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## Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

February 14th.—SEPTUAGESIMA.

Morning.—Gen. 1 and 2 to v. 4. Rev. 21 to v. 9.  
Evening.—Gen. 2, 4; or Job 38. Rev. 21, 9 to 22, 6.

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CHRISTIANIZING JAPAN is beset with the usual difficulties arising from the divisions of Christendom. The *Catholic Mirror* pronounces Protestant efforts "a failure," while the *New York Independent* points out that Roman Catholic results amount to less than half those of the Protestant missions.

PEACEFUL IRELAND.—It has been claimed as the singular and peculiar glory of the Irish nation that they succumbed to the Gospel message "without resistance and effusion of blood"—the only nation in the world that did so. Thousands of monks gathered in monasteries to learn, and then scattered "to the four winds" to teach.

THE EASTBOURNE EMBROGLIO has been sinking into a new and worse phase: the mob has learned to act on the principle of the Salvation Army—defiance of authority!—and turned their weapon against themselves. The real authorities of the place seem powerless to control either belligerent—the mob or the Army. The latter ought to "know better."

"MORE UNCTION, LESS OFFICIALISM," is what a correspondent of the *Church Times* considers to be the desideratum at headquarters of the S.P.G. It is quite possible that the venerable Society is not being run on the most perfect system, and a little of the "righteous smite me friendly" remedy does an immense amount of good occasionally, there and elsewhere.

FATHER HALL IN ENGLAND.—The eloquent Cowley Evangelist is being utilized to good purpose in Liverpool. His Advent sermons at St. Margaret's

and St. Catharine's are said to have made a wonderful and widespread impression. He has been engaged to preach the "Three Hours" at the former church next Good Friday. So America's loss is England's gain.

TOO MUCH TOLERATION!—It may have been all right to make Cardinal Newman an Honorary Fellow of his old College (Trinity) at Oxford; but Prof. Ince thinks it "an abuse of the modern spirit of toleration to act as if all religious opinions were to be considered equally true or false, if only they are held sincerely." *Apropos* of the proposed Newman statue.

"RES EST DELICATA" explains the *Guardian* as it makes its bow, and retires from the field of controversy on the subject of Scripture Inspiration. It had been well to have remembered this before entering the lists against such doughty champions of Orthodoxy as Archdeacon Denison and Mr. Webb-Peploe, and finding oneself ranged beside the Archdeacon of Manchester!

"EXTREMELY CHRISTIAN AND BEAUTIFUL," says the *Methodist Times* (Eng.), "are Lord Nelson's 'Home Reunion Notes' in *Church Bells*, and then proceeds to animadvert severely on "those Anglican priests who anathematize all those who do not live within the fold." Who are they? How would it do to substitute for anathematize the words "expostulate with?"

FATHER BENSON AND THE KENOSIS.—The Founder of the Cowley Evangelists ranges himself (in the *Cowley Evangelist*) on the side of Canon Bright in defence of the theory that our Lord did not empty Himself of His Divine Wisdom, when He set aside His Divine glory in order to effective self-humiliation in human form. Benson says what He did was rather to take upon Him "our emptiness."

THE "LAST WORDS" OF SCIENCE are never said, can never be uttered. To the end of time they will be learning how to unlearn, arguing in a circle, proving their predecessors and even themselves bad reasoners, alleging bold conclusions on insufficient premises, eating their own previous words, and all the time boasting that their present knowledge makes others' notions "demonstrably untrue."

"HONEYCOMBED WITH INFIDELITY" is reported to be the condition not only of France—as Roman ecclesiastics have been recently deploring—but of Germany also. So the two extremes meet: for in France Ultramontane Popery has choked off the national religious type of Gallicanism, while in Germany rampant ultra-protestantism has smothered similarly the dying embers of the national Church.

SONS OF SCOTLAND.—It is with great pleasure we note the unanimous appointment of the Rev. Dr. Gammack, of St. Saviour's, East Toronto, to the position of Grand Chaplain to the Sons of Scotland in Canada. The appointment must be gratifying not more to Dr. Gammack than to the Church at large, showing, as it does, the appreciation of so prominent a Churchman by those who must be very largely Presbyterian.

"THE SACRAMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT" is the title of a timely and characteristic ("old-timely"! ) article in the *Church Times*, directed against those

Erastians, who like Canon Freemantle, cannot conceive of the Church aside from its connection with the nation as an "establishment." It is time to teach people that the latter is only an accident of a Church—merely its special recognition by the State for State reasons.

"BANISH AND DRIVE AWAY all erroneous and strange doctrines" is one clause of the "Marching Orders" of every priest in the Anglican Church; and they must be "ready to do it with all diligence." It must, however, be noted that this refers to the "doctrines," not the persons: and one of the best and most effective ways to "banish and drive away the former, is to win and attract the latter by friendly persuasion.

RESULTS OF THE PROSECUTION OF BISHOP KING.—Among these may be noted the increase of membership in the English Church Union during the past three or four years: 1,000 clergy, 20,000 more lay members, nearly double the number of bishops. If this is the way things are to go, the Church Association would do well for its own aims not to prosecute any more good bishops. This one has just about finished their own coffin!

"CARRYING DANGEROUS WEAPONS" is an accusation which can be proved only too easily now against the rash English writers of so-called "Higher Criticism." Infidels and sceptics turn the same weapons exultingly against the New Testament, which the critics profess to shield, and say boldly that "it exhibits the ignorance and misconception of the writers—no small amount of futile reasoning and baseless speculation."

RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS IN THE PRESS.—We see that Rev. F. C. Workman, in the *Mail*, brings a serious charge against the editor of the *Christian Guardian* on the score of "muzzling" its correspondence columns, so that theologians of Dr. Workman's stamp cannot "get the ear"—or, rather, the eye—of the Methodist constituency. Our own principle—and practice—is that ventilation is good where there is much chaff to blow off.

"DEPRAVED ACCOMMODATIONS" is a Gladstonian phrase adopted by Dean Hole, of Rochester, and applied by him to the new fad of "Pleasant Sunday Afternoons." The Dean deprecates "religion made easy, Christianity without a Cross, Christians (?) always craving after something new," &c. On the other hand, he takes great pleasure in the scene to be observed in his own Cathedral on Sunday afternoons—hundreds of working men at worship.

SCIENCE "COMING DOWN."—The *Lutheran Quarterly* has a very interesting article on speculations about men—paleolithic, pliocene, miocene. The age of the gravel beds (in which human remains are found) has been shortened from nine millions to 20,000, and lastly to six or seven thousand years. As time goes on Science finds out things it didn't know before, and has to correct its sums—till they happen to harmonize at last with revelation.

A STERN ESTIMATE OF CARDINAL MANNING is that of Smalley in the *New York Tribune*. "He was a soldier of the Church of England who deserted to Rome, a priest who mingled in politics, a minister of religion who fomented social strife, a disciple