

and making such demands upon our imagination as to stagger at last the initiated."

A modified theory of Darwinism, as applied to the creation of man, was thus dealt with:—

"Some have endeavoured to combine the statements of Scripture with a modified hypothesis of continuous transmutation, by supposing that at a certain epoch in the world's history mental and moral powers were conferred by divine interposition on some animal that had been gradually modified in its bodily structure by natural causes till it took the form of man. As special interposition and special creation are here recognised, I do not see that religion as anything to loose by the adoption of this hypothesis, but neither do I see that science has anything to gain. Once admit special divine interposition, and science has to come to the end of her tether. Those who find the idea helpful can adopt it; but for my own part this combination of the natural and the supernatural seems something grotesque, and I prefer resting in the statement of a special creation."

A discussion ensued in which many Fellows of the Royal Society took part.

The institute is doing a noble work, and deserves every encouragement.

CONNEMARA ORPHANS' NURSERIES.

To many the name of Connemara will be almost an unknown sound; to others it will call the honored names of those with whom it must be forever connected, and will bring back hallowed memories of the faith, the love, and prayer with which the Homes were founded, and carried on, by those whose work on earth is ended, who have fought the fight and won the victory, and are forever with the Lord. Truly the remembrance of the just is blessed, and the righteous shall be had in the everlasting remembrance, and long will it be ere the loved names of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas, and Mr. D'Arcy and their helpers will be forgotten in wild Connemara, or by the orphans now scattered over the Old World and the New.

Dark and ignorant indeed was the state of Western Ireland when they brought the blessed light of God's truth into it; and now many a church and school filled with converts and converts' children testifies that their labour was not in vain in the Lord. But though He has called them home their work is left behind—left to us; to us now the Master says, "Feed my lambs."

Clouds of persecution and sorrow have darkened those happy scenes; old friends have passed away, and amid the troubles of the times English Christians may be in danger forgetting that the only cure for Ireland's woes is the knowledge of the pure Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; and her best hope for a bright future is to train her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. No Feinan, no abettor in bloody murders, has been found among the converts of the Irish Church Missions; and the children in our schools are taught from their earliest years to "fear God and honor the Queen." Since the Nurseries were founded in 1847, amid the terrible scenes of the Irish famine (founded to rescue the desolate orphans from being brought up in the Poor House as Roman Catholics), 800 children have passed through them, and thankfully we can testify that the blessing of our God has abundantly rested on our work.

In all parts of the world our orphans are now earning their bread, living respectable, useful lives. We hear of them and from them constantly. They are soldiers, sailors, tradesmen, teachers, servants, mistresses in parish schools, Scripture readers, etc.; and often do they send from their earnings some little gift towards the funds of the Home which sheltered their earliest years. How our hearts rejoice to be able to say of many of them, "They are soldiers and servants of Christ;" and oh, among the multitude who now surround thy Throne, are many who were once ignorant, destitute orphans, but who learnt in our schools of our Saviour's love and the Saviour's atoning Sacrifice; and who calmly and fearlessly passed through death's dark valley, simply trusting in the blood which cleanseth from all sin.

Seeing, then, that the Lord has worked with us in the past, will not Christian sisters resolve to help us in the future, if only by small sums? Will they not help us to train up our orphans for Eternity; to point them, not to saint or angel, but to the one great Mediator; to tell them of the one High Priest, and His perfect Sacrifice; to bid them in life's dangerous ways take His guide, the Father of the fatherless? Will not they stretch out a helping hand from peaceful England, to those who are bearing the burden and heat of the day in troubled Ireland, and whose means are crippled by circumstances over which they have no control?

We have no thought of giving them up. No; our trust is in the God of the orphan. He has supplied their need for thirty-four years' He will do so still. The means and the ways we know not; we can leave

it all to Him, whose are the silver and the gold. We simply lay the case before His servants.

Besides the ordinary yearly expenses, necessary repairs are greatly needed in the Nurseries. Things will not last forever, as we all know to our cost. The lady who has recently taken charge of the Girl's Orphanage (in the place of the Orphan's long loved and honoured friend, Miss Gore), says, in a recent letter:—

"The walls are in a very poor condition, the plaster being broken down, the stones of the inside walls appearing, the floors of some of the rooms are broken in, the desks falling to pieces, some of the forms and tables having collapsed altogether, the windows of the school-room and the dormitories are completely broken in, and the large patches of brown paper are not proof against the storms. We shall be obliged, at all risks, to have these windows replaced before winter. I should like to get some orders for knitted stockings at 1s. a pair. Our great wish is to train the girls to work, not as eye-servants; and great care is taken to impress upon them the fact, that all their daily work should be done as unto the Lord, carrying out into practice the doctrines taught in school."

May we not say to those whose eyes may fall upon these words, "Will you not help us, for the sake of Him who was rich and for us became poor, who has said, 'Whosoever shall receive a little child in My Name receiveth Me?'" Do not say, "We have little power to help;" by small sums (often collected by children), the Nurseries have been mostly supported in times past. For years £1 was sent us by a servant, who spent little on herself, and who often remarked that she "had known what it was to be poor." She lived in one place for more than forty years, and when she died, left as her parting gift to the Nurseries the sum of £148.

And, oh, still more than your help, we ask your prayers—prayers for those who guide these homes (they were begun in prayer, they are being carried on in prayer), prayer for the children, prayer for the teachers, the collectors, prayer for Ireland, prayer that a still more than formerly our God may bless us, and give us his blessing.

M. A. F. LIGHTON,

Hon. Sec. of the Connemara Orphan Nurseries.

Home & Foreign Church News.

From our own Correspondents.

DOMINION.

MONTREAL.

MONTREAL.—Obituary.—Entered into the rest of paradise on Saturday, the 10th inst., Laura Ellen, wife of Mr. Alexander Robertson, of this city, and youngest child of his Lordship Bishop Bond. To say that the deceased young lady—for she was only in her twenty-seventh year—was beloved by all who knew her, is only to repeat what is well known to all our people in this city. In works of mercy, in kindness, in gentleness, in unflinching energy she was an example and pattern to all Church workers whether in town or country. God Almighty help our heart-broken Bishop! Married somewhat over a year ago the deceased lady still continued to reside with her father (left a widower some three years since) and the arrangement was one of great happiness and comfort to him. May the God of all comfort console him in this trying time. The funeral on Monday was one of the largest seen in Montreal for years, all classes and denominations turning out to testify their respect and love for the memory of the departed; and their sympathy with her sorrowing husband and father. The coffin was met at the door of Christ Church Cathedral by the Dean, Archdeacons Evans and Leach, Canon Carmichael, and Revs. John Empson, J. D. Borthwick, J. H. Dixon, J. F. Baylis, B.D., J. S. Stone, B.D., J. Sweeney, B.A., and W. L. Mills. The Cathedral, including the pulpit, reading desk and Holy Table were heavily draped in black. The building was crowded to its utmost capacity, and many hundreds were forced to stand in the deep snow around the various doors, unable to gain admission. In many of the churches on the day previous to the funeral special prayers were offered for the mourning relatives, particularly for our beloved Bishop. The deceased lady reposes in Mount Royal Cemetery.

Lord, all pitying Jesu blest,
Grant her Thine eternal rest.

GOOD FRIDAY.—We believe it is intended to direct that the offertory in all our churches on Good Friday shall be given to the Society for promoting Christianity amongst the Jews. This is an excellent idea, and one that is sure to commend itself to the liberality of Christians.

DUNHAM.—Work in this parish goes on smoothly, and, it is hoped, profitably. A mission church is greatly needed in that portion of the parish known as "the Dunboro' neighbourhood," and it is not improbable that Mr. Kerr, the rector, may soon take steps looking to the erection of a suitable little chapel. Services are held on Wednesday evenings all the year round, and during Advent and Lent on Wednesdays and Fridays, also on holidays and festivals. Exclusive of the services at the church on Sunday mornings and evenings, two mission services are held every Sunday afternoon at points outside the village of Dunham. These points contributed some thirty candidates to last year's confirmation class, and will probably contribute as many more next year. The Rev. Rural Dean Mussen preaches at the Wednesday evening service on the 21st inst., and Canon Davidson on the 28th inst. Archdeacon Lindsay, M.A., spent a Sunday in the parish a short time ago, and preached four times, and did much good; he is expected again shortly.

DIOCESAN THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.—This institution is in full operation, and is doing very well; there are about a dozen students in residence. Canon Henderson, the Principal, is recovering rapidly from his recent sickness and takes his classes at the College as usual. It is the earnest wish of all who know him that he may long be spared to work for the Church of God in his present position as head of the school. I do not know whether I mentioned before, that the names of Canon Carmichael and the Rev. Mr. Stone have been added to the list of those who lecture at the college. They are exceedingly valuable additions.

ONTARIO.

NAPANEE.—The annual meeting on behalf of missions in the Diocese of Ontario was held on Jan. 29th in the school room of St. Mary Magdalene's Church. Still, Judge Wilkison reminded the meeting that in this county alone there were twelve poor congregations to a large extent depending for the ministrations of the Church on the mission fund. The Archdeacon gave some interesting figures with regard to the mission fund. Both in the collections at the meetings and the subsequent parochial collections there had been an increase in the contributions over those of the previous year. There were still 44 missions requiring aid in the diocese. There was absolute need of \$9,550 being raised to meet the engagements without the expense of management for the possibility of opening new mission stations. The grant of \$400 to Algoma was not to be taken from our mission fund, so that all contributions were devoted exclusively to maintain the missionaries of their own diocese. The Archdeacon gave some interesting statistics. In 1862 there were but 69 churches; in 1882 there were 223. Of these, 172 were altogether new, and some of them very handsome churches, and 18 had been rebuilt. In 1862 there were but 16 parsonages, while at present there were 61 in the diocese. Taking a low average, about \$780,000 had been expended on churches and parsonages during the last twenty years. And besides this, the Church members have been meeting all the expenses of their services, while the number of the clergy had been doubled. With regard to their own parish, to home missions they had given \$163, as against \$166 of the previous year; to the missions abroad they had given \$18.17, as against \$10.39 in 1881. This was not much to boast of, and he hoped that this year they would show a better record. The Rev. J. D. Cayley, M.A., Rector of St. George's, Toronto, especially invited to assist the Rector at this meeting, was the next speaker. The reverend gentleman concluded an interesting speech with a very earnest appeal, and was warmly applauded. After a hymn was sung, the Rev. W. B. Carey, M.A., Rector of St. Paul's, Kingston, addressed the meeting. Mr. Carey delivered an eloquent address, speaking of the spiritual destitution in the diocese, which could only be met by the liberality of the people enabling the Bishop to send out more missionaries. The meeting was then concluded with a hymn and the Benediction.

SHANNONVILLE.—The annual meetings in aid of the diocesan mission fund were held in this parish on Saturday the 3rd, and Monday, the 5th inst. On the former day the Rev. Mr. Hannington, of New Edinburgh, Ottawa, convener of the deputation, accompanied by the incumbent, the organist, and six members of the choir of the parish church, and driven by R. G. Martin, Esq., a leading Churchman of the parish, visited the two outstations of Lonsdale and Kingsford, and held a meeting at each. The day was a terrible one, so that congregations were conspicuous by their absence, and the collections amounted only to \$1.35 at Lonsdale, and 85 cents at Kingsford, but the writer thinks the young ladies of the choir who accompanied the deputation deserve a good deal of credit for undertaking a drive of 24 miles in such weather that they might make (as they did) the even-