

THE WESTERN CHURCHMAN

In words of mystery. "Perhaps you can defend the word, 'Git?' A defender arose to answer this grumble.

"Why certainly. It is short, concise, helpful, on many occasions. The book agent, the lightning rod conductor man, the travelling pill vendor are all settled with by the simple little word 'Git.'" It is useful as a stimulus to your horse for an increase in his gait. It is not claimed to be the right answer to give to a request from your minister for a donation, or to a collector of overdue taxes. What would your fastidious old lady, who sticks to the ancient language say to travelling purveyors? "Go away you naughty man, or I will send for a policeman." In asking her horse to trot "Gee—Tch! Tch! Tch!"

From this little starting point we

ant, the shop walker flew hither and thither, threw piles of variegated hues from the summit of vast heaps to reach the bottom roll of all. The darling rush of this assistant up a narrow ladder to a dizzy height, the clutch at a bundle of lace, rolls of ribbon, yards of embroidery, novelties in sun umbrellas, bonnets hats; safe return of the gymnast, display of treasures and general inspection. To enlarge shop to 'shopping' is all right. To increase store to 'storing' would be appalling. An American has dared to do this. One thinks of a preserve cupboard and a storing away of pickles.

Dickens' presents himself to the mind and conjures up Sally Brass "storing" away the hard cheese parings and grisly scraps of meat to feed

To grumble at the crops, the weather, the taxes; this is natural and agricultural. Why not be the incumbent?

Beneath the vest of the fault-finder there is generally an historic eye, a family love for the church.

If the Baptist or the Freethinker attacks the Anglican church, he may look out for a heated debate. The growler is then the defender.

I said a family love for the church. When growling is in full swing how often one hears something like this.

"My dear aunt Priscilla, who was a thorough going church woman never held with any of these new-fangled dodges. They had no flowers on the altar then."

It must be noted here that the affectionate prefix "dear" is reserved for religious discussion. In matters temporal, she appears simply as aunt, "I have aunt's receipts for pork pies or lemon pie."

Poor dead folk, how many fables are promulgated in your name.

These become family and even local records, and assume in time the guise of church history, and her ancient customs. The grumble at the parson having once started in the church circle, soon expands, until it assumes the dimensions of a small gale.

Something else springs up and it is all forgotten, until the more exciting topic is exhausted.

Be cheerful, oh! clergymen, half the grumbling is only skin deep.

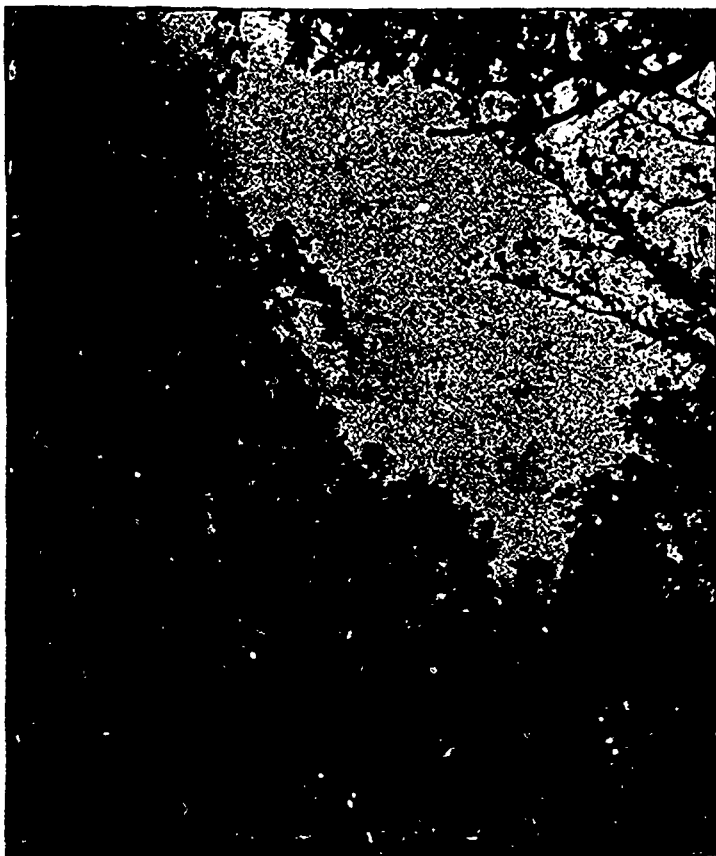
Keep up your hearts. The laity are not so bad as their Growls would lead you to believe. They do not expect a Dean Stanley or a Farrar for \$300 a year. The grumblers will work together for good. Be cheerful.

Helps says: "Nature intended you to be the fountain spring of cheerfulness and social life, and not the travelling monument of despair and melancholy."

The snarl will be heard whether you weep or sing. It will be born in the farm house, in the Sunday school, at the vestry meeting, aye, in the church itself.

After all, the dictionaries tell us that a growl is "to make a low and heavy sound." And the same authorities say "Sound is an empty noise."

CECIL



THE REV. H. G. WAKEFIELD, WITH HIS TEAM, LAKE DAUPHIN.

all, or nearly all, waded into the argument as an opening offered.

If one looks at this international Growl, we obtain some useful alterations of language, which are available for forcible and immediate use, without seeking the aid of a slang dictionary.

Alterations might be introduced though, which would not be improvements. Thus: I prefer shop to store. One understands that a woman has had intense enjoyment when she says, "I've been shopping."

One sympathises with the delight that has been her's, even can picture the joy that she has had in contrasting color, material and shading, ere selection followed.

The study she must have made of athletic exercise as her obedient serv-

the Duchess upon.

What has all this to do with church grumblers? Only this:—that the discussion on the change of language trotted on to a chat about the lives of the settlers in Manitoba. These brought up in Eastern provinces had come to the West and brought their ideas of church ritual as well as their baggage. Hence, the parson was in turn the subject of criticism and the growler jumped on him with both feet.

Is grumbling a good thing on this subject?

Yes! The farmer and I am now writing more of the agricultural congregations than of the cities, thinks he has a right to criticise and growl at that which he supports, viz.: his church.

THE REVISED VERSION.

Professor Clarke's Speech at the General Synod.

The question is sometimes asked why should there be a revision of the authorized version of the Scriptures? And another question might be asked in reply: Why should there not? The authorized version was the last of five or six translations made within less than a hundred years. This version made no claim to finality, and 270 years elapsed between its publication and that of the revised version of the New Testament.

Frequent demands for a revision were made long before the year was undertaken Dean Alford, Bishop Ellicott, Archbishop Trench and Bishop Light-