

before making an appointment, but the congregation of St. James last year found that this promise virtually amounted to nothing.

The church in Kingston has never prospered since the advent of the Bishop as it ought to have done, and as I believe it would have done had the laity retained the patronage in their own hands.

Missionary Deputations visit the city year after year to urge the Laity to give liberally to the cause of Missions. They wonder at the lukewarmness of the people; they are not told that the great cause of this apathy in giving not merely to the Mission fund, but to every Diocesan fund, is their having no voice in the appointment of their Ministers, or in having obnoxious Ministers forced upon them.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, because I desire the peace and prosperity of the Church, I wish to see the present system (to which I have always been opposed) changed. The laity are called to contribute largely to the support of the Church—and what is more reasonable than that they should wish to have a voice, not by favor but by right, in the Ministers set over them, especially when it is considered that they must make their selections from men who have been already consecrated by the Bishops, and who, if they ever should do anything improper can be speedily dismissed.

the Church in Montreal, Huron, and Toronto that the Laity should have this privilege, it can not be bad in Ontario. I believe a Canon will be prepared, which, while giving due importance to the rights of the Bishop, will claim a like privilege for the Laity. I trust the Laity will warmly support the principle of the proposed Canon by passing resolutions at the ensuing Easter Vestries, claiming the right, as vacancies occur, to a voice in the appointment of their Ministers, and sending forward petitions to the Synod to that effect.

I am Your ob't Servant, JAMES SHANNON, Lay Delegate St. Paul's Church, Kingston, April 9, 1870.

THE CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE AGES.—In times that had no profane theatres, lecture-rooms, opera houses—none of those sources of artistic amusement and intellectual diversions which are so abundant in modern society—the mediæval citizen went to his church for wholesale relaxation and æsthetic culture, as well as for devotional exercise, and spiritual edification. His ordinary dwelling-room was low, dark, narrow, and ill-furnished; the church, a work of noble art, was lofty, luminous, spacious, and richly decorated.

EXTRACTS RELATING TO THE PROPHECIES.

Daniel, xl. chapter, 36, 37, 38 verses.—"And the king shall do according to his will, and he shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every God, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of Gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers: nor the desire of women, nor regard any God; for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate, shall he honour the God of forces, and a God whom his fathers knew not shall he honour, with gold and silver and with precious stones and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strongholds with a strange God, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory, and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain."

We may observe that at the present time, as heretofore, he, who is here styled "the king," endeavours to arrogate to himself the prerogatives of the Almighty, exalts himself above all human laws as well as Divine, dispenses with the most sacred and solemn obligations, and in many respects enjoins what God had forbidden. If a succession of men require obedience to their own commands, which evidently contradict those of God,—if they establish the claim of dispensing with the laws of the only God whom they profess to worship, and this habitually, and from age to age, they may be said to magnify themselves above all that is called God. This power we are here informed is to prosper till the indignation against the Jews—God's ancient people—ceases, and not till then.

By the desire of women, the desire of marriage seems to be meant, and where on earth has any power permanently and avowedly stigmatized marriage as dishonourable except the Church of Rome? Convents of nuns have regularly, almost necessarily attended those of monks and friars, and in both senses the Apostles' prediction of a power forbidding to marry, as well as Daniel's, of a power not regarding the desire of women has been literally fulfilled.

In his estate he shall honour the God of forces, or, as the margin reads, "Mauzzim." This is the plural of the word translated, a fortress, a strong tower, or a rock, in very many places in the Scriptures, and in this very chapter, verses 7, 10, 19. True Christians have, with Daniel, but one "Mahuzim." Apostate Christians have then many "mauzzim." By the "God whom his fathers knew not," is probably meant the Romish God of Heaven, the immaculate Virgin, who, from being the honoured instrument, is deified into even a higher position than that of the Son of Man himself, and who is honoured and adored with the most costly offerings, "with gold and silver and precious stones and desirable things."

With this foreign God, he shall worship Mahuzzim, God's protectors, such as saints and angels are supposed to be. Remark, "Mahuzzim" is plural, and signifies protectors and guardians, and we know that both in Romish and Greek churches, saints and angels are adored as guardians of mankind. Festival days were instituted to them, miracles were ascribed to them, churches were erected to them, their relics were worshipped and adored, and what renders the completion of the prophecy more remarkable is, that they were celebrated and adored under the title of "Mahuzzim," or bulwarks and fortresses, or protectors and guardians of mankind. The successful Popes having once acknowledged their "mahuzzim" as objects of religious worship, they would honour them more and more, from age to age, and invest them with a dominion even over those who have entered into the unseen world, and induce multitudes to seek deliverance out of purgatory for their deceased friends, from their powerful intercession, and to purchase, at a vast expense, masses and prayers from the priests and monks for that purpose. Let it be here remembered that this power has invested the Apostle Peter with the keys of heaven itself, in order that, as his successor, the Pope might claim the same authority over the eternal state of mankind at large, and, finally, should divide the earth among them. St. George shall have England, St. Andrew, Scotland, St. Denis, France, St. James, Spain, St. Mark, Venice, and bear rule as presidents and patrons of their several countries. And, doubtless, the dividing the earth among the Mahuzzim was made a source of great gain, accruing from the several countries thus placed under the guardian care of these several saints. The defenders and champions of Mahuzzim were the monks,

and priests, and bishops, and religious orders; and that they have been honoured and revered; that their authority and jurisdiction have extended over the purses and consciences of men; that they have been enriched with noble buildings and large endowments, and have had the choicest land, appropriated for church land, are points of such public notoriety that they require no proof.—Extracted from Scott, Newton, Mede, &c.

MARVELS OF MEMORY.

Some examples of the marvels of memory would seem entirely incredible had they not been given to us upon the highest authority. Cyrus knew the name of each soldier in his army. It is also related of Themistocles that he could call by name every citizen of Athens, although the number amounted to twenty thousand. Mithridates, king of Pontus, knew all his eighty thousand soldiers by their right names. Scipio knew all the inhabitants of Rome. Seneca complained of old age because he could not, as formerly, repeat two thousand names in the order in which they were read to him; and he stated that on one occasion, when at his studies, two hundred unconnected verses having been recited by the different pupils of his preceptor, he repeated them in a reversed order, proceeding from the last to the first.

Lord Granville could repeat, from beginning to end, the New Testament in the original Greek. Cooke, the tragedian, is said to have committed to memory all the contents of a large daily newspaper. Racine could recite all the tragedies of Euripides.

It is said that George III. never forgot a face he had once seen, nor a name he had ever heard. Miranda would commit to memory the contents of a book by reading it three times, and could frequently repeat the words backwards as well as forward. Thomas Cranmer committed to memory, in three months, an entire translation of the Bible. Euler, the mathematician, could repeat the Æneid; and Leibnitz, when an old man, could recite the whole of Virgil, word for word.

It is said that Bossuet could repeat, not only the whole Bible, but all Homer, Virgil, and Horace, besides many other works.

Mozart had a wonderful memory of musical sounds. When only fourteen years of age, he went to Rome to assist in the solemnities of Holy Week. Immediately after his arrival, he went to the Sistine chapel to hear the famous "Miserere" of Allegri. Being aware that it was forbidden to take or give a copy of this renowned piece of music, Mozart placed himself in a corner, and, on leaving the church, noted down the entire piece. A few days afterwards he heard it a second time, and, following the music with his own copy in his hand, satisfied himself of the fidelity of his memory. The next day he sang the "Miserere" at a concert, accompanying himself on the harpsichord; and the performance produced such a sensation in Rome that Pope Clement XIV. requested that this musical prodigy should be presented to him at once.—Oliver Optic's Magazine.

A FAMOUS SHIP.

Hiero, king of Syracuse, built a ship, which in several points, may have surpassed some of our modern floating palaces. The celebrated geometrician Archimedes superintended the construction. It had only twenty banks of oars; but we can gain a better idea of the size of this ship, as compared with those common in that age, from the fact that the timber for it would have been sufficient for sixty triremes—the most common ships of war, with three banks of oars. Various kinds of wood, and other articles for finishing, were brought from Gaul, Spain, and Italy. The floors of several of the rooms were composed of all kinds of stones inlaid; and on this mosaic the whole story of the Iliad was depicted in a marvellous manner. "In the furniture the ceilings, and the doors, everything," says the historian, "was finished in the same admirable manner."

Then there was a gymnasium, and walks, and a garden with all sorts of plants, and a temple with a floor of agate and other most beautiful stones, and with doors of citron wood and ivory, while the adornment was completed with pictures and statues. The drawing rooms and bathing-rooms were beautifully variegated with Tauromenian marble. The arrangements for various kinds of freight and for engines of war were ample. They put on board sixty thousand measures of corn, ten thousand jars of Sicilian salt fish, twenty thousand talents' weight of wool,—nearly six hundred tons,—and of other cargo twenty thousand talents, weight also. Besides this, there were provisions for the crew.—Oliver Optic's Magazine.

Commercial.

Church Observer Office, Wednesday, April 13, 1870.

The ice on the river is gradually clearing. There is now an open channel in the middle of the river from the bridge downwards, and it is generally supposed that the danger of a flood is over, the water gradually lowering. The weather has been rather cooler, and there is signs of rain coming.

Gold, 12½ to 13¼ dis. Greenbacks bought at 88½, and sold at 88½. Do. for silver, bought at 92½, and sold at 93. Silver, 5 to 5½ dis. Exchange on New York, 11. Sterling do., in New York, 9½. Sterling exchange in Montreal, 9¼.

STOCK AND SHARE LIST.

Table with columns: BANKS, Am't of Shares, Paid up, Dividend, Closing Prices. Includes entries for Bank of Montreal, Bank of B. N. A., City Bank, etc.

ROBERT MOAT, BROKER,

North British Chambers, Hospital Street

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKET

April 13, 1870.

Table listing market prices for various goods: LLOUR—Per barrel of 196 lbs., Superior Extra, Extra Superfine, Fancy Superfine, etc.

Died.

At Kiltred County, Londonderry, Ireland, on the 16th of March, Mrs. James Shannon, aged 73 years, mother of Messrs. William and James Shannon, of Kingston, Ont.