

Dominion Churchman.

THE ORGAN OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CANADA.

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The "Dominion Churchman" is the organ of the Church of England in Canada, and is an excellent medium for advertising—being a family paper, and by far the most extensively circulated Church journal in the Dominion.

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LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

July 16. SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.—

Morning... 2 Samuel 1. Acts 19, 21.
Evening... 2 Samuel 12 to 24, or 18. St. Matt. 8, to 18.

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1882.

THE Bishop of Antigua is to celebrate a Confirmation in the Savoy on the 15th.

The Bishop of Exeter laid the foundation stone of the nave of the church of St. Mark's, Ford, Devonport, on the 10th ult.

The Bishop of Lichfield recently consecrated a new church which has been erected in Derby at a cost of £7,000, dedicated to St. Chad.

After nearly ten months of uninterrupted health Dean Close was seized, on one of England's warmest days, with a severe attack of bronchitis. Later accounts state that the symptoms are becoming more favourable.

St. Stephen's church, Tunbridge Wells, is the only free and open church in that town. Daily matins and evensong are of course observed, and a fund has been established for the enlargement of the sacred edifice.

The top-stone of a new steeple to the Ryde Parochial church was recently laid by the Vicar, the Rev. Alexander Poole, who mounted to the summit of the steeple and conducted a short service there; the Bishop of Winchester, at the same time, taking part in a service inside the church.

By permission of the Queen the annual Commemoration of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, was held in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, on St. John Baptist's Day, the 24th ult. Holy Communion at ten, matins at eleven, sermon by the Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, rector of Sutton Coldfield, and one of the chaplains of the Order.

A large number of clergy and laity assembled on the 12th ult. at the Chapter House of St. Paul's, London, to present a testimonial and address to the Very Rev. John Oakley, D.D., the new Dean of Carlisle, on his promotion to his new office. The testimonial consisted of a centre table piece in silver, and four dessert stands of pentagonal form and Gothic ornamentation, each surmounted by a richly cut glass dish *en suite*. The Bishop of Bedford presided at the presentation.

The Bishop of Meath has appointed the Archdeacon of Meath (Ven. C. P. Reichel) to the deanery of Clonmacnoise, vacant by the death of the Very Rev. John Brownlow. The Rev. Garrett Nugent, rector Balrathboyne, succeeds to the archdeaconry of Meath, and the Rev. Graham Craig, rector of Tullamore, becomes diocesan Registrar.

The sale of a farm on the land of the Duke of Devonshire a few days ago, at Lismore, shows the value to which the tenant right in Ireland not unfrequently grows. The holding contains about a hundred acres, and has been left at a rent of £85; the valuation being £75. It was stated that the landlord was willing to accept the present as a judicial rent for fifteen years. The interest was sold to a local farmer, after considerable competition, for £615.

Ten years ago Congregationalism represented six per cent. of the population in the religious accommodation provided in London, whereas now the proportion is only three per cent. The secretary of the London Congregational Union tries to comfort his brethren with the fact that what is true of Congregationalists is also true of all the sects. Thus Baptist accommodation has fallen from 8-1 to 4-9. The Methodists and Presbyterians have made a very slight proportionate increase.

Fifteen of the English bishops, several dukes and a number of other members of the aristocracy, have signified their approval of the objects of the Church Funeral and Mourning Reform Association, in connection with which a meeting was held on the 16th, at Grosvenor House. One of the objects of the association is to discourage ostentatious and expensive arrangements at funerals, such as the use of crape, scarves, plumes, mourning coaches, etc., which involve unprofitable expenditure.

The clerk of the parish church of Sheffield, John Kirk, has just completed fifty years in that capacity, and is still able to attend to his duties. He has witnessed there 42,607 marriages, 53,506 baptisms, and (to the closing of the church-yard in 1858) 19,808 burials. He has lived to see what was once an immense parish divided into thirty-six separate parishes, each with its church, schools, and staff of clergy. He can remember three archbishops of his diocese, four archdeacons, and four vicars of his church.

At the annual meeting of the London Diocesan Home Mission, on the 12th ult., Bishop Jackson in the chair, it was stated that the council had received information that the late Mrs. May Russell had bequeathed the residue of her estate to the society, and that the amount received would probably be about £105,000. The Bishop of Manchester attended the meeting, and said that without being an alarmist he did not think the society was quite safe when those who were living in luxury were surrounded by people living in the degradation and vice existing in the metropolis, and particularly brought before the meeting. He thought it would be desirable to establish in some of these centres of dense population something of a missionary college, where, under the guidance of

an elder and experienced clergyman, some younger priests and laymen should live in a sort of society, and go out and attempt to evangelize the masses.

A new church, dedicated to St. Augustine, has been commenced at Croydon, the foundation stone being laid on the 9th ult., by Bishop Tufnell. The eastern half of the building, which is to be erected first, will accommodate 400 persons. Its cost will be £6,000, of which £5,000 has been subscribed. The great increase in the population of Croydon, to the southern extremity of the town, has rendered the erection of the church necessary—making the third church commenced in Croydon within the last three years.

The religious education question, which occupied so much of the attention of the last general Synod of the Church in Ireland, continues to be a subject of difference. The tendency of the discussion so far is towards the scheme advocated by the Bishop of Meath, by which the female training college will be continued, while the efforts to resuscitate the college for males will be abandoned, and a boarding house established in its place, in which they may receive some systematic religious education while going through the ordinary course at Marlborough Street.

The Bishop of Bedford, in compliance with a request, preached a sermon on Sunday night in the church of St. Faith, Stoke Newington, of which the Rev. Dr. Belcher is the vicar, to the local corps of the Salvation Army. The church was crowded with a congregation composed of about equal numbers of both sexes, apparently in a good position in life, and they entered heartily into the service. After singing two hymns, and offering appropriate prayers, the Bishop preached from Ephesians iv. 13, "Unto a perfect man." To be a perfect man, he said, must be one who had given his heart to God, and had been renewed day by day. This was the work which he believed the people he was addressing were anxious to devote themselves to perform among the lower classes of our countrymen, and in the district of East London a very large scope existed for their labours. The time of the parochial clergyman was fully occupied with his preachings and his teachings, and to such bodies as theirs was given the opportunity of bringing before the lower classes in their homes the knowledge of God. It might be said that they did not approve of the ordinances of the Church, but they had been approved by the very highest authority. There should be no jealousy between them and the Church of England. Both were working in a common cause, and he most heartily wished them God-speed in their labours. Perhaps the Church had given their duty too much to the beautifying of the capitol rather than to the hewing of the stone, but this was the fault of the parochial system. Let them take a lesson from those who were mountain climbers, who prepared before starting to meet the dangers they knew they would have to encounter; who plodded on from ridge to ridge, from point to point, from mount to mount, until at last, by perseverance and by faith they reached the goal of their labours. He urged them to look and to climb continually higher and