

# Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1877.

## THE WEEK.

THE Vicar of St. Albans, Holborn, has had some correspondence with the Bishop of London in reference to a picture of the Virgin and child in his church, which it appears is ornamented with flowers, and before which candles are placed. It appears remarkable that the picture should have been there for five years without any official notice having been taken of it; indeed the Archdeacon says he has only recently seen it there. The Bishop objects to it on the ground that it was placed there without a faculty. He declines to enter into the merits of the question on any other ground. The Vicar, after several letters had passed between them, declined to remove the obnoxious picture, on the ground that it teaches his people the doctrines of the Incarnation and the Atonement. And indeed the people this clergyman has been instrumental in rescuing from absolute heathenism might well be thankful to have any measure of Christianity taught them at all. Although we should certainly be inclined to think that the Bishop's fear is not without foundation—that in addition to the doctrines of the Incarnation and the Atonement, there would be no slight danger of a tendency to Mariolatry encouraged by paying extra honor to a representation of the kind. The actual effect produced, however, and the exact nature of the danger to be guarded against, could only be learned by investigation conducted on the spot. In the meantime a "Public Worship Regulation" suit is threatened. It is possible the Vicar of St. Alban's may think that if a faculty is required to enable him to put up an ornament in his Church, a faculty would also be required to give him permission to take one down, especially after it has been up for five years, and is approved by his congregation.

The case against Mr. Bodington, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Wolverhampton, has broken down. The Bishop of the Diocese being patron of the living, it devolved on the Archbishop of Canterbury to put the Public Worship Regulation Act in force. His Grace has, however, refused to sanction the suit against the Vicar, on the ground that the Reverend gentleman has from the first sought to be guided by his Bishop, and to conform himself loyally to his lordship's decision and advice. The Bishop of Lichfield on his part has resolved that where a *bona fide* congregation is attached to an ornamental service, he will not interfere with it; and he has only stipulated that Mr. Bodington shall have a plain celebration at mid-day once a month for those who prefer it. The Bishop seems to think that the incumbent is the pastor not of a party, nor even of "three aggrieved parishioners" only, but of his whole flock; and that if it is therefore his bounden duty to make the best arrangements he can to provide for the spiritual wants of all.

The consecration on Michaelmas Day of the Church of St. Saviour's, as the Cathedral of the Diocese of Maritzburg, forms an epoch in the history of the Church in Natal. The Church was erected in a temporary manner in 1868, the site not being completely purchased till 1873. Since that time it has been considerably enlarged, furnished, and ornamented. At the recent consecration, the Lord Bishop formally declared it to be henceforth the Cathedral Church of the Diocese. On Sunday, the 30th of September, the eighteenth Sunday after Trinity, the Lord Bishop of Maritzburg, William Kenneth Macrorie, D.D., was enthroned by the Dean and Chapter in the episcopal throne in the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, in obedience to the mandate of the Most Reverend the Metropolitan. The Church in that unfortunate Diocese is to be congratulated on every step taken to establish herself there on the immutable basis of Christian truth and Apostolic order.

At a recent meeting of the S. P. G. Society at Nottingham, the Bishop of Grahamstown (Dr. Merriman) was introduced as a Missionary Bishop, who had been for about thirty years toiling and laboring in Africa, and who had walked a thousand miles sleeping by night under an umbrella. He is a Bishop who works harder than a working man, but in the case of such men we rarely learn much of their great hardships until they have gone to their rest. Bishop Merriman warmly eulogised the late Robert Gray, Bishop of Cape Town, the Athanasius of South Africa. On going out with that Bishop as Archdeacon he had the Eastern Province, comprising Grahamstown, Kaffraria, and Bloemfontein, a district nearly half the size of Europe. He was now left with the Bishopric of Grahamstown, only a little larger than England and Wales. It appears that civilization and Christianity are making rapid strides in that remote region, and multitudes of immigrants of every shade of religious belief are flocking into that part of the world. It now appears that the reason why the Church Missionary Society did not help the late Bishop Gray was because he insisted on being chief pastor in his own Diocese.

A complete revulsion of feeling has taken place in some quarters in favor of St. James', Hatcham, even in those quarters formerly bitterly opposed to its Vicar. Disturbances were renewed in the Church at the beginning of the month; on which the *Daily News* remarks: "The ruffianly classes must be taught that illegal disturbances in Church are not a mere cheap Sunday amusement;" and the *Standard* asks the question, "Who are they that have instigated these riots? It is impossible to suppose that persons like Messrs. Eyenden and McClure act in this manner without being set on to it by other parties in the background. These poor men are to be pitied. The worst offenders are

those who keep studiously out of sight, and employ these persons to do the work which they are ashamed to undertake themselves." It is indeed passing strange that so many repetitions of the riots which used to take place at St. George's in the East should be permitted.

The British Parliament is to meet three weeks earlier than usual. The fact is regarded as possessing great significance in relation to the Eastern question, either as indicating to Russia that she must not attempt the incorporation of Turkish territory, or that England will not allow the peace negotiations to proceed without some interference on her own part. No one however appears to be in the secret; and the probability is that no particular motive actuates the Earl of Beaconsfield in calling Parliament together so early, unless it may be that he desires to be prepared for any emergency that may happen to arise. The *Spectator* believes the real meaning of the summons of Parliament is that Lord Beaconsfield desires to encourage the Turks to continue the struggle in the hope of ultimate British assistance, and that the Turks will so interpret it. It also thinks that when it comes to the point, England will decline to fight for the Turks, who will at last be compelled to purchase peace by withdrawing to their natural home in Asia.

"Sitting Bull" appears to have made his exit over the border and thus perhaps saved the Canadians a great deal of trouble. We have therefore every reason to congratulate ourselves on the event. It is not improbable that the warrior and his adherents might, in course of time, have settled down in peace and contentment among the other Indians of British America, but their presence among us must be regarded as a source of continual anxiety for some time to come. The United States authorities were anxious to get them over, or at least, they made great efforts and a multitude of promises for the purpose; although now they have achieved their object, they seem very little satisfied with the result. The reason of which is that while the Sioux warrior has returned to the Union as a peaceful subject, his soul is evidently bent on war; and himself and his adherents will doubtless ere long join some of the predatory bands of Indians now engaged in warfare with the United States government. In that case, we are well rid of the whole of them, and our best efforts will doubtless be employed in preventing their return on a future occasion.

Canon Carter has addressed a public letter to Mr. Mackonachie remonstrating with him on the course he has taken in his correspondence with the Bishop of London. The letter expresses deep regret at a communication the Vicar of St. Albans had addressed to the *Times*, which gave an explanation of his proceedings, and stated that all the ornaments

r French  
ty, etc.,  
symptoms  
bite, Loss of  
cep, Inflam-  
s, Troubled  
ar Action of  
and Neck,  
as, Loss of  
and Blush-  
ence, Aver-  
Clergymen,  
nd persons  
L. Activitv  
able.

& CO.,  
Toronto,  
reparation.

Furs,

ny Lamb,  
skin,  
and Dogskin  
Buffalo Robes  
NEEN, cor.  
go, Toronto

For Fine  
Furs,  
EET,  
Co.)  
pecialty.  
to order  
to  
ices."

ONS  
E STOCK  
of  
S,  
her Goods.  
ction of 10  
r. Warner's

ION,  
ronto.  
YOUR  
TER  
RS!

EAR'S

arge redne-  
ildren's  
y Robes—a  
EN,  
ronto.