

State is impersonal; this effectively represses the animosity of individual litigants, and in addition justice arms the cause of the weak with the authority and skill of the State.

#### Theological Degrees.

In opening the Convocation of the Diocesan Theological College in Montreal recently, Principal Rexford pointed out that the Church of England led the way in Canada in the matter of theological degrees. All D.D. degrees were granted by a central board of examiners, upon which each college had a representative. After six or seven years' study each student must satisfy this board of his qualifications. The standing or character of these degrees was higher than that of a degree granted by a single institution. This is a satisfactory reminder of the wisdom of those in authority in coming to the agreement to which Principal Rexford refers. The continued study to which he refers was never more necessary than it is now, nor has it ever been more difficult for our bright and energetic young clergy to achieve. The demand for men for the West is continuous, and the heads of training colleges have to see their brightest and best young men taken away to missionary work with less preparation than they feel should be given. It was a gratifying feature at the Convocation to which we referred to find Principal Rexford saying that the occasion was further notable for the facts that the Convocation was held in connection with the conference of the Alumni Association, and that the opportunity was now afforded him of introducing the newly-appointed principal of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, to a Montreal audience.

#### Irreligion.

To some, the insistent appeals made to Church people to show their colours, to lead earnest and consistent lives, and as far as in them lies to endeavour to lead others to walk in the same narrow way are apparently not timely or in good taste. This is not the opinion of the Bishop of Salisbury, who, at a recent conference of clergy and Church workers at Blandford, said that "the growth of divorces and suicides, and many other things, had made people anxious as to the future of the country, not to speak of the Church. There had been revealed the terrible fact that many people were giving up attendance at public worship, and that a large proportion of the people of England paid little attention to religion at all." Surely this is not a time for folding one's hands, putting the blame on other people, trying to avoid personal responsibility, and objecting to the legitimate zeal of others. Rather is it a time for truer searching of hearts, testing of lives, and more unselfish performance of one's duty to the Church and to one's fellowman.

#### History Repeats Itself.

In view of the coming celebration of the great feat of arms of our naval hero, Lord Nelson, at Trafalgar, which changed the destiny of Europe by staying the awful career of Napoleon, it is interesting to Churchmen to know that the Lord Nelson of to-day has, through a long and useful life served the Church with marked distinction. Church Bells has made the following reference to the noble lord, who has contributed many able papers to its columns: "We learn with great pleasure that Earl Nelson, notwithstanding his advanced age and the recent loss of his wife and eldest son, will take part in the Church Congress, Weymouth. The Subjects' Committee urged him to read a paper, but he declined, holding that to have too many local readers of papers was a great mistake. Earl Nelson first appeared at these gatherings at the one held at Norwich, in 1865, when Dr. Pusey and Mr. Keble were present, and Arch-

bishop Thomson became a convert to the Congress, and suggested that the next place of meeting should be York." As the great admiral did his duty to his country even to the end, his worthy successor is quite as indomitable in doing his duty to the Church he loves, and has served so long and so well.

#### Depredation.

We desire to draw the attention of our historical societies and of all Canadians to an attempt now being made to remove to Detroit three of our ships which were sunk in the Thames, near Chatham, during the war of 1812. They were Government vessels, but the annexationists claim with unrivalled assurance that they are now private property, and that they can easily purchase and remove them and the contents to the States. A correspondent of a Chicago paper writes from Detroit: "The vessels were forgotten until several years ago, when unusually low water in the Thames revealed one of them. A plan was originated to have them recovered, brought to Detroit, and presented to the city as memorials. No productive action was taken, however, until several days ago, when a Detroit exploring party, headed by C. M. Burton and Charles I. Clack, quietly began operations. So far the work of the explorers and their divers has resulted in the definite location of the three vessels at points one and a half, two and six miles up stream from Chatham. The vessels are partly or wholly covered with sand and earth. In the one most exposed the hull was found to contain boxes and barrels of cannon balls and other stores. Further search is expected to reveal chests of silver, which records in possession of the explorers show were taken from the boats." We trust that no effort will be spared to frustrate this nefarious scheme, and that the warships and their contents will be raised by the Government and deposited in suitable quarters. Detroit people show us no consideration. Shortly after Confederation we gave them the old records stored in Chatham, but they have returned us nothing.

#### BROTHERHOOD CONVENTION.

No better illustration of the latent working power in the Church, its capacity for development, and the remarkable results which flow from its exercise, could well be given than the twentieth annual convention of the St. Andrew's Brotherhood in Chicago. Some twenty years ago the longing desire to form a working bond of union amongst Churchmen which would unite young and old, rich and poor in constant and self-sacrificing work within the lines of the Church for the advancement of its cause, and the good of his fellowmen, took possession of the mind, and aroused the spirit of that good Churchman, Mr. James C. Houghteling. With the strong determination, practical sagacity and restless energy, which are characteristic of men of thought and action, the leader of the Brotherhood, following in the footsteps of the first apostolic founder of the Order, began his noble mission, and, with a heart fired by Divine zeal, uttered this remarkable prophecy: "But a short time will elapse before from 10,000 hearts the daily prayer will rise for the extension of Christ's Kingdom among young men, and 10,000 men will stand in one organized division in the great army against the world, the flesh, and the devil." And what of the fulfilment? It is said that in the House of Commons Mr. Gladstone could lend such a charm to a financial statement that the dullest hearer would not fail to be interested. To the lover of his Church the statistics of Mr. Hubert Carleton, the general secretary of the Brotherhood, are more pleasing than a thrilling page of romance. To-day, in

the Senior department, there are 1,351 Chapters in force, of which 753 are active Chapters. In the Junior department there are 636 Chapters in force, of which 370 are active Chapters; and the total receipts for the year were \$23,821.64, a large increase over the receipts of the year preceding. Such remarkable energy, enterprise and success in such a comparatively short time well warrant the aim of the Order, to found "a working Chapter in every parish, in every Mission, in every college and in every school." It is a grand thing to have a high aim based on a broad and definite plan. It is a still grander thing to seek, and hold, and use the power by which alone your aim can be realized, and realized to the full. How little did the lukewarm friends of Mr. Houghteling, who, twenty years ago, quietly smiled at what he deemed his fanciful vision, realize the tremendous power which awaits and responds to the call of true-hearted, single-minded, persevering faith. In a general sense the plan by which the aim of the Brotherhood is sought to be realized is by deepening devotional life; effort to reach the indifferent and ungodly; development of individual talent; definiteness in work; initiative on part of Chapters; greater confidence in the practicability of the Brotherhood everywhere. The detail of work consists in visiting men by calling at homes and offices; inviting men by cards and mail; welcoming men; ushering, and in paying special attention to boys. It was well said by a convention speaker that two great elements in the work are, first, patience; and second, persistence. To these we would add to keep them bright, keen and efficient to their utmost extent, the constant and earnest use by each Brotherhood worker on all occasions, under all circumstances, with quietness and confidence, of that most powerful weapon in the Christian armoury, prayer. A graphic proof of the comprehensive way in which the Brotherhood is gathering all men into its loving and strengthening embrace was the presence at the convention of six full-blooded Sioux Indians as delegates from Chapters of the Order in Nebraska and Minnesota, and a Chinese delegate, who came from far Honolulu to report the progress of the Order in the Hawaiian Islands. It stirs the blood and fires the imagination to look forward to the next twenty years. Let the vision be an everyday inspiration to the faithfulness and zeal of the humblest, as well as the most prominent, member of this noble and beneficent Brotherhood.

#### MORALITY AND THE STAGE.

Now that the summer season is well over, and a considerable portion of the community, which found required recreation in those wholesome, healthful and attractive ways which Nature makes available when the sun shines warmly, and field, and tree and flower put on their best attire, is compelled to look for amusement elsewhere, the mind readily turns to the theatre. Though we do not deem it to be our province to discuss theatrical matters as a general rule, yet the facts that a considerable number of Church people during the fall and winter seasons attend the theatre; that the theatre is supposed to cater to the prevailing taste of society, and that, in doing so, it sometimes lays itself open to the charge of providing plays that are indirectly, if not directly, improper or immoral, warrant us in having something to say on the subject. If it were necessary further to show that there is good ground for such comment we might say that in London, England, a play has been recently put on the stage of such a grossly immoral character that the Bishop of that city has called upon the proper authority to have it suppressed. This play is also referred to in the "Review of Reviews" in terms of this strongest disapproval.

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