

of York Cathedral, will succeed to the vacancy of the See of Rochester, caused by the translation of Bishop Claughton to the newly constituted Bishopric of St. Albans.

SCOTLAND.

THE INTRUSION OF BISHOP BECKLES.—The Bishop of London, *in re* "the Superintending Bishop of the English Episcopal Chapels in Scotland," thus writes to a Scotch clergyman: "the step which Bishop Beckles has unhappily taken is not only without my sanction but in opposition to my earnest remonstrance."

DUNDEE.—On Easter day the number of communicants in St. Paul's Church was 558, and in St. Mary Magdalene's the number on the same day was 350. On the evening of March 21 Lord Forbes delivered a lecture in the girls' schoolroom of St. Salvador's Church, on "Unity in Religion." In his lecture his Lordship dwelt on the dreadful responsibility by all who cause divisions in that body which our Lord prayed might be *one*. He urged his hearers to hold fast the faith once delivered to the Saints. Lord Forbes is such a layman as we like to see.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY NOTES.

PARIS.—The services on Easter Sunday were better attended, and of a more hearty character than usual. This was the case both in the National church and also in the English Church.

MADRID.—The festivities of "Holy Week" among which was a bull fight, brought 40,000 to the capital. The King beheld the sickening sight and had to smile where the smile is expected to come in, in order to be popular.

ROME.—The revenue is expected to be twelve millions of francs in excess of the ordinary expenditure. Education is to be more compulsory. Thirty two millions of francs are entered in the Budget for railway extension. The landed property of the parishes and confraternities representing a capital of three hundred millions of francs and an annual revenue of fourteen millions, is to be sold. This measure will be regarded as retaliation for the language of the recent Papal Allocution and will no doubt meet with opposition. The album containing the signatures of the "thirty thousand volunteers prepared to shed their blood for the Catholic Church arrived at the Vatican on Good Friday.

TURKEY.—The commission for the investigation of the Bulgarian atrocities came to an end, when Mr. Baring, having refused to attend any further sittings of the commission, because the finding was contrary to the evidence, left for Constantinople. None of the murderers have yet been punished. Punishment is far swifter when meted out to Christian offenders. Last summer, Salem Effendi, who cannot make up his mind to punish the Bulgarian worthies, had twelve Christians executed at one time, the first having been hanged whilst the other eleven were looking on and so on one by one until the last. The Christians in Turkey are in a state of great fear; their schools and churches being closed.

AUSTRALIA.—At the general Synod held in 1874 at Wellington, the name of the Rev. J. R. Selwyn was brought forward as successor to the lamented Bishop Pattison. He at that time could not overcome his reluctance to undertake so grave a responsibility. The matter was deferred and no appointment made. At the general Synod held at Nelson during the present year, it having been ascertained that he would not decline if appointed, he was proposed by the Bishop of Auckland, who dwelt on his special qualifications for the work, qualifications inherited from his father the founder of the Mission, and was unanimously appointed, the whole Synod having knelt down and prayed for some time in silence.

NEW ZEALAND.—The Synod of the Diocese of Christ's Church had been engaged in business for three weeks, there being about 80 members in assiduous attendance. There has been a trial of

an incumbent for false doctrine and irregular ministrations. The facts were proved but no judgement pronounced. Revolutionary legislators have endeavoured and with a large measure of success, to erase from the map of New Zealand the name of the Canterbury Settlement, which was beginning to have a history.

BLOEMFONTEIN.—The third session of the synod of the Diocese of Bloemfontein commenced on the feast of the Epiphany. There was a good attendance of both Clergy and Laity. The President of the Free State was present at the opening of the Synod. The subjects discussed were Canons, missions, education, temperance, ritual and finance. The question of the connection of the Church of the Province with the Church of England was discussed in a debate, which as a correspondent says, "was chiefly interesting, as shewing how true and loyal is the adherence of both the clergy and laity to the principles and practice of the Mother Church."

Correspondence.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

"MENE, MENE, TEKEL."

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Many a mission in the rural townships of the Diocese of Ontario will feel grateful to the Bishop for the manly and outspoken sentiments which fell from his Lordship's lips at the meeting of the Mission Board just held in the city of Kingston. Would to God that such sentiments (so oft repeated on the floors of the Synod) might prove, in the present instance, something more than an empty sound.

Whatever may be the intention, purpose, or result of such utterances one thing is plain, viz., that his Lordship does not shut his eyes to the consequences, if things are to go on much longer as they have done, and he has not given the warning one moment too soon. The hand-writing is on the wall, and it has aroused him to the existence of certain elements at work, which will not fail to bring destruction to the Church missionary system in this diocese, if persevered in.

Those who remember the circumstances which brought about the failure of the old Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto will not need to be reminded that the efficiency of that institutions (admirable as it was in all its details) was first weakened and finally destroyed in consequence of a general feeling of distrust and dissatisfaction among the clergy in the first instance, and then communicated to the laity. The failure of the Church Society was not caused by the defalcations of the unfortunate secretary of that day, as many were led to suppose, though that gentleman's pecuniary difficulties (brought about chiefly by his own good nature which would not allow him to deny a request) together with the inconsiderate demands made upon his time by his numerous correspondents, were made to do service in concealing the mal-practice of the several committees whose business it should have been to see that the duties of the Society's employees were faithfully performed. It cannot be denied that his Lordship speaks the truth when he points to the same feeling of distrust which is rapidly gaining ground in this diocese.

It is to be hoped that our present amiable clerical secretary has set his house in order, for when trouble comes, as assuredly it will, unless a change take place and that speedily, some one will be sacrificed to divert attention from the real *causa derelicta*.

The secretary reports that certain parishes have not been heard from. He might safely have added that some of them (and by no means a small number) *never will* be heard from, nor will the hopeful results of their anticipated returns be realized.

The truth is these parishes have grown indifferent to the doings of the Mission Board, and the deficiency goes on increasing, although, from the imperfect way in which the accounts have been made up, owing to the incompleteness of returns, the discrepancies are not apparent. And so at last his Lordship, with his characteristic generosity, has opened the purse strings of the susten-

tation fund, and the pursuers have received a check (? cheque;) but it is only those in the immediate vicinity that are appeased. There are still many outsiders, like myself, whom this precious morsel will fail to reach. And so our laity hear the sounds of discontent, and these sounds have reached his Lordship's ears, hence this temporary and *partial* relief, but the evil goes on, nevertheless, and the Bishop's warning has come none too soon.

My dear Sir, yours truly,
P. F. H.

WOOD'S "BIBLE ANIMALS."

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I have been much pleased with some notices, recently furnished by your correspondents, respecting Wood's "Bible Animals." Permit me to add my testimony to the extreme value of that most interesting work.

I wrote, sometime ago, to Mr. Wood on the subject of the *Serpent* or *Crocodile*, venturing to express my opinion that he was scarcely justified in translating the Hebrew word *Tannin*, Exodus vii. 9, a *Crocodile*; because, although *Tannin* *does* mean a *Crocodile*, a reference to the Hebrew Lexicon of Gesenius will shew that *that* is only its *third* meaning, its *first* being a *Serpent*.

Another lexicographer, Parkhurst, whose Hebrew words, however, have no vowel-points, says that *Tannin* is a "large kink of serpent." The verb from which the substantive is derived—the root—means to *hiss like a serpent*. My opinion, therefore, was that the translation in our authorized version is correct.

However, the courteous reply by Mr. Wood to the letter I addressed to him may prove interesting to your readers, and I hope tend to increase the circulation of his admirable work. I therefore take the liberty to append it.

I may add, in explanation of his remarks respecting the engraving of the Bees, page 606, that I took exception to the perspective of that plate; for, as will be seen, there appear, on a single group of large stones, *bees* of a natural size, a swarm of almost microscopic *hymenoptera* of the same family, and a *bird*,—the latter not nearly so large as the largest Bee.

VINCENT CLEMENTI, B. A.

Peterboro, May 7, 1877.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged by your corrections of my "Bible Animals," and the more so because they shew the attention with which you have read the book. I have marked the corrections and will have them made when we next go to press. I agree with you about the perspective of the bee. The draughtsman can draw a bee better than any one; but he knows nothing of perspective, and no power on earth can keep him from introducing it. As to aerial perspective his notions of it remind me of Hogarth's engraving on the subject.

With regard to the *Crocodile* and the *Nachash*, the rendering which I take is that which has been sanctioned by the well-known Dr. Beigel and other learned Jews, from which I have received invaluable assistance. I have no time at present to go into the arguments; but the passages were very carefully considered before the MS. went to press.

I am, my dear Sir
Truly yours
J. G. Wood.

Rev. V. Clementi, B.A.

The following testimonials have also been received:

DEAR SIR,—Having carefully examined the Rev. J. G. Wood's work on "Bible Animals," I have no hesitation in recommending it to all lovers of God's word as a most valuable addition to our Biblical literature. I. HELLMUTH, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Huron.

I have no hesitation in saying that as a book of reference it is well worthy of public confidence and support. The treatise on "Evolution," by Dr. McCosh, is invaluable and thoroughly in keeping with the well known character of Dr. McCosh. M. BOOMER, L.L.D., Dean, London, Ont.