

The Bishop of Liverpool was present at the opening of new schools in connection with the Church of St. Athanasius, Liverpool, which have just been completed, and will now accommodate 1,100 children.

The Dean of Norwich is once more in company with High Churchmen, for he preached at St. Peter's, Crauley-Gardens, to an immense congregation, on behalf of the Brompton Consumptive Hospital.

On Septuagesima Sunday an altar-cross was placed by the rector (the Rev. W. S. Wood) in the parish church of Ufford, near Stamford. It is made of red brass, with crystals in its arms and centre, and a crown of flowers.

The annual festival service of the Association of Lay Helpers for the Diocese of London was held at St. Paul's Cathedral. The members of the Association, of which the Bishop of London is president, now number 6,700.

The annual Welsh festival was held at St. Paul's Cathedral on the eve of St. David's Day (Saturday, Feb. 29), at 7 p.m. The preacher this year was the Bishop of Swansea. The choir numbered about 200 voices.

In Canterbury Cathedral, the Three Hours' service will be, for the first time, held this Good Friday. It will be preached by Canon Wilberforce. The sermon at the 10 a.m. service will be by the Rev. A. H. Lang, Six Preacher.

Preaching in St. Paul's Cathedral recently, the Bishop of Stepney, taking his text from the first Lesson, contrasted the moral standard of society in Egypt and Philistia in the time of Abram with the tone of London society to-day.

The flood of confidential advice to the Bench of Bishops on the subject of the proper person to fill the primacy still goes on in the press. There is strong pressure being brought to bear upon their feelings on behalf of the Bishop of Derry.

In the Upper House the Bishop of Winchester moved that it is desirable to obtain, under proper safeguards, increased facilities for effecting such amendments as may from time to time be necessary in the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.

Speaking of the Revised Version of the New Testament, Canon Temple said he did not wish to see it used in churches as a whole. As, however, it touched some blots on the so-called Authorized Version, he thought that certain portions might be used.

The Duke of Westminster has issued a warning to ministers of religion and the public generally, urging them not to hand offertories and collections at meetings for the distressed Armenians in Turkey to itinerant lecturers who are travelling throughout the provinces.

The efforts of Canon Long, vicar of Bamburgh, on behalf of the restoration of Grace Darling's monument in Bamburgh churchyard, have produced, with Sir Walter Besant's appeal elsewhere, a total of £36, which with some local subscriptions, raise the whole sum collected to £50.

St. Peter's, Eltham-Road, Lee.—A new chancel-screen of wrought-iron and a pulpit made of oak were dedicated to the glory of God, in the presence of a crowded congregation. The Bishop of Rochester, who officiated, preached afterwards on behalf of the Rochester Diocesan Society.

There is every reason to hope that a bishop will very soon be consecrated for Tinnevely. The Archbishop of Canterbury is now satisfied with the arrangements proposed, and as soon as possible, when the nomination of the Bishop of India has arrived, a royal mandate will be applied for.

In the balloting for Private Members' Bills last week, Lord Cranborne secured a very good place for his Church Patronage Bill, which is said to be an amalgamation of the two Bills introduced by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mr. W. Hayes Fisher respectively in the last Parliament.

The Bishop of Worcester has inhibited the Rev. R. R. Dolling from preaching at Evesham. Father Dolling writes: "These disappointments are especially hard, for my object in preaching is to raise money to pay off the debt on my late mission, for which I have made myself responsible."

In Ireland, a noble-spirited friend has conceived and carried out a plan for reaching many who might otherwise never hear the simple Gospel of the grace

of God. The location of one of our greatest annual fairs is chosen, a hall rented, and an evangelist secured for the three days of the fair.

In the Year Book, which is a most valuable compendium of Church work and one which will repay careful study, some particulars showed that the Church had collected for voluntary schools in one year a sum of £1,328,737, a very tangible proof of her interest in elementary education.

On Friday evening week at Holborn Town Hall, there was an interesting display of military and musical drill by selected companies of the London Diocesan Church Lads' Brigade. The Bishops of Marlborough and Stepney and a number of well-known clergymen were amongst those present.

The British of Mashonaland, at Liverpool, said British rule in South Africa was built up by men such as Rhodes and Jameson. Past Colonial Secretaries have been asleep, but their present Secretary had not only eyes in his head, but an eyeglass which enabled him to see further than people thought.

The Bishop of Hereford on Saturday week laid the corner-stone of the new Cathedral Library at Hereford. This building is being erected by means of a legacy of £4,000 left by the late Canon Powell, who was anxious that a suitable home should be found for the valuable missals and mediæval volumes.

A special meeting of the Synod of Armagh was held for the interim election of a bishop as a preliminary to the election of a Primate in the room of the late Dr. Gregg. After the votes were taken, the president declared that the Dean of Armagh had obtained a clear majority of two-thirds of the lay and clerical votes.

The Archdeacon of Lewes attended St. Philip's Church, Aldington, on Saturday, February 15th, to dedicate a new east window and the first portion of a new organ. The window is presented by Mrs. Hammond in memory of her late husband, who was a great benefactor to the parish, and well known for his many good works.

It is in contemplation to publish a penny edition of Mr. G. H. F. Nye's *Popular Story of the Church of England*, if 100,000 copies are taken, and the laying of the suggestion before a few friends resulted in a few days in 30,000 being ordered for distribution, to be left at every house in a parish, the said being called for afterwards.

There is a strange arrangement in vogue regarding the constitution of the Diocesan Board of Education for the Dublin Diocese. Instead of the Board being elected *in toto* by the members of the Dublin Synod, a large number of those serving on it are in that position as *ex officio* members of the Education Board of the General Synod.

The ceremony of "giving ashes" was practiced last Ash Wednesday in St. Aidan's, Boston, as in former years. The priest dips his thumb in ashes of palms, and signs the sign of the cross on the forehead of the person kneeling before him, using these words—"Remember, man, that dust thou art, and that to dust thou shalt return."

On Monday a new Labour Home, in connection with the Church Army, was opened by Mr. W. Burdett Coutts, M.P., who was accompanied by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. Speeches in support of the social work of the Church Army were made by Mr. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., Sir Hugh Lowe, the Rev. Canon Furse, and the Rev. Canon Wilberforce.

The Bishop of Newcastle, speaking at a meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Branch of the Church Temperance Society, said what was needed—and, thank God, they were likely soon to have it—was an agreement between the Church of England Temperance Society, the United Kingdom Alliance, and other organizations which were fighting with a view to the promotion of temperance reformation.

The Rev. Charles Childers, M.A., Canon of Gibraltar, died two weeks ago at Florence. Canon Childers, who was in his ninetieth year, took his degree from Christ Church, Oxford, in 1829, and was ordained in 1830. He was rector of Mursley, Bucks, from 1831 to 1833, and vicar of Cantley, Yorkshire, from 1833 to 1843. In the latter year he became chaplain at Nice, a position which he held for forty-one years.

In Egypt mourners dress in yellow, representing the colour of the leaves when they fall and the flowers when they fade.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

Is There a Record Kept?

SIR,—Would you or any of the readers of your paper please tell me of a reliable record that is kept of Roman Catholic priests and Dissenting ministers who come over to our Church. Should one of our clergy go over to the Roman Catholic Faith, it is proclaimed throughout the length and breadth of the land, when not infrequently the convert finds his mistake and returns, as has been the case with several during the past year and a half. A record of facts upon this matter would be interesting, for I feel that few think of how many conversions are made to our church even from the Roman Communion.

RHO.

Superannuation Fund.

SIR,—On reading a letter signed "Juris," in the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN of February 27th, I was much struck with one or two sentences regarding the Superannuation Fund. "Juris" says: "How can they (the clergy) expect the laymen to give liberally to it, unless they set the example?" and again, "Do the preachers practice what they preach?" It is both astonishing and amusing to note the utterly opposing views held by clever, and apparently practical people, on such subjects. Now I have no near relatives among the clergy, but I have thought it a foregone conclusion that they were far more hampered and cramped for money than men ought to be whose minds are set on things above, and who should surely be beyond the sordid fear of debt. To me it certainly does seem that the clergyman is the only labourer who is distinctly not "worthy of his hire," in the estimation of many people. He is supposed to be a gentleman, to act, dress, and live like one. His education must be of the best; he must give, he must entertain, at least his brother clergy; educate his children, pay his doctor's bills, and, in the country, keep a horse. What?—all this, on the salary sometimes of a mere artisan? Oh yes! and on less than that, he should help the laity to raise the superannuation fund, in order to provide for those sad and heavy years of illness, or inactivity, when, old and worn out, he can no longer work in the vineyard of his Lord. Now, I say this is impossible! Why! look at the income, even of our bishops—how inadequate! how highly disproportionate to what is expected of them, as simply a matter of course. No man, especially a person of refinement, can go about, talking of his sacrifices, his pinching poverty, or his pressing needs, and we, alas!—we are all too blind to them; and then, what shall be said of those secret, spiritual struggles, known only to the God whom he serves, discouragements on the right hand and on the left; the dear wife patient and pale; the longing for a more congenial sphere; the desperate sadness at the lack of religious life among his flock; with the sickening sense of failure, which this thought must bring with it; not to mention the coldness and fault-finding of those whose true welfare is all the time nearest his heart. Pages could not tell it all; then, in God's name, let the laity alone gladly give the money, that these aged servants of His may not be brought to the blush, in that having given all that was in them, they have not also ceased to live.

PICTON.

Do You Wish the Church Times?

SIR,—Will you kindly advise me if there is anyone among your readers who would care to receive the Church Times (English)? I receive it weekly and would be glad to forward it to any person or institution to whom it would be a benefit.

A CONSTANT READER.

"Conversion."

SIR,—It is pleasant to see that the difference between your correspondents is one of words only. One dislikes preaching "conversion" because of false doctrines attaching to the expression in popular use; the other assures us he means nothing by convert the people but lead them to repentance. Such concord is very pleasing. Now without desiring to attack any one, or drive any one to bay at the point of my pen, my desire is to take a walk along the broad uplands of the Prayer Book, and describe what appears to my powers of vision. The Cate-