

utilize the power of the Gospel as we might in strengthening our Empire. Tolerance for paganism may be politic, but it is not the highest or best policy. The *Guardian* of last week contained a very remarkable posthumous paper by the late Bishop Steere, in which that saintly prelate loudly inveighed against the character of many "mission natives," who it seems studiously acquire all the vices without any of the redeeming virtues of the English character. This is probably due to the fact that abroad Christianity is not specially identified, as it should be, with the English character. At any rate, it is much to be deplored.

Church Bells says:—

Mr. Osborne Morgan's new Cemeteries Bill is intended to obliterate the last remaining trace of consecration from our graveyards by forbidding any line of separation between the hallowed and unhallowed ground, and by refusing to allow Churchmen to have a chapel specially set apart for their use. The aggressive Dissenter is thus once more showing his cloven foot, and is proving how little of actual finality there was in the much-debated Burial Bill which would—so it was urged as a plea for passing it—bring to an end all matters of controversy over this painful question. The new Bill, which has already received second reading, is likely to cause some astonishment if it actually passes, but there is still time to rouse Churchmen in the House to its real meaning and aim, and at any rate to amend it in committee, if it cannot be rejected altogether.

The Church Standard says:—

A weekly published in the Methodist interest in Chicago, wishing to say something severe about the Church, announces that "gowns, crosses, ribbands and genuflections save nobody." It would be easy to retort in kind (if not in kindness), and say that neither do camp-meetings, love-feasts, telling your "experience" and shouting "glory" save anybody. But that would be a poor argument. We would rather say, if these peculiarities of the Methodists help anybody to be better men and women, we are glad of it. We know that the Methodists use these as means to an end, and that they trust only in Christ for salvation. If there is a Methodist who trusts in these rather than in Christ, he would be as hard to find as a Churchman who trusts in gowns, crosses, ribbands or genuflections for salvation.

The *Church Guardian*, of Nebraska, makes a suggestion which we commend to some of our older missions:—

Would it not be well if those parishes of the Diocese that have received aid from the Missionary treasury for many years should decline to be assisted longer in this way? We feel confident that the effort at self-support would be a great blessing in securing the increased activities of the people, and deepening the spiritual life. While this may be the first consideration, the stipend which has been continued for so long a time might be used by the Bishop to supply the ministrations of the Church to those places where there is every prospect of a successful work being accomplished if a Missionary could be sent.

The Church Press says:—

It is a little significant that there are now three vacant bishoprics in the American Church. These are Easton, Florida and Missouri. If Dr. Brooks should decline his election as Assistant-Bishop of Pennsylvania, it will leave four vacancies to be filled. The dioceses of Easton and Florida have made elections, but in each case a declination has followed. This may be a favorable sign, as showing that the men elected had no inordinate desire for authority and honor, and that they were unwilling to

assume responsibilities for which they felt unequal or unprepared. The office of a bishop is, indeed, the most honorable in its nature and responsible in its work; and alike in scholarship, in piety, in devotion, in zeal, in energy, in eloquence, in management, it demands the best the Church can give. As in the past, so now, there are men whom the Holy Ghost has qualified, and will prepare to be overseers of the flock; and in each one of the bereaved dioceses earnest prayer to God for guidance will lead to the desired result. It is a time when party predilections should be forgotten.

The Young Churchman says:—

It is surprising to observe of how much importance anybody may become by simply being always in his place! One need not be wealthy, or influential, or talented, or even educated, to attain to this importance. Try it!—in the Church, the Choir, the Services, the Sunday-school, the Vestry meetings, the Guild meetings, the Parish gatherings. The people who are always in their place are the people we "count on," as we say. They are the people who are never heard complaining that they are overlooked, or forgotten, or slighted. Their neighbors are especially glad to see them because they knew they *should* see them. They would have been as surprised *not* to see them as they would be if the clergyman failed to appear at one of the services. And perhaps nobody "counts" on them quite so much as the clergyman himself does.

"Dear me," he soliloquizes in his study, "what a comfort So-and-So is! He is always on hand."

Perhaps So-and-So is some humble person, but the Pastor knows that his constancy, at church and elsewhere, implies sympathy; devotion to the interests of the church; a desire to help all he can, and do all he can; to get all the instruction the Church can give him, and to render to God the worship and honor due Him. Perhaps So-and-So is poor, but his little systematic offerings swell the treasury more than the notes that the rich man drops into the alms box when he *occasionally* appears at church, besides being far more acceptable to God.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

PERSONAL.—The Rev. Dr. Snively, of Grace Church, Brooklyn Heights, is expected to preach the sermon at the Synod opening on June 22nd.

Rev. W. C. Bradshaw, rector of St. Luke's, Ashburnham, Peterborough, addressed the Sons of England on the 23rd ult. The Society turned out in large numbers and the Church was crowded.

Mr. C. Hampshire has left Peterborough to take charge of the organ at St. George's Church, St. Catharines.

Messrs. Acheson and Miller, of Wycliffe College, will have charge of St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton, during the absence of Canon Curran in England.

TORONTO.—*St. Philip's.*—The last meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society in connection with this church for the season of 1885-6 was largely attended. Rev. R. W. E. Greene, of Weston, delivered an interesting address on temperance. Refreshments were served as usual, and the members present contributed to the funds of the Society by a silver collection.

ORONO.—*St. Saviour's Church.*—Incumbent, Rev. R. Rooney. Churchwardens, Messrs. John Stewart and Daniel Hall. Delegate to Synod, Mr. H. H. Odell. The annual meeting of the vestry did not take place until the month of May, owing to the change recently made in the incumbency.

[We are obliged to hold over the balance of Toronto items till next week.]

DIOCESE OF NIAGARA.

SYNOD NOTES.

The Synod of the Diocese, on the evening of the 2nd day, adopted the report of a special committee named to draw up a resolution of thanks to Bishop Coxe, for his attendance at the missionary meeting and Synod service. After referring to the many little good offices of the Bishop, the report proceeds:—They further desire to record their high appreciation of the admirable address to which it was their privilege to listen at the missionary meeting and at the opening of the Synod, when in words of burning zeal and thrilling eloquence he stirred the hearts of his hearers to greater self-sacrifice and more active efforts; and also expounded the wondrous significance of that sacred name which was first given to the disciples at Antioch. They feel assured that the Bishop's visit to the synod and the words of loving greeting he addressed to them will greatly tend to strengthen the ties of Christian fellowship and good will between the two adjacent dioceses, and also between the church in Canada and her sister church in the United States, a cementing which the Bishop regarded as a humble augury of a general drawing more closely together of the whole English speaking races.

The opinion of the Chancellor, E. Martin, respecting the validity of the bonds given for the payment of the interest of the Episcopal Endowment Funds is adverse.

A discussion took place as to the reduction in grants to certain parishes recommended by the Board; the usual objection, that the stipends of the country clergy are already too small, being advanced. Ultimately a resolution introduced by Dr. Mockridge, and seconded by Rev. H. Carmichael, that that portion of the report should be referred to the Mission Committee, to report at the General Meeting of the Board in September next, and that no reduction be made before the report of the Board is laid before the Synod, was adopted.

Delegates to Provincial Synod:—

Clergy—Rev. C. H. Mockridge, D.D., Canon Houston, G. A. Bull, W. R. Clark, Rural Dean Belt, Canon Worrell, Ven. Archdeacon Dixon, Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, Rev. Canon Read, Rural Dean Spence, H. Carmichael and R. G. Sutherland. Substitutes—Rev. W. J. McKenzie, T. Geoghegan, E. J. Fessenden, Dean Geddes, A. W. McNab and R. S. Radcliffe.

Laity—Adam Brown, George Elliott, J. J. Mason, H. McLaren, F. W. Gates, F. E. Kilvert, S. Macklem, W. Y. Pettit, Hon. J. B. Plumb, W. F. Burton, B. R. Nelles, C. Moss. Substitutes—A. H. Pettit, Henry Ridley, C. A. F. Ball, C. Donaldson, Thos. Lampman and J. G. Y. Burkholder.

The report of the Episcopal Endowment Fund Committee shows but poor success in the special effort made to complete this fund. The Committee say:—Your Committee regret that so little has been realized by the last appeal issued by your committee. Twenty-two parishes have not replied at all; five parishes replied that nothing further could be done, and only eight parishes have assumed payment of interest on their apportionment of \$2,166.50, so that there remains yet \$5,648.10 of the apportionment of the parishes not yet assumed, or nearly one-third of the whole amount.

Dr. Mockridge's motion to amend the Canon on the Diaconate so as to give Deacons—accepted and ordained by the Bishop—a right to sit and vote in Synod, though refusing them the right of beneficiaries on any of the various funds subscribed, collected, or held in trust for the benefit of the clergy, provoked some discussion, and finally, on a point of order taken by Mr. Mason, the question was referred to the Chancellor for decision, and the Synod adjourned to the 28th May for his report.