

on Associations tending to the Physical, Social, and Moral Improvement of the Working Classes; for example, the developement of the Co-operative Movement in the great manufacturing towns, and generally; on the philanthropic efforts of all parts of the Empire. *Domestic Economy*, including Hints for the Sanitary Improvement of Dwellings, Gardening, Window Horticulture, Domestic Pets, and all that conduces to the comfort and well-being of the household. *Articles on Natural History*, calculated to foster the love of Nature and the habit of observation. *Educational Information*, both for adults and young people. *Illustrated Sketches* of the Halls, Castles, Abbeys, Cathedrals, Country Churches, and Village Homes of England. *Original Poetry*, and occasional papers tending to familiarize the reader with the Literature and popular Poetry of other lands and times. *Literary Varieties*, including brief descriptive notices of new books, and choice extracts. *Correspondence* on subjects of popular interest will be encouraged and carefully noticed; and, generally, the tendency of the Magazine will be to give to its readers higher and larger views of human-life; and in all questions of social importance, not only to increase knowledge, but to enforce the better performance of Christian duty.

The Illustrations will be of a very superior character, and will include subjects printed in colours. The Magazine will be printed on good paper, in clear, readable type, and, when bound, will form a handsome volume of permanent value. In a word, as no expense or care will be spared in the general arrangements for its production, it is confidently believed that this will be the best and cheapest journal of its class ever published.

* * * *The New Magazine will be issued in Weekly Numbers at a Penny, and in Monthly Parts, with an Ornamental Wrapper, at Sixpence.*

OXFORD DIOCESAN CONFERENCE.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT OF THE BISHOP OF OXFORD.

At the Thursday week sitting the following subject was discussed, the Bishop in the chair:—"How practically can the maintenance of the distinctiveness of the Ministerial Commission be combined with the employment of Lay Agency, so as to prevent the spirit of Separation amongst those desiring to labour for Christ." The Bishop called on the Rev. Mr. Isham, who read a paper on the subject, after which the Right Rev. Prelate called on the Rev. Canon Miller, D. D., to give the results of his long experience. After some remarks from the Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, especially with reference to the agency of Christian women, and from Archdeacon Wordsworth, who warmly advocated the admission of laymen into Synodical Councils.—

The Bishop of Oxford said that evidently all the speakers had an earnest craving for lay help. They would be interested in learning that on Holy Thursday, after prayer and communion, this subject had engaged the anxious attention of a large Meeting of the Episcopate, including all the Archbishops, and several of the Colonial Bishops. They had resolved, subject to the inquiry as to whether one point of their scheme could be carried out consistently with the Act of Uniformity, that an order of "Readers" should be established—"Lay Deacons," as a designation, had been rejected. These "Readers" were to be publicly appointed, with prayer (not imposition of hands) and were to labour, under the parish clergyman, after episcopal examination, and with episcopal authority, in the outlying districts, in ministering