

# The Church Times.

"Evangelical Truth--Apostolic Order."

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### Calendar.

#### CALENDAR WITH LESSONS.

Day & Date	MORNING	EVENING
Mon. 21. Feast Day	Exod. 12. Rom. 6.	Exod. 14. Act. 2.
Tu. 22. In Ex. wk.	18. Mat. 28.	18. Mat. 28.
Wed. 23. (Ann. V. M.)	Judges 13. Luke 13.	Judges 13. Luke 13.
Th. 24.	27. Job. 13.	27. Job. 13.
Fri. 25.	Ruth 2.	Ruth 2.
Sat. 26.	8. 10.	10. 11.

\* Prop. Psalms--Morning, 2, 67, 111--Evening, 113, 118, 119--  
 The Athanasian Creed to be used.  
 \* Prop. Lessons for the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary--Morn-  
 ings, 2--Even. Eccles. 3. 4 To ver. 14.

### Religious Miscellany.

[From the Newfoundland Times, March 5.]

#### THE LATE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR.

Having been requested to re-publish the short memoir of the late Venerable Archdeacon Bridge, which appeared in our journal of Saturday last, we are enabled to present it to our readers with some corrections and additions.

The life and labours of the late Venerable Archdeacon Bridge, whose death it is our melancholy duty this day to publish in our Obituary, are too generally known and too highly esteemed in this island community, and indeed, we might say, the whole island, to require any lengthened panegyric description; a brief recital may suffice.

Mr. T. F. H. Bridge, after having passed his examinations, and taken the degree of B. A. with honours, in the University of Oxford, was ordained Deacon and Priest in England, and served for a short time a Curacy in one of the Eastern counties; we believe, in Norfolk. He came to this country in the year 1832 as Tutor to the sons of Sir Thomas Cochrane, then Governor of the colony. His talents as a preacher, and popular manners, soon attracted general respect and admiration, and at the request of the Parishioners he was appointed Curate of St. John's by the Rev. Mr. Carrington, then Incumbent and Rector. In the year 1834 he married Miss Sarah Duncombe, daughter of John Duncombe, Esq. a highly respected merchant of this town. On the death of Mr. Carrington, in 1839, he was collated by Bishop Spencer to the vacant Rectory, with the undiminished love and approval of all the leading members of the congregation; and soon after to the honourable and responsible offices of Vicar General and Ecclesiastical Commissary.

From that day to the last of his mortal life he devoted all his time and talents, his thoughts, labours and prayers, to the service of God and the Church, in his Parish and the whole Diocese. In the year 1840, by the Bishop's desire he visited England, and by his energy and ability was instrumental in obtaining, through the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a considerable addition to the staff of the Clergy in this Diocese; and in exciting much sympathy, among the good and great, in behalf of the Church in his adopted country. Not less zealous and successful were his labours for the promotion of Education, in connection with the Newfoundland School Society, of which he was then Superintendent in this colony. On the arrival of Bishop Hall in 1844 he was re-appointed to the offices of Vicar General and Ecclesiastical Commissary; and, in 1850, at the consecration of the Cathedral, he was made Archdeacon of Newfoundland and Labrador; the latter appointment being (as was at the time signified) in testimony of the Bishop's sincere appreciation of, and gratitude for, his zealous and unceasing labours. By these labours he had been brought into a state of extreme debility, which resulted in an attack of fever, similar to that under which he has now sunk. It being considered necessary that he should have rest and change of scene for the recovery of his strength, his congregation testified their love and concern by subscribing a sum of money sufficient to defray the expense of his journey to England and back again to this country. He was absent eight months, and returned in the summer of 1851 with repaired health and strength, and renewed determination to spend and be spent in his Master's service. Previously to his visit to England he had resigned his office of Super-

intendent of the Newfoundland School Society. From that time he turned his attention more particularly to the improvement of the Colonial Schools; and as Chairman at one time of the Protestant Board of St. John's, and at another time of the General Central Board, laboured in that cause zealously and effectually; for, though openly and earnestly contending for a separate system, in which the different denominations of Christians might make their own religious faith and profession the foundation of the religious training and teaching of the young, he never relaxed his exertions in connection with the Boards as at present constituted. With similar zeal and success he laboured for the advancement and extension of the Newfoundland Church Society, well knowing how much depended on the example set in the capital, and how much the whole Diocese must look to his collections for aid in the poorer Missions. As a member also of the St. George's Society and Agricultural Society he was foremost in promoting the interests both of his native and adopted country and countrymen. In all the Charities for the relief of the poor he found means of providing for them "of his own household," and was constant and unremitting in attending to all their spiritual and temporal requirements. On occasion of the dreadful attack of Cholera, in 1854, he was constantly, day and night, at the beds of the sick and dying: and though several times himself prostrated, he continued his devoted labours till it pleased God to remove the afflicting scourge. His parishioners took this opportunity of testifying their admiration and gratitude by again presenting him with a purse of 100 sovereigns. Then the care and concern for the many poor of his flock made widows and fatherless by that visitation, were manifested in his advocacy and successful initiation of the Church of England Asylum for Widows and Orphans, attended specially, in the first instance, for the relief of the sufferers by the Cholera. It is a fact of singularly melancholy interest, that, in consequence of the Bishop's unexpected absence from St. John's, the Archdeacon himself presided, within three weeks of his death, at the first annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Church of England Asylum for Widows and Orphans, and read the Report of the Committee prepared by himself, which elicited such expressions of approval and satisfaction. Yes! in less than three weeks from that day his wife was a widow and his nine children fatherless.

It is unnecessary, however, to enlarge on these, and the manifold other, instances of his labours of love and duty, which are so well known to, and so sincerely appreciated by, not only the members of his own Church and congregation, but those of all classes and denominations in the community. His death it is echoed on all sides, is "a public loss." As soon as his departure was known, the flags of nearly all the vessels and mercantile houses in the harbour were half-masted, and the shops in town, with scarcely an exception, closed their shutters. The House of Assembly adjourned until after the funeral, and the Speaker communicated to the family that "from the respect entertained for the memory of the late Archdeacon Bridge, Mr. Speaker and the Members of the House will accompany his remains to the grave." His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to signify his intention of showing the same mark of respect. His parishioners and friends have undertaken all the expenses of the funeral, and are understood to be raising a fund for his widow and nine fatherless children;—the youngest only eighteen months of age.

We have not left ourselves space to speak of the late Archdeacon's powers as a Preacher, and of the beautiful and edifying manner in which he conducted the services in the Cathedral Church. There have been felt and acknowledged by thousands. It may not be so generally known that, in addition to the three full services in the Cathedral, (at two of which, in the absence of the Bishop, he regularly preached,) he always attended and officiated at the first Communion in the Cathedral, or an early service in the little Church at Quidi Vidi;—so that he attended and officiated at four Services, and commonly preached three sermons, every Sunday. It has been also his invariable practice to preach every Friday evening.

His fatal sickness appears to have been caused by

standing exposed to the cold during the "Haul" for the Cathedral on Tuesday the 12th inst., (on the evening of which day he presided at the General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Asylum for Widows and Orphans,) and by getting and remaining very wet the next Thursday when visiting the hospital. On the following Sunday (the 17th Feb.) he was seriously unwell, but he nevertheless officiated at the early Communion in the Cathedral, preached in the morning and afternoon Services, churched four women, and baptised, after the Second Lesson three infants. He went from the afternoon Service however, directly to his bed, from which he never again arose. From the first day of his calling in medical advisers his life was considered in danger, and though by their skilful and unremitting attention he was occasionally rallied, and gave hopes to his many anxious friends of his recovery, the disease never was wholly arrested. He twice received the Sacrament; the first time in the Bishop's absence, and again, at his own earnest request, from the Bishop's hands on the day after his return to St. John's. Though frequently wandering in mind from extreme debility, he was easily roused to consciousness and reflection, and particularly on the last day spoke of his clerical brethren, and of and to the members of his family, most thoughtfully and affectionately. At two o'clock, on Friday morning, it became evident that the vital powers were rapidly giving way, and the members of his family, and of the Clergy in St. John's, were summoned to his bedside. His last end was most calm, collected, and peaceful. His powers of sense and observation gradually diminished, till at length, about half-past four o'clock, he fell asleep in his Bishop's arms, surrounded by all his brother Clergy in St. John's, the elder members of his own family, and a few other dear friends. Surely they all heard the "voice from Heaven saying unto them, 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from hence forth,' yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14, 13.)

At the time of his decease Archdeacon Bridge in addition to his clerical and ministerial offices, (as Archdeacon of the Diocese, Rector of St. John's, and Garrison-Chaplain), was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Church of England Academy; Chairman of the Protestant Educational Board of St. John's; Acting Secretary of the Newfoundland Church Society, and Vice President of the Church of England Asylum for Widows and Orphans; and by all, except the first, involved in continual and anxious occupation. He was also Trustee, with two other gentlemen, of the Central-School property, and a member of the Agricultural, St. George's, and British Societies. In the two former Societies he took a lively interest, and generally attended their meetings. At the inauguration of the Hall of the British Society he delivered the opening address, which was afterwards printed; and had just engaged to read a Lecture to the Mechanics' Institute.

#### THE FUNERAL.

It was intended and arranged that the Funeral of the late Venerable Archdeacon should take place on Monday; but the morning was so exceedingly tempestuous that it was thought necessary to defer the proceedings till the following day. The morning of Tuesday gave promise of a fine, clear day; but just at the hour appointed for the service, (12 o'clock) the snow returned with bitter winds from the North West. Notwithstanding the state of the weather all the parties who had promised their attendance were punctually present. The Cathedral was filled, and large crowds assembled on the outside. The Bishop and Clergy received the body at the entrance of the Cathedral, and preceded it to the platform between the stalls; the Bishop reading introductory sentences. The 'Dead March in Saul' was performed on the Organ, while the Pall-bearers and Mourners took their places on the platform and in the stalls. The Theological Students were present in their surplices. The Bishop sat in his Chair at the head of the Cofin, the Rev. Messrs. Wood and Mountain on either side. The Psalms were read by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Portugal Cove, and the Lesson by the Rev. Mr. Phelps. After the service in the Cathedral the procession moved in the order appointed