

RELIGIOUS.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

A well-known merchant of this city on Saturday presented Rev. Dr. Patridge, of St. George's, with a cheque for \$100, to be distributed among the poor at his discretion. Such an act is deserving of mention. Would that others of our men of means might take the same method of distributing their charities. None can know so well as the parish clergy the cases really deserving of aid, as they are almost always the last to apply for it.

The Lord Bishop has gone to Yarmouth to hold a special Confirmation. A Mission has lately been held in that town, and this Confirmation is one of the outward results of it.

The attention of Church of England people should be directed to a book recently published by Rev. A. W. Little, of Portland, Maine. It is entitled, "Known for being a Churchman," and is a convenient and readable manual of facts and principles of the Church.

Another book of interest to all students of the Old Testament has just come from the press. It is an exposition of the book of Daniel by the Very Rev. R. Payne Smith, D. D., Dean of Canterbury. Dr. Smith is one of the greatest Hebrew and Aramaic Scholars of the day, and while his book differs widely from that of Dr. Pusey on the same subject, it will command general attention.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. R. Logan, late of Newfoundland, has become the pastor of a Presbyterian Church in California.

Presbyterianism in the Southern States has made rapid progress during the last twenty years. In 1866 there were 823 ministers, 92 licentiates and candidates, 1,291 churches, 68,661 communicants, and about 21,000 Sunday-school scholars. This year there are 1,085 ministers, 336 licentiates and candidates, 2,198 churches, 143,743 communicants, and nearly 100,000 Sunday-school scholars.

METHODIST.

According to the latest reports, the membership in connection with the Methodist Church in the United States amounts to 3,685,600.

We desire to extend a cordial welcome to the Rev. Dr. Lathern on his assuming editorial control of the *Westonian*. May he be as successful in his new sphere as he has been in the ministry.

The Southern Methodist Church has 4,406 itinerant and 5,943 local preachers, with a membership of 990,994.

Last year over a quarter million dollars were collected for Church extension by the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

A sustentation fund to increase the stipends of Methodist ministers in the poorer districts of New Brunswick and P. E. Island to \$750 per annum, is being started in St. John. \$14,000 will be required for the purpose.

There is a proposal to hold a convention of Methodists from all parts of the world in the United States in 1891.

BAPTIST.

Rev. C. R. Harrington, Baptist missionary to India, is on his way to that country.

The corner stone of the new Baptist Seminary at St. Martin's, N. B., was laid on the 9th instant.

The new Baptist Church on Spring Garden Road will, it is expected, be finished early in January.

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of Acadia College held last week, it was decided to appoint a teacher of Modern Languages for the balance of the present term, with a view to permanent appointment of a professor next year.

CATHOLIC.

We have seen the calendar of Ottawa College for the academic year, 1886-87. It is published in neat pamphlet form of 131 pages. It fully explains the workings of that institution, its full and efficient staff of professors, with the aid of a well stocked museum, library and scientific apparatus department, rank the university among our best Canadian ones. It has three faculties—Arts, Science and Theology. The terms of study are four and three years respectively, at the end of which time the usual degrees of Bachelor and Master of Arts, Science, and Engineering are conferred. The course in Arts is replete in every sense, and only differs from that of other universities inasmuch that Mental and Moral Philosophy is not taught till the last year, and study in that subject is there conducted in Latin—thus affording excellent practice to the eager student. It is certainly a credit to the denomination under whose control it so rapidly flourishes. Its alumni is graced by two Nova Scotians, Messrs. Haggerty and Hamilton, of Sydney, who received the Bachelor's degree in 1884 and '86 respectively.

It is said that the Holy Father has decided to raise another American prelate to the cardinalate in the person of Archbishop Kondrick. The authority for this statement is the "Noridades", a Spanish organ. The Spanish Consul in this city says he has received like advices from Madrid.

Rev. Father Morris, of Newfoundland, preached a very instructive sermon on the "Immaculate Conception," in St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday last.

The President of Ottawa College died last week. He was chaplain to a Canadian battalion in the North-West during the recent rebellion. His career as a clergyman, scholar and educator, is perhaps not surpassed in the Dominion.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Queen Victoria has spent exactly twelve days, and no more, in Ireland since her coronation forty-nine years ago.

Amongst the appropriations by the Hawaiian Legislature we notice, "To Koolapoka, \$2,000." If it cost that too cool it, heating it must be a burden to the taxpayer.

Maharanees Surnomoyee, a generous Hindoo lady in Calcutta, has given \$75,000 to found a hall of residence for native women students of medicine. The government has contributed ground for the building.

According to a Parisian contemporary, Succi's celebrated liquor is not only an antidote to hunger, but to poison. At the end of his fast he will administer one dose of poison to an animal and another to himself. The beast will die, and Succi, fortified by his mysterious cordial, will remain alive. At least, so he says.

Queen Victoria has received from Glasgow a present that is said to be, in charming fancy of design and exquisite workmanship, worthy of the great Buonveto Cellini himself. It is an elegant parasol, the handle of which is a globe of gold, representing the earth, upon which her Majesty's possessions are marked by incrustations of precious stones.

The Emperor William and Empress Augusta have decided to confer medals of distinction upon couples celebrating golden or diamond weddings after an exemplary life. The medal will bear on one side an effigy of the Emperor and Empress, and on the reverse side the following message from Paul's Epistle to the Romans:—"Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, steadfast in prayer."

An English paper characterizes the lectures of Henry Ward Beecher as "sermons, with the right of applause." This same paper also contains the following anecdote of the famous preacher in 1864: A young man from the country having been introduced to Mr. Beecher, asked him how he should find his way to Plymouth Church. "Take the ferry and follow the crowd," promptly replied Mr. Beecher.

A clergyman writes to the *Boston Advertiser* that he recently preached in one of the oldest churches in the "old" city of London. As he entered the porch he was met by a rotund and dignified beadle, who led him to the vestry room, and pointing to two decanters said, "Will you take sherry or port, sir?" The parson smiled at, not with, the beadle, who then explained that about three hundred years ago a good woman of the parish, dying, left a certain sum for the purchase of "wine and sweetcakes for the clergy," and since that time wine and cakes have been regularly supplied at each service.

The *Wiltshire Telegraph* of October 23 contains the report of a very important and instructive investigation by Dr. Campbell, Medical Officer of Health for Calne, into the cause of a certain outbreak of cases of lead poisoning in the months of August, September, and October, which had puzzled him for a long time. The cases occurred chiefly, almost entirely, in men, and coincided roughly with harvest work. Examinations of drinking-water, beer, tea, coffee, bread, and various cooking utensils gave no light. The occurrence of seven acute cases about three weeks since, two almost fatal, led to the discovery of the real source of mischief. The wife of one of the men explained that her husband had drunk some home-made rhubarb wine. She was sure "it could not contain poison of any sort," as she was very careful in selecting and cleaning her rhubarb, and as for the sugar and barm, they were all right. Besides, the vessel was a beautifully clean glazed earthenware pan, in which she steeped it for a fortnight or three weeks to ferment." Here was the source of the poison, as Dr. Campbell says:—"As is well known, this glaze contains 60 per cent. of white or red lead, and during the process of fermentation the acids of the fruit used, with the acetic acid or vinegar generated, act on the glaze and dissolve the lead, forming acetate or sugar of lead, a powerful irritant poison even in small quantities."

A young friend asked me once to show him some elephants in undress, writes the foreign correspondent of a contemporary, and I took him along with me, having first borrowed an apron and filled it with oranges. This he was to carry while accompanying me in the stable, but the moment we reached the door the herd set up such a trumpeting—they had scented the fruit—that he dropped the apron and its contents and scuttled off like a scared rabbit. There were eight elephants, and when I picked up the oranges I found I had twenty-five. I walked deliberately along the line giving one to each. When I got to the extremity of the narrow stable I turned and was about to begin the distribution again, when I suddenly reflected that if elephant No. 7 in the row saw me give two oranges in succession to No. 8, he might imagine he was being cheated, and give me a smack with his proboscis,—that is where the elephant falls short of the human being,—so I went to the door and began de novo as before. Thrice I went along the line and then I was in a fix. I had one orange left and I had to get back to the door. Every elephant in the herd had his greedy gaze focused on that orange. It was as much as my life was worth to give it to any one of them. What was I to do? I held it up conspicuously, coolly peeled it, and sucked it myself. It was most amusing to notice the way those elephants nudged each other and shook their ponderous sides. They thoroughly entered into the humor of the thing.