

the full evidence is available, that this remarkable canon 17 was at the time of its adoption clearly antagonistic to Bishop Strachan's views during his whole life time, and *per se* repugnant to the Acts 19 and 20 Vic., 1857, and the explanatory Act 22 Vic., 1858, which must be taken as one Act, and which founded or perfected the establishment of the Synod of Toronto. I have only in conclusion to make two remarks: 1. If the explanatory Act of 1858 was in some way annulled and repealed as section 6 of the Incorporation Act implies, by its not being included in that section, it should have been so noted, otherwise it would seem the Act exists, and if so, the situation demands a fair and just consideration by all interested in the welfare of the Synod. But one point I shall venture to say is clear already: 2. Under any circumstances, whether my contention be right or no, canon 17 is wrong in principle, immoral in practice, most unfair to country laymen, does violence to the views of Bishop Strachan, and should in the interest of a properly constituted representative assembly, be cancelled. J. SYMONS.  
Toronto, August 28, 1896.

#### BRIEF MENTION.

The Rev. Robert Ker is on a visit to Chelsea, Diocese of Montreal.

Rev. Mr. Hughes has been transferred from Adelaide to Tilsonburg.

The Rev. R. M. Doherty, of the Diocese of Iowa, is taking temporary duty at St. George's, St. Catharines.

The Ladies' Guild of the Church at North Hatley has raised \$250 for congregational uses.

The Queen is particularly fond of orchids, but does not like strongly scented flowers.

The rumour is again revived that the Prince of Naples is likely to marry Princess Elena of Montenegro.

Property to the value of £900,000 is left in the railway carriages of Great Britain every year.

A clan association of all the Lindsays is about to be formed under the chieftainship of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres.

The latest telegrams from Matabeleland report great improvement in the situation, and promise a speedy end to the rebellion.

Professor Haddon claims that Stephenson obtained his idea of a railway coach from an Irish jaunting car.

The very oldest Chinese porcelain is a pure white, without any colour whatever, sometimes with figures raised in relief. The earliest colour laid on was blue.

Cartridges tested by the Roentgen rays to show that they have been carefully loaded are offered for sale by a London gunsmith.

Bishop Sullivan of Algoma will not formally make known his decision in the matter of the St. James' rectorship until the House of Bishops meets, towards the end of September.

The Queen's favourite walking-stick disappeared the other day, and enquiries revealed the fact that Princess Ena of Battenberg had abstracted it for the purpose of "playing at grand-mamma."

The largest orchard in Great Britain is at Todington, in the county of Gloucester. It is 500 acres in extent, and in some seasons yields its owner, Lord Sudley, a profit of \$50,000. The trees are chiefly apples and plums.

Early in the present century Lord James Cavendish rode on horseback from Hyde Park corner to Windsor lodge, which is upwards of 20 miles, in less than an hour.

No less than \$51,000 insurance money has already been paid to the relatives of the victims of the Drummond Castle disaster by four different offices. About \$10,000 more has to be paid by the same companies.

Queen Victoria has sent ten pounds and her picture, framed, to Mrs. Kereth of Cornwall, who has seven sons in the English army. The Queen has asked for a picture of the mother and sons.

Mr. Dover, the man for whom Dover's powders were named, was the finder of Alexander Selkirk on his lonely isle.

The finest tomb in Great Britain is undoubtedly that of the Duke of Hamilton, in the grounds of the duke's seat. It cost over \$1,000,000.

With the completion of the trans-Siberian railway in 1900 the tour of the world in 30 days will be an accomplished fact.

A. J. Miller, a wealthy merchant of Frankfort, Ind., has offered to give \$50,000 to any one who will restore his sight, lost three years ago by a stroke of paralysis.

Hampton Court's great gold fish is dead. It lived in the central fountain, weighed four pounds, and was probably the largest and oldest specimen of its kind in England.

Emperor William takes a special interest in the building of the Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem, work on which is progressing rapidly. The spire is nearly finished, and the completion of the interior of the church will shortly be taken in hand. The designs for the portico, the altar, and the pulpit are accepted, and it is stated that those for the pulpit, as well as for the spire, were made by the Emperor himself.

When Prince Maximilian of Saxony was ordained to the priesthood recently, he signed a paper renouncing all the rights he possessed in virtue of his royal birth. The renunciation is to be void, however, in case all the other Princes of the Royal house of Saxony, of whom there are only five, should die before him.

The Crown Princess of Denmark, Princess Maud's mother-in-law, is the tallest princess in Europe, and has a magnificent physique, being as strong as a man. In her girlhood she underwent a thorough course of gymnastic exercises, following the method which is known in England as the Swedish system.

### Family Reading.

#### An Evening Prayer.

Sweet Saviour! Guide of every day  
Hear, as at eventide we pray,  
That through the fleeting hours of night,  
Thy watchful love may be our light.

Lighten the darkness of our souls,  
As sin its awful blackness rolls,  
And through the night, with tender care,  
Protect and save from every snare.

From thrall of sin, let Thy great power  
Be with, and guard each passing hour!  
From sickness, danger or alarm,  
From lurking foe, from fear or harm.

O cleanse us, Lord, from every stain,  
Each sinful thought do Thou restrain;  
And while from toil we rest in sleep,  
Do Thou our souls in mercy keep.

Bless us this night with sweet repose,  
And, as the shadows round us close,  
May we reclining on Thy breast,  
Find there the path to endless rest.  
—H. G. B.

#### Church Terms Explained.

*Office.*—Morning and Evening Prayer are called the daily choir offices.

*Officiant.*—The priest who sings the Divine Office, &c.

#### HOLY ORDERS.

*Bishop.*—From a Greek word *Episcopos*, an overseer; of the order were Titus and Timothy. In the English Church a bishop must not be less than 30 years old, a priest 24, and a deacon 23, unless on dispensation.

*Priest.*—The second order of the ministry from *Presbuteros* or elder; in common with bishops, priests have power to absolve, to consecrate and bless, but not to ordain. The difference between a priest and deacon is far greater than between a deacon and a layman.

*Deacon.*—The lowest of the three orders (the word means a minister); he is the assistant of the priest and may only perform certain spiritual duties.

*Ordinal.*—The offices for the ordination of bishops, priests and deacons, usually bound up with the Prayer Book.

*Ordinary.*—A bishop or other ecclesiastic who has ordinary jurisdiction.

#### Social Failings.

Beware of doing harm in society. Yes, the word may be a strong one, in reference to the social gatherings of a little neighbourhood of professed Christians; strong, yet not too strong. Pride may come there. Our Saviour noted as one of the crying sins of the Pharisee his love of the "chief rooms" (places) at feasts. Beware of those false disciples who love the foremost seats in church and the chief places at feasts! And vanity may come there. Vanity of dress, vanity of face, vanity of manners, and vanity of conversation. We come, not to give pleasure, but to please. Souls have been lost in society. To be a good talker, to be a clever jester, to be a pungent story-teller, to be a desired element in general conversation, these things have become an ambition, an aim and goal of life, just as others have found it in riches or in honours. Pride may come, and vanity—and alas! charity may not come here. It comes not, or it stays not, where scandal is; where discussion of other men's matters, other men's conduct, other men's characters, is, where idle tales, purposeless at best, probably but one-third true, more than possibly false to the core, are retailed, commented upon, laughed over, though the appearance of the person discussed would instantly silence and abash the loudest! These things are the unchristian use of society. But in all watchings against evil there should be a positive striving after good. It is not by encountering our enemies in detail that we best overcome them, whether in speech or in life. Let the negative have its positive. Let a high aim and a Christian motive go with us into society, and we shall not be there like men armed for self-defence or chained against offending, but rather as free and large-hearted friends fearing no evil because God is with them.—Dean Vaughan.

#### Give of Our Best.

Why is it that men so soon wax weary in labour? How is it that there have come amongst us such low standards of giving? How comes it that we think it enough, if out of the abundance that is given to many of us, we give but the paring and offscouring of our abundance to Him? How is it we give the day to our work and the night to our pleasure, and think it much if we remember Him in a hurried prayer, that we feel rather glad to have said? Because His presence is not by us; because we do not realize that His eye—the discriminating eye which saw the poor widow offer her mite and the rich man cast his empty unrequited gift into the treasury—that discriminating eye is beside us now. It is that that makes our labour so little and our gifts so poor. If you and I can get into His presence, go as she did who brought the alabaster box and knelt at His feet in the house of Simon the leper, heard His voice, see the brow that thorns have bound, mark the hands the nails have pierced—if we did but thus see Him beside us, should we not love to offer our very hearts to Him?—Bishop Wilberforce.

#### The Misuse of Texts.

I protest against the misuse of isolated texts, which has ever been the curse of Christian truth, the glory of narrow intellects, and the cause of the worst errors of the worst days of the corrupted Church. Tyranny has engraved texts upon her sword; oppression has carved texts upon her fetters; cruelty has tied texts around her faggots; ignorance has set knowledge at defiance with texts woven upon her flag; intemperance has been defended out of Timothy; and slavery has made a stronghold out of Philemon. Satan, as we know, can quote texts for his purpose. They were quoted by the Pharisees, not once or twice only, against our Lord Himself; and, when St. Paul fought the great battle of Christian freedom, he was anathematized with a whole pentateuch of opposing texts. But we are in the dispensation of the Holy Spirit. Our guide is the Scriptures of God in their catholic outlines—the revelation of God in its glorious unity—the books of God in their eternal simplicity, read by the illumination of that Spirit of Christ which dwelleth in us.—Dean Farrar.