to New Zealand. They were advised first of all, to devote their entire energies to the acquisition of the language of the places to which they were respectively to go, otherwise they are instructed that their missionary course must prove a failure. So that whatever may be the pressure of other things around them, they are exhorted not to neglect the close study of the language. They are told that they must not content themselves with being able to pass a creditable examination in it, but to become thoroughly master of it; and, in order to do this, they are exhorted to eschew all interpreters. Then they are to acquaint themselves with the history, literature, religion and habits of the people, and not to be discouraged if at first their labors are not crowned with success.

Some misunderstanding having arisen in regard to allusions made by Mr. Gladstone to the Earl of Beaconsfield's action with reference to the emancipation of the Jews, a member of the Jewish community in Liverpool wrote to Mr. Gladstone on the subject. In his reply he stated that the reports that had been made were inaccurate; and that he had described the Earl of Beaconsfield's conduct in the matter as highly honorable to him. He says "So I think it, and am glad of the opportunity of so describing it."

We are glad to learn from China that there has been a plentiful fall of rain in the northern provinces, and we may fairly hope the worst is over. Still, many lives will be lost in Honan, which is extremely difficult of access. The native authorities are doing what they can, but the want of roads is felt as a serious drawback. It is impossible to pour food into the stricken districts quick enough. The best we can hope for is that late in the autumn of the present year Shansi, Shensi, and Chihli may have righted themselves to the extent that the most favoured parts of Shantung had contrived to do by the beginning of the summer. Still, help is urgently needed to enable the poor people to tide over the interval between the present date (July) and October. At Christ Church,

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