

was set down in the census at 174,900, and 300. The spirit in which Mr. Swainson works may be gathered from one of his pointed illustrations: "A fisherman," he said, "does not go up a hill, build a fish-house, and then sit down and expect the fish will come ashore and crawl up half a mile into his fish house to give him a chance to catch them. If he would get fish he must go after them and launch forth into the deep." Captain Stanley, of the Church army, an experienced missionary, says Mr. Swainson's parish is one of the most difficult spots to manage in London, but he has succeeded in arousing the people, and bringing them out to church."

New Bishop of Mauritius.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has offered the Bishopric of Mauritius, vacant by the translation of Dr. Pym to Bombay, to the Rev. Francis Ambrose Gregory, who has telegraphed from South Africa his acceptance of the offer. The new Bishop is the youngest son of Dr. Gregory, Dean of St. Paul's, and was educated at Trinity College, Glenalmond, and Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Shortly after being ordained priest he volunteered for missionary work in the island of Madagascar, where he worked for twenty-six years, and established St. Paul's College, Ambatoharanana, of which he was the first principal. Its object was to train native catechists and clergy, and it has received a yearly sum of £100 from the S.P.G. Mr. Gregory has also done valuable work as a translator. In 1900 he was decorated by the French Government in recognition of his services to native education. In 1901 he accepted from the S.P.G. the chaplaincy of Mentone, where, about a year ago, he lost his wife. At present he is taking temporary work in South Africa at the invitation of the Bishop of Cape Town. He will probably return to England at an early date. The Bishop designate was ordained deacon in 1873 and priest in 1874.

Cremation.

In a recent lecture on this subject at Leeds, England, by Dr. Andrew Wilson it was pointed out that cremation did in one hour what would be done by natural processes in from three to five years. The lecturer declared that burial in an oak coffin was not burial in the true sense, for the early Christians used no coffins, but wrapped the corpse in a winding sheet. At the crematory everything was done "decently and in order." The incinerating was out of sight, and no trace of flame or odour could be found. The lecturer summed up his arguments for cremation thus: "In the common system of burial you have putrefaction and decay in the earth; in the other, the open door, the furnace, the cleansing fire, and the rest is silence."

THE CHURCH AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The Official Year Book of the Church of England, of which Canon Burnside is editor, published by the S.P.C.K., again arrays the figures which illustrate the growth and reveal the impediments which hinder the Church's progress, both at home and abroad. As far as the Church in England is concerned careful statistics are collected and tabulated, and, so far as figures can tell the tale of success or failure, we are able to gauge with a measurable degree of accuracy what the Church has accomplished or failed to do in the past year. Signs of progress are not wanting in many directions, and there is no ground for pessimism; but it is well to remember what the editor says in the preface, that "the hinderances which thwart the advance of Christianity and restrain the work of the Church are many and great." There has been a slight increase in the number of candidates for holy orders, which was 504, against 576 the previous year, but this is considerably below the numbers in the nineties, and altogether inadequate to meet

the wants of the Church in the face of a steadily increasing population of the country. Confirmations show an increase, being 220,284, against 207,586. This is the highest total for the past ten years with the exception of 1899, when it was somewhat higher. There is an encouraging increase in the number of both baptisms and communicants. Baptisms total 587,743, and communicants 2,123,551. The latter figures leave great room for improvement, as they show that only 6½ per cent. of the population are communicants. Sunday Schools show an increase, and lay help generally is being developed; and the editor emphasizes the importance of lay service if the Church is to toil effectually at the tasks which modern needs have created. The total voluntary offerings, no doubt as a result of the reaction after the Boer war in trade and commerce generally, show a decrease of nearly £110,000. The Church in the colonies is not illustrated by the same wealth and accuracy of statistics as is the Mother Church, but to its steady growth Canon Burnside draws attention, saying: "The reports of the Bishops, if carefully read, may rightly claim thoughtful reflection, as they will show in what great need the colonies stand of the sympathetic co-operation of those who would see these vast tracts of country growing in their development and influence, permeated with the life and faith of the kingdom of Christ." In this connection we may dwell on the need there is for a federal union of the Church, both at home and abroad. Imperial federation is recognized as a need of the times, growing out of the development of the Empire, and there is equal, if not greater, need for an Imperial Church with an Imperial policy, if we are not to drift apart and waste our energies and resources for the lack of united counsel and effort. We are pleased to notice that action in this direction has already been begun, and that in answer to the letter of the United Board of Missions the General Synod of New Zealand at its meeting in Auckland on January 28th passed the following resolution, that "There is need to consider the erection of the various Provinces of the Anglican Communion within the Empire and the missionary dioceses of the Church of England into a federal council of the same, which shall in some real sense represent the Church of the Empire." Mr. Chamberlain's advice to "think Imperially" is as timely for the Church as it is for the State if we would preserve the unity of faith and doctrine which now happily exists, and in a common organization and effort combine our power and means to extend and edify the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

WAKE UP.

When the Prince of Wales returned to England from his tour of the Empire, in which he had unrivalled facilities and opportunities of meeting the public men and people generally of the British colonies, of witnessing their energy, pluck and enterprise, which had turned vast outlying possessions into valuable Imperial assets, and of seeing for himself the resources and immense possibilities of great self-governing countries, such as Canada, Australia and New Zealand, his message to the English people, as expressed at a banquet tendered him by the city of London at the Mission House, was "Wake up." By actual contact he realized the extent of England's Empire, and the responsibility which rested on the parent State. He also realized that many, far too many, at home were ignorant of and indifferent to this great heritage, and needed to be aroused to the work which lay before them in welding the component parts of Empire into a united and harmonious and prosperous State, each having, with local autonomy general co-operation in matters of general interest. Politically, commercially, and socially, if a united Empire is to be maintained, must the bonds of Empire be forged; and people, though of common origin, yet so separated by

distance and conditions, are to be under the sway of one monarch, and united in counsel, defence, and trade. The timely utterance of the heir-apparent to the throne has not been without its effect upon statesmen and the public generally, and men of all parties, though differing, perhaps to the best method of still further uniting the Empire, are all avowed Imperialists. Most conspicuous among them is Mr. Chamberlain, who, apart from his policy of preferential trade treatment for the colonies, is a most ardent advocate of everything that tends to unite the colonies more closely to the Mother Country, and who has made it the paramount question in British politics. To this particular subject the Prince of Wales's warning, as the result of his colonial experience, to "wake up" has not been in vain, and England is seeking to fulfill her mission as an Imperial power, and to solve those problems which her unique position in the world entail upon her. It is no new question which is presented to English statesmen and to the English people, for as long ago as 1839, with a prescience which adds lustre to his memory, a Whig statesman, Lord John Russell, on the occasion of his taking over the Colonial Office, said: "I soon became interested in colonial affairs. It seemed to me that the Imperial Government was bound, both in honour and from the soundest views of national policy, to protect, foster, and defend our colonies. It may be a matter of doubt whether or no to build up a colonial Empire. But it is evident that, if Great Britain gives up her supremacy from a niggardly spirit of parsimony or from a craven spirit of helplessness, other Powers will soon look upon the Empire, not with the regard due to an equal, as she once was, but with jealousy of the height she once held, without the fear she once inspired. To build up an Empire extending over every sea, swaying many diverse races and combining many forms of religion, requires courage and capacity; to allow such an Empire to fall to pieces is a task which may be permitted by the poor in intellect, the pusillanimous in conduct." England needs also to wake up in her industrial efforts to compete with other nations, and to study how to excel in foreign markets, and to adapt herself to the needs and requirements of her customers abroad. In education she is surpassed by America and Germany, and in this department of national progress there is occasion to arouse herself to greater effort and thoroughness. This is the burden of the report of the Mosely Educational Commission, reported in the London Times. "The Commissioners despatched last autumn to investigate the conditions of education in the United States have issued their reports. The view of the Commissioners appears to be that, while education is not the prime cause of the remarkable progress of the last thirty years in America, it is a powerful contributory cause and the essential condition of its maintenance. That the root of educational progress in America, and the secret of any superiority that its institutions possess lies in the good will of the people and the universal belief in the value of education, and that there is as yet nothing like finality in American educational institutions any more than in our own, are among the general conclusions which are to be gathered from the report. Mr. Mosely himself is more inclined, apparently, than some of his Commissioners to regard education as the chief, if not the sole, factor in American commercial success. The general lesson he draws is that England must 'wake up.' Mr. Papillon thinks there are other equally potent causes of American success. As President Roosevelt said to the Commissioners, 'Education will not save a nation, but no nation can be saved without education.' One general conclusion suggested by the reports is that there is as yet nothing like finality in American educational institutions, any more than in our own." Material and mental awakening will do little if England be not great also in righteousness, which alone can truly exalt a nation. The vastness of the work, both at home and abroad, which con-

fronts. In resource guard the most sign of the part of the Church concerted standing. Great as lying po equally gr it is pain our Chris seem to n to still gr The folle flection a state of t lightness puring the saloons o recent Su while 31, 122,475 w 38,118 wer as well as and timely

Spectator

The ret sume his by tens o feigned sa pire will holiday health, wl permanent duty. Du has been British P rehearsal as well as edge his power in statesmen Colonial conspicio peral hist a position ner into t with amb history m not fail to other sing perial con for its ac closely as lution of noyance, questions, erting to constancy giming h Radical e of the C possibly I suspicions the public characteri sistency in outward f damental may chafe cherished by their e To Spec out in the is his po Britons b ght of se of what al