

The elder brother of David Livingstone is still living in Listowel.

Macadam, the Scotch engineer, who invented a favorite system of road making, began his labors in 1818.

Sir John Millais once hooked over half a ton of salmon in a week, which gave him the record for the river Tay.

A large sum of money is to be expended in renovating the front of St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

The Rev. Dr. Waters of New Orleans, who has been spending his holidays in Orillia, left for New York last week.

The new Shah of Persia is anxious to open the country to international commerce, and favours the introduction of electricity and steam.

A machine for catching grasshoppers is owned by Henry Crow, of Garden City, Kan. It scoops them in by the bushel. Mr. Crow boils them, and feeds them to his hogs.

Sir Arthur Sullivan composes an opera score in two months. His profit is generally \$5,000 for the first year alone.

It is computed that there is £800,000,000 worth of gold and jewels at the bottom of the sea on the route between England and India.

The committee of the Sir Walter Scott Memorial in Westminster Abbey have selected from various copies of the Chantry bust in Abbotsford, one submitted to them by Mr. John Hutchinson, R.S.A. It has since been approved by the dean.

The "Giants' Club" in Berlin admits to membership no one who is less than six feet in height.

The new community of women founded by the Cowley Fathers for teaching in elementary schools has advanced a further stage, the first professions in the sisterhood of the Holy Childhood having been made on St. Margaret's Day in the new church of Cowley.

A collection of 20,000 buttons, including specimens of those worn on all the uniforms in the world, has been left by a rich Englishman named Hamilton, who died recently in Vienna. He had also brought together 352 fans, which had each belonged to beautiful women.

At Toledo, in Spain, the jewels of the image of the Virgin in the cathedral, worth \$60,000, have been stolen. It is only a few years ago that the same cathedral was robbed in a similar manner.

At the Battle of Trafalgar, the heaviest gun used threw a projectile weighing only 82 pounds, which was 6.41 inches in diameter; the modern 110-gun uses a shell weighing 2,000 pounds, of 16½ inches in diameter.

A poor peddler near Foochow, who heard and received the truth, went round the villages where he had been well known for years and told of his Saviour he had discovered. As a result of his testimony, one hundred families placed themselves under Christian instruction.

The Empress Dowager of Russia has sent her father, the king of Denmark, a ring possessing no ordinary interest. It was worn by Alexander II. on his little finger at the time of his assassination, and his son, Alexander III., never removed it from his hand from his accession as Emperor till the day of his death.

A handsome marble altar as a memorial to the late Canon Townshend, is to be placed in Christ church, Amherst, N.S., by members of the late Canon's family. A memorial window has already been placed to the Canon's memory in the parish church, in Busby, England.

As was announced some months ago, it is intended to erect a monument to Lord Tennyson in the form of an obelisk on the south coast of the Isle of Wight, at a point not far from the residence of the late Poet Laureate. It is expected that the Princess Beatrice will unveil the monument at a date yet to be fixed towards the end of this month.

He was a hopeful and helpful missionary who said: "When you cannot see any bright side, polish up the dark side, and look at that." There is a world of philosophy and comfort in that sentence. Progress is made by just such a process.

To Rome belongs the honour of possessing the largest Bible in the world. It weighs 320 pounds, and is with difficulty lifted by three strong men. It is a Hebrew version, and nearly four hundred years ago was so valuable in the eyes of the Jews that those of that nationality in Venice formed a syndicate and offered Pope Julian—A.D. 1512—the weight of the Bible in gold. The offer was refused. The present value of the book is \$375,000.

Family Reading.

Answered:

I asked for living streams: and lo! I found
On every side
The water-floods were compassing me round,
And no sure ground
Was left to me amid that surging tide.

I prayed for pastures green: to-day I see
In plenteousness
Herbs, balmy grasses reaching to the knee;
And yet—ah, me—
No friend my lonely feast to share, to bless.

I begged for light; but when it pierced the dark
Dull cloud within,
My dazzled eyes no friendly shore could mark,
Nor sheltering ark;
And stars were quenched that once I trusted in.

But, since the boon so far exceeds the prayer,
Shall I abuse
The Hand that measured out what I must bear?
Rather, I dare
To cast myself upon that gift profuse.

Church Terms Explained.

Pome.—A ball of metal in which was placed hot water in winter months to warm the fingers of the priest when numb with the cold.

Pontifical.—Functions peculiar to bishops; when the bishop offers the Holy Sacrifice it is a pontifical celebration.

Praise of the Office.—The portion of morning and evening prayer from Gloria to Creed, including Canticules.

Precentor.—The director of the church music.

Preces.—The petitions which follow the Lesser Litany.

Priest.—The second order in the Christian ministry. His chief duties are to celebrate Holy Communion, to give absolution and blessings at the various offices of marriage, churching, etc.

Proper of Saints.—Special hymns for any particular Saint.

Proper of the Season.—Special hymns for any particular season, other than Epiphany and Trinity.

Protestant.—The term now used for all who oppose Romanism, whether Christian or infidel. It correctly applies to those who protested in 1529 against certain decrees issued by the Diet of Spire.

Province.—The limit of an archbishop's jurisdiction, as a diocese is the limit of a bishop's rule.

Psalter.—The Book of Psalms as used in the daily offices of the Church; it follows an older translation than that of the Bible.

Christ's Condescension.

Jesus said, "If I, then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye ought also to wash one another's feet." However low we stoop, we shall always be at an infinite distance from His divine condescension, not only because in our case it is only one creature stooping to another, but also because, however much the person condescending may be in certain points—station, wealth, intelligence, education—above him to whom the condescension is shown, both stand on the same level in this respect, that both are sinners. And, in speaking of condescension as shown by one human creature to another, it should be further observed that, strange as it may seem at first sight to say so, there is condescension from man to man which, so far from being an indication of poverty

A Beautiful Catalogue Sent Free.

John Catto & Son, King Street East, Toronto, have this week placed before the public their new 85 page autumn catalogue for 1896. It has a most attractive and artistic cover, and a very extensive assortment of the newest styles of the highest class of dry goods. This beautiful, useful catalogue will be sent free to any address.

of spirit or lowliness of heart, is merely another form of pride. When rich men stoop to poor men, or the noble to men of low estate, and even help them and do them services, the stooping itself is sometimes an aliment which feeds and nourishes pride. There is a certain ostentatiousness in the good deed which vitiates it morally—it has something of the spirit of the Pharisee blowing a trumpet before him when he does alms in the synagogues and in the streets, that he may have glory of men. And, very much short of this, there may be a secret gratification of vanity in giving largely and liberally to the relief of distress—we have the means, we do not feel the loss of what we give, and we plume ourselves upon it, and stand the better in our own eyes—the very reverse this of poverty of spirit. Such false condescension, such spurious liberality, is at once condemned by a reference to the condescension of the Master. First, His condescension was in a spirit of sympathy, and was prompted by, and indeed was the outcome of sympathy. And next, His condescension involved self-sacrifice; it led Him to give Himself for us, not anything external to Himself with which He could dispense. The condescension of man to man should be tried by these two tests if its genuineness is to be ascertained: first, is there sympathy in it? and next, is there self-sacrifice in it? If not, it has not the true ring; it is not Christ's condescension.—Dean Goulburn.

Sweet Homes.

The happiest, sweetest, tenderest homes are not those where there has been no sorrow, but those which have been overshadowed with grief and where Christ's comfort was accepted. The very memory of the sorrow is a gentle benediction that broods ever over the household, like the silence that comes after prayer. There is a blessing sent from God in every burden of sorrow. In one of the battles of the Crimea, a cannon ball struck inside a fort, gashing the earth and sadly marring the garden-beauty of the place; but from the ugly chasm there burst forth a spring of water which flowed on thereafter, a living fountain. So the strokes of sorrow gash our hearts, but they open for us fountains of blessing and new life.

These are hints of the blessings of burdens. Our dull task work, accepted, will train us into strong and noble character. Our temptations and hardships, met victoriously, knit the muscles and sinews of strength in our soul. Our pain and sorrow, endured with sweet trust and submission, leave us purified and enriched, with more of Christ in us. In every burden that God lays upon us there is a blessing for us if only we will take it.

Excuses.

Most of the excuses made by members of the Church for not attending worship are simply dishonourable, and bring the blush of shame to every person with an enlightened Christian conscience.

We shall be called again "severe," and "too strict." Those who say so, simply show their ignorance of the plain law of God, or what is worse, their hardened conscience and disregard of truth. There is an awful judgment overhanging many Christians. Any hour may call them, by death, before their Judge. Those who are terrified now by the appearance of a tornado, or other serious disturbances, will find the spectre of their moral and religious life which they destroyed here, rise and condemn them with the most awful terrors from which there can be no escape. We would do all possible now to save them, as also to save ourselves from the woe which would also be ours did we refrain from making known the truth of God.