

British and Foreign.

A handsome new parish church is to be erected shortly at Douglas, Isle of Man.

A pastoral staff has been presented to the new Bishop of Antigua by the members of the congregation of Inverness cathedral.

At Truro cathedral the workmen are now busily engaged in putting in the foundations for the remaining seven bays of the nave.

Bishop Jenner, who was for some years Bishop of Dunedin, N.Z., and who resigned his See in 1871, has just been keeping his golden wedding.

The Dean of Winchester recently dedicated a stained glass window in the cathedral erected in memory of Dr. Thorold, 84th Bishop of the diocese.

The Rev. T. G. Presslie, curate of All Saints' Edinburgh, has resigned the curacy in order to take up work in the foreign mission field. He is going out to South Africa in November.

The division of the Diocese of Western Equatorial Africa has been decided upon, and a new diocese, taking its name from Uganda, will be founded. Bishop Tucker will be the first Bishop of the new diocese.

The Duke of Westminster has given a large stained-glass window to St. Paul's cathedral, which will be placed in position shortly after the new year. His Grace has further promised to give a similar window later on.

Two very beautiful memorial windows have been recently dedicated by the Bishop of Down in Lisburne cathedral. Another memorial window was lately unveiled in Derry cathedral to the memory of the late Archdeacon Hamilton.

Canon Keene, incumbent of Navan, who has spent the whole of his ministry in the Diocese of Meath, is likely to become the new Bishop of Meath, in the place of the Archbishop of Dublin. Canon Keene is a distinguished scholar.

The Rev. George Darlington, curate of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, has been appointed to the important vicarage of Kennington by the Archbishop of Canterbury. There are no less than eleven curates attached to the Parish Church of Kennington.

The new nave of the parish church of Swansea, South Wales, was opened recently by the Bishop of St. David's, who preached a special sermon. It is intended in time to entirely rebuild the parish church at a cost of £25,000, of which sum nearly £10,000 has already been paid or promised.

A number of the colonial and American Bishops visited York Minster on the Festival of the Transfiguration. There was a special celebration of the Holy Communion, at which the Archbishop of York was the celebrant, the Archbishop of Capetown the epistoler and the Archbishop of the West Indies the gospeller. Dr. Dudley, Bishop of Kentucky, preached the sermon.

Out of the 35 Archbishops and Bishops on the Episcopal Bench of England and Wales, Lord Salisbury, when he has filled up the vacancy caused by the death of the late Bishop Walsham How, will have appointed no less a number than 25 of them. In this respect the present Prime Minister of Great Britain has been even more fortunate than the late Lord Palmerston, who earned the name of "the Bishopmaker," from the large number of appointments which he made during his various terms of office.

Wells (says the Bath and Wells Diocesan Magazine) has the unique honour of having as one of its

citizens the oldest chorister in England. "Mr. T. Wicks, who took part in the services at St. Paul's cathedral on June 22, has been a chorister for sixty-three years, out of which he has been fifty-two years in Wells cathedral. Mr. Wicks, who is still hale and hearty, was formerly a choir-boy at St. George's, and in that capacity sang at the coronation of King William IV. He is seventy-eight years of age, and is still in active duty at the cathedral."

BRIEF MENTION.

Some Dutch naturalists in Greenland have brought up lobsters from a depth of 1,300 fathoms.

Grey horses are usually the longest lived. Creams are decidedly delicate, and are seriously affected by very warm weather.

Probably the greatest bibliophile among peers at the present time is Lord Crawford, the well-known Scottish nobleman.

Melbourne has a literary policeman who has published a dictionary of colonial criminal slang, and has started a weekly newspaper called the Alert.

When old coins are worn so that it is hard to make out the inscription, gradually heat the coin, and in almost all cases the inscription will appear.

Frogs have been raining down in thick showers on Bizerta, in Tunis. The largest were the size of a man's thumb.

The paper used for printing Jubilee post cards weighed 24 tons and stretched in an unbroken line would extend eight miles by 28½ inches wide. It produced 70,000,000 post cards.

The Queen of Sweden belongs to the Salvation Army, and sometimes wears the characteristic garb in public.

On a small island, not three acres in extent, off the coast of Chili, there is a deposit of 40,000,000 tons of guano.

John O'Brien, stated to have been at one time "champion fowler and angler of Ireland," has died at Newmarket, County Cork, aged 108 years.

The Japs are exporting to India hard felt hats of the regulation British pattern in vast quantities.

The loftiest inhabited place in the world is the Buddhist monastery of Haine, in Thibet. It is about 17,000 feet above the sea.

Nine tons' weight of coppers are taken every week from the London penny-in-the-slot gas meters. It is proposed to supply electricity on the same plan.

President McKinley's mail averages from 1,000 to 1,300 letters a day, besides several large sacks of newspapers. This is the largest mail in the history of the Presidential mansion.

The largest telegraph office in the world is in the general post-office building, London. There are over 3,000 operators, 1,000 of whom are women. The batteries are supplied by 30,000 cells.

For the 23 years of the French revolutionary wars, culminating with Waterloo, Britain spent over 50,000,000 pounds on an average annually.

Shortly after the Paris fire the Figaro, of that city, opened a subscription list for the benefit of the sufferers. This subscription in a short time amounted to the enormous sum of \$222,800.

A Melbourne bootmaker guarantees £100 insurance with each pair, if the deceased has his boots on.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

MR. SYMONDS' REPLY MOST UNSATISFACTORY.

Sir,—So many correspondents wrote criticizing Mr. Symonds' sermon that I waited for his ex-

planation. It has come, and Mr. S. will excuse my saying that he has made a worse case than his sermon. He gives us illustrations of growth and adaptation without any intimation by direct instruction from our Saviour. Acts vi., and the appearance of elders—Well! In the first place is it conclusive that Acts vi. describes the institution of what we call the diaconate? But in the second, if it be the record of this, the Apostles proceed about the business in a most authoritative way, as if they knew exactly what to do. When did they learn how? Next, does not the fact that there is no record of the institution of elders plainly show that their institution was by authority of Apostles rather than by growth or development? (c.p. Acts xiv. 23, with Titus i. 5 and 1. Tim. iii.) Mr. Symonds is surely not forgetting that "the disciples" (Acts i. 15) during the days of waiting deliberately filled up the Apostolate (Acts i. 25) by the election of Matthias. Are we to conclude that they did this of their own volition or was it in obedience to our Saviour's instruction under the power of that "earnest of the Holy Ghost" which they had received? (St. John xx. 22.) Here was the first extension of the Apostolate. Barnabas is called an Apostle (Acts xiv. 14). Is it anywhere explained how he was appointed? Acts xiii. does not explain it. A plain reader might think, and he would not be far astray, that the 1st chapter of the Acts threw some light upon it. How do we account for the actions of St. Peter and St. John in Acts viii.? Was it an afterthought? For we do not read of anything like it in Acts ii. Is it not that we have here a rule of the Church from the first, and full particulars are given, as this is the first fruits of Christian preaching beyond Jerusalem. The Apostles did not here do any new thing. They were carrying out the custom of the Church. But when did they receive their knowledge of what they ought to do? One can surely claim some justification if he refers to Acts i. 3. There are, no doubt, many meanings for "the Kingdom of God." But when the writer of the "Acts of the Holy Apostles" begins with "the things concerning the Kingdom of God," and ends (Acts xxviii. 31) with "preaching the Kingdom of God and the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ," one aspect of the Kingdom of God before his mind must have been, not graces, nor souls, only, but a visible organization. And one may be pardoned, the honoured names of Lightfoot, Brooks and others, notwithstanding, if he concludes that our Saviour did give instructions about the details of the organization of the Church. It is curious to read these positive statements about the absence of details when one remembers St. Matt. xviii. 17. St. John xx. 23 (I am not unmindful of what Bishop Westcott says), and when one remembers the institution of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Besides, ought anyone with even a small knowledge of the "make-up" of the New Testament, to forget the date of "the Acts of the Apostles"? It is not a journal, but written years after the acts were done, when whatever organization there was, was more or less complete—anyway well understood, and so not requiring any particular definition or description. Is it reasonable, therefore, to look in this book for details in the way of commandments and instruction by our Saviour?

In the absence of details—and Bishop Browne, "39 articles," teaches us that "it appears to have been far from the design of the author of Holy Scripture to set down every article of Christian truth in the form of a distinct enunciation"—in the absence of details is it reasonable to conclude positively that the organization we read of is simply development, and not of Divine instruction?

WILLIAM CRAIG.

POOR REASON WHEN DR. SO AND SO IS THEIR AUTHORITY.

Sir,—It is pitiable to see men justifying themselves with no better reason than that Dr. So and So is their authority. We are but small and shallow if convinced by such argument. Moreover, our hearts are not right when we cry, I am of Westcott, I of Lightfoot, any more than the hearts of the Corinthians were right when they cried, I am of