

# Dominion Churchman.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1880.

THE Bishop of Tournai, in Belgium, has been suspended on the ground of insanity. The Bishop refuses to submit to the suspension, and says he is not insane.

Prince Bismarck has submitted a Bill to the Prussian Diet for the revision of the May Laws. It is believed that Leo XIII may agree to an arrangement which would have been useless during the Pontificate of Pius IX. The Bill appears, however, to have been rejected.

Last year 688 Deacons were ordained in England, 460 were required to fill vacancies by death, the gain being 228; which, taking the increase of the population at 800,000, would be one in every 1,815. The existing ratio of the clerical body is one to every 1,094 souls. So far, this looks like losing ground. But "there are no figures more fallacious than arithmetical figures" when used without taking essential considerations into account. In this case it appears that the additional clergy go almost exclusively to the large cities in which the ratio is one in about 2,500.

Cardinal Newman has just given a novel reason for his secession from the Church of his fathers. He says that the great Roman Empire began as a Republic, but that having conquered the world, found that it could not get on without having a head.

The Ely Diocesan Conference is to be held June 15th and 16th, in the Cathedral.

The Church papers from England give detailed accounts of laying the foundation stones of Truro Cathedral by the Bishops of Truro, Exeter, and Madagascar, and the Prince of Wales. The mallet used by the Prince is that used by Charles the Second in laying the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, A.D. 1675.

The arrangements for holding the Church Congress at Leicester, under the Presidency of the Bishop of Peterborough, are being rapidly proceeded with. It will be held from September 28th to October 1st.

The Rev. Canon Meade, of Wells Cathedral, died on Sunday morning, the 23rd.

The father of the Bishop of Gloucester is dangerously ill.

As successor to the Rev. Prebendary Tate, the Rev. T. A. Nash, Vicar of St. Paul's, Islington, has been appointed to the important Rectory of Lowestoft.

The Rev. Canon Liddon has consented to become a Patron of the Free and Open Church Association, of which Earl Nelson is President.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, writing to the President of the Church of England Working Men's Society, in reply to questions put to him on behalf of that Society, says:—"I am strongly opposed to the P. W. R. Act, and would like to see it repealed. I need only say that in all questions relating to the Church which have of late years arisen, I agree with my father."

The Duke of Westminster has contributed £1,000 stg. towards the fund for meeting the requirements of the new See of Liverpool.

The Standing Committee of the S. P. G. Society proposes to withdraw from the work in Cyprus, there being apparently no field for operations in the island.

The Bishop of Trinidad, Dr. Rawle, expresses a desire to find a Hindustani-speaking clergymen to work among the coolies there.

The Bishop of St. David's has recently confirmed 200 persons in the old church of Cwmmamman, Llanelly, South Wales. The majority of the candidates were adult persons, who have recently with their pastor left the ranks of Dissent and joined the Church. There is no record of a confirmation having ever before been held in that parish.

The ordination service for Durham Diocese was held in the old Church of St. Nicholas, Newcastle-on-Tyne. This is said to be the first ordination held in that church since the Reformation. King Edward the Sixth intended to make Northumberland into a Bishopric with Ridley as its first Bishop. The King, however, died, and Ridley was soon afterwards martyred. St. Nicholas will probably be the Cathedral Church of the Diocese when formed.

The colony of Transvaal, South Africa, is one of the latest annexed to the Empire. It is as large as the United Kingdom, and contains a white population of about sixty thousand, of whom about five thousand are English. Dr. Bousfield was appointed first Bishop. His income is £600, equal to about £400 in England.

Pere Hyacinthe (Loyson) is to deliver a series of lectures this month in London, on "Positive Christianity." The Archbishop of Canterbury is to preside at the first.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise and party spent the second Sunday after Trinity in Milwaukee, Wis. The Royal party arrived from Chicago the evening of Friday, having rooms provided for them at the Plankinton House. Saturday was spent in a drive around the city, and a short excursion on the lake. Sunday morning the party attended service at All Saints' Cathedral. Unfortunately, the weather has been very unpleasant, rain falling most of the time, which has prevented Her Highness from seeing as much of the beautiful "Cream City," as was desirable. The party left for Chicago Sunday afternoon.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

THE mercy of God through our Lord Jesus Christ is set forth in the words of the Lord, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." It is enforced by the proverb of the blind leading the blind, the disciple not being above his Master, and of the mote and the beam. The Collect also refers to the mercy of Him Who is "the protector of all that trust in Him, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy." The office seems also to have a special reference to a time when the Church would be passing through great tribulation and distress, and when Christians needed frequently to be reminded that here they have no abiding place of rest, but must look beyond the trials and afflictions of a world in which they are only sojourners to a world and glory hereafter to be revealed. And, indeed, it is almost universally the case that before God visits His people with consolation He prepares them for it by chastisement, which is intended to produce the penitential spirit. Knowing that to indulge them with His smiles while they continue unreclaimed or even not sufficiently impressed with their dependence upon Him, would neither agree with His character nor conduce to their prosperity. He does, indeed, show Himself attentive to the first movement of the contrite spirit. But though corrections are really calculated to produce amendment, such is their tendency and design, yet they often produce a contrary effect. It is not at all uncommon to see men, hardened under rebukes, and to grow more bold and presumptuous in the commission of sin, after having experienced severe trials. "Thou hast stricken them," says the prophet Jeremiah, "but they have not grieved; Thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction; they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return." We have indeed an impressive proof that correction sometimes fails to produce its intended effect, in the conduct of those who were brought from Egypt by Moses. Never were men more severely corrected by their Heavenly Father, and never did people show themselves more incorrigible. Sometimes when the remembrance of their sufferings was fresh, they seemed disposed in earnest to seek after God; but no sooner was the correction removed than they relapsed into their former disobedience and idolatry. "When He slew them, they sought Him; and turned them early and inquired after God. And they remembered that God was their strength, and that the High God was their Redeemer. Nevertheless, they did but flatter Him with their mouth, and dissembled with Him in their tongue. For their heart was not whole with Him, neither continued they steadfast in His covenant." And this is but a picture of what we may observe every day.

We see men under afflictive dispensations show a degree of emotion; they appear in some measure humbled and convinced; and with much apparent sincerity, they confess their persuasion of the vanity of the world, and of the utter impossibility of finding happiness in the perishable things of earth. We find them making the most solemn resolutions of entering on a new course of life. The frivolous objects which formerly engaged their attention seem to have lost their power to charm, and a flattering prospect is presented of their turning into the paths of wisdom. But it soon becomes painful.