

Allen arrived here on the 5th inst., after a tedious voyage from England. Mr. Allen has been absent nearly two years, part of which he spent in traveling on the Continent and in the East, visiting Palestine, Egypt, Italy, &c. His new-made bride and himself received a hearty reception from the Millbrook people. Mrs. Allen was presented with a very costly clock, with chimes, on the occasion of her marriage from her friends at Shewley, England. The choir of Shewley Church, of which she has been instructor for five years, also made her a valuable presentation. Mr. Allen was Curate of Shewley for a year, and the *Herts Advertiser*, referring to his recent marriage, says he "ably and conscientiously discharged his duties."

Province of Rupert's Land.

INCLUDING THE DIOCESES OF RUPERT'S LAND, SASKATCHEWAN, MOOSONEE, ATHABASCA, ASSINIBOIA, & SOUTHERN ATHABASCA

DIOCESE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

PRINCE ALBERT.—The Rev. Canon Flett was, on St. John's Day, presented with an address by the Kinestine Lodge F. & A. Masons, and also given a Past Master's Jewel, as a slight recognition of the valuable services which he has rendered to Masonry generally in the North West Territories.

DIOCESE OF RUPERT'S LAND.

MEETING OF THE DEANERY OF SELKIRK.—The Deanery of Selkirk met at Holy Trinity Rectory, Winnipeg, the Rev. O. Fortin, Rural Dean, presiding. There were present, besides the Rural Dean, Revs. E. S. W. Pentreath, of Christ Church; A. E. Cowley, of St. James', Winnipeg; A. G. Pinkham, of Headingley; F. W. Greene, of Stonewall; G. H. Hooper, of Springfield; R. Hicks, Curate of Holy Trinity; and J. B. Seaman, honorary member. After hearing reports from the Missions and Rectories in the Deanery, deputations were appointed to visit Springfield and Stonewall and hold missionary meetings. On motion of Rev. Mr. Pentreath, seconded by Rev. R. Hicks, the Rural Dean was requested to invite the clergy, S. S. superintendents and teachers in the Deanery to meet shortly for the purpose of forming a Church of England Sunday School Association. In the evening the members of the Deanery attended a very able lecture on "Evolution" in Christ Church School House, delivered by Rev. John May, M. A., now of the Dominion Land's Office, and late of Ottawa. The lecture was an intellectual treat.

MEETING OF THE MISSION BOARD.—The Mission Board met in the Education Office, Winnipeg, January 18th. The Metropolitan presided, and there were present Archdeacon Pinkham, Secretary; Revs. O. Fortin, A. E. Cowley, Canon O'Meara, Canon Matheson, Dean Grisdale, Revs. E. S. W. Pentreath, J. N. Wilson, and Mr. W. Leggo. The assessments on the Missions for the coming year were taken up and arranged. Reports were read from Rev. W. Ross and others. After some other business was transacted the meeting adjourned.

MUCH interest is taken here in the attempt of the Board of Missions in the East to raise \$50,000 for Domestic and Foreign Missions. The appeal is a most forcible one, and the effort to rouse the Church to her duty most praiseworthy, but it is felt in the West that the machinery of the Board is inadequate, and that the mere collections on the two Sundays will not realize the hopes of the promoters. A living agent should be put into the field, charged with working up an interest in the cause. If the whole time of an able man were given to the work of visiting every Diocese and organizing missionary agencies, and this, in addition to the two collections, the amount would no doubt be raised.

Your Minister.

NOT in all things to your liking, is he? And it would be so agreeable to you if he would leave off that habit of—what is it? Well, nothing of great importance, but he might be better than he is in some things. And when he went into the pulpit last Sunday, you wished he wouldn't look quite so solemn. And that way he has of gesturing with his right hand is a little awkward, don't you think? And then for the life of you, you can't seem to take as much interest as you ought in the sermon—it is a little commonplace and prosy. If he would only be a little more varied and lively now, just to stir you up and—

Don't go on any longer, dear hearer in the pew. You've said enough, and we know all about you. And now, if you will read just a little plain talk, we think it will do you good, and make your minister better too—in your opinion. Do you know what it costs to make a good sermon? One perhaps, but say eight in a month, as your pastor is expected to do. And then make them for a year, two every week, and then for five or ten years! And he must have them all fresh. No odd illustrations, no commonplace facts rehearsed, no plagiarising. And then he goes up before you on Sundays, he knows you are there, and he knows you are going to think him commonplace and dull. And he winces all over to think of you, because he knows you care more about his gesturing and his rhetoric than you do about the plain old gospel that he tries to preach.

And when he reads in your face indifference or criticism, that helps to deaden his enthusiasm and takes the heart out of his work. He doesn't know it? Oh yes, he does. You show it in a thousand ways. You don't mean to be a fault-finder, but you are one. You don't mean to be cruel, but it is cruelty. Do you know that he sat up and worked on that sermon while you were asleep? Do you know he went down on his knees in humiliation because he felt himself so inadequate to preach that great gospel theme, remembering perhaps, that you were to be there next day, and that he must look you in the face? He's a faithful man, and does his best. Brilliant? That isn't in his commission. GOD sent him to preach the gospel, and he has seen men converted under his preaching. But you, a Christian, a member of his church, whisper about gently that his sermons are not particularly brilliant. To be sure, it's a small church. You can't pay much. You expect the minister to do a great deal outside of the pulpit. But he must be a brilliant preacher or he won't draw.

And you join that church with a solemn vow to help him? Are you doing it? When did you ever let him know that you heard the good things in his sermon? And when he came down burning with his theme and hoping to get a word somewhere to show that his people had heard him, was it you who began whispering about secular matters to your neighbor in his hearing? Was it you who walked out of church as cold as ice, as if the gospel were a cold bath to you? While you are thinking over his shortcomings, why not think of your own a little, too? Probably he has a great deal more reason to find fault with you than you with him, if the truth were told. It is his duty to draw and fill up the church? Well, then, it is yours too. Do you think he can warm men up as fast as you freeze them out? How many strangers have you ever taken into your pew? How many have you invited to stay and be welcome among you? And do you think they are very likely to come if you keep giving out the impression that your minister isn't worth hearing?

No, my Christian, your little unworthy criticisms indicate something wrong in yourself. You need to look within and see what the trouble is. Our word for it, your minister is a worthy and good man, quite as good as you deserve, and he will be worth a great deal more to your church, if you and others begin to love him more and help him more. Get on the enthusiasm of love and the sermons will interest you, and then your minister will be just the right man. Try it!—*Church Union*.

OUR AMERICAN BUDGET.

St. Luke's Hospital has just received \$25,000 from the executors of the will of the late Wm. B. Ogden.

THE Rev. C. A. Rand, Rector of Trinity Church, Haverhill, Mass., was drowned in the ill-fated steamer City of Columbus. The Rev. gentleman was on his way to Florida for the benefit of his health.

REAR-ADMIRAL CLITZ has presented a beautiful altar-cloth to the Church of the Messiah, Brooklyn, Long Island. The altar-cloth was worked in Japan by Japanese, all of pure silk even to the lining, of the finest quality and softest shades. The design was made by Lamb, and has been worked out with the minutest care in satin by the Oriental fabricators.

A children's hospital has been opened in Cincinnati, under the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese.

THE *Churchman* says there is a rumor that the Seminary at Nashota will be moved to Chicago and consolidated with the proposed seminary to be established there.

PHILADELPHIA has a Sunday breakfast Association, which gathers in the outcasts every Sunday morning, warms them up with a hearty breakfast, and then talks the gospel to them.

THE Reformed Episcopal church of the Good Shepherd, Chicago, has decided to become a branch of Plymouth Congregational church of that city, and to adopt the Congregational form of service and church government.

THE Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church announce that for the home field they have made appropriations and pledges to the amount of \$185,400 for the current year.

THE consecration of the Rev. W. D. Walker, as Missionary Bishop of Northern Dakota, is the one hundred and thirty-third in the American succession.

WHITTAKER'S Almanac contains a list of clergy deceased for the year since the issue of the previous calendar. The number is fifty-eight, of whom the ages of forty-five are given. Of this number six attained an age of eighty years and upwards, one—the Rev. Dr. Edson—being in his ninetieth year; sixteen were between seventy and eighty; and eight between sixty and seventy.

PHILADELPHIA has Jewish Sunday morning lectures to accommodate the Jews who wish to work Saturdays, and the scheme is meeting with great success. The necessity of lying idle two days in the week is growing to be an intolerable burden to the Jews, and will probably give way in time to the adoption of Sunday entirely.

THE Church of the Ascension, Washington, is fortunate in having a layman who knows how to give for the Lord's sake. Mr. W. W. Corcoran has offered \$10,000 towards the debt of \$31,500 which yet remains on this church, upon condition that during the present year the congregation shall raise the remainder. He has already paid \$70,000 as an offset to the \$70,000 (or thereabouts) contributed by the parish towards their church and lot.

The American Branch of the Evangelical Alliance has decided to accept the invitation of the Swedish Branch to hold the next World's Conference of the Alliance in Stockholm, Sweden.

THE *Spirit of Missions*, in an appropriate notice of the death of the Rev. Henry Lockwood, who was one of the first missionaries of the American Church to China, closed with the following statement:—"Thus it will be observed that all that has been accomplished by God's assistance by this Church in her work among the heathen has been accomplished since the ordination of this remarkable man; during which time sixteen Chinese have been admitted to the sacred ministry in our own Mission and eleven others now are preparing for holy orders."