

OUR ENGLISH BUDGET.

WE are glad to learn that the Bishop of Peterborough continues to make steady and satisfactory progress.

THE new Bishop of Argyll is a grand son of one of the brothers Haldane. The *Presbyterian Witness* says: "He is devoutly Ritualistic in his views and practices." And adds "Vets are always apt to rush to extremes."

ON the Dean of Exeter's resignation of the office of Prolocutor in the Lower House of the Convocation of York, the Dean of York will be mentioned as his successor. The names of a majority of the members of Convocation have been already received as supporting this nomination. The election takes place at the meeting of Convocation, on the opening of the session of Parliament.

AN address was recently presented to Canon Hoare, at Tunbridge Wells, on the completion of the thirtieth year of his ministry. He received also the gift of a cheque for £500, together with an engraved silver tea and coffee service, and fine gold brooches set with brilliants for his daughters.

THE first general meeting of the shareholders of the Church Schools Company was held at the National Society's rooms, London, on Nov. 8th, the chairman of the council, Archdeacon Emory, presiding. The report of the work of the council since July 12th stated that 42 applications to establish schools had been already made from different centres. The number of shares taken to Nov. 5th was 6,950, representing a total of £34,750.

Speaking at Derby, the Bishop of Lichfield referred to the outcry against overwork in schools, and said the present system was defective not so much in regard to the quantity of education imparted as in the kind of subject to which children's attention was directed. His own opinion, strengthened by that of an eminent physician, was that "really good hard work was a healthy thing, and the more they had of it the better it was for them."

AT the reopening of the Parish Church of Painswick, Gloucester, a terrific thunderstorm took place. The spire was struck and about thirty feet of it hurled to the ground, the stones falling on the roofs and doing great damage. The Rector himself had expended \$10,000 on the work. Two days after the reopening of Painswick Church, a disaster similar to that which had befallen that parish occurred at another Gloucestershire village—namely, Stinehcombe. In the midst of a hailstone there was a vivid flash of lightning, followed instantaneously by a loud clap of thunder, and in a moment the beautiful fifteenth century spire was hurled to the ground. Some of the stones fell on the roof of the porch, and on the west-end of the nave, chiefly on the north-side.

THE Town Council at Nottingham rejected a proposal to purchase Colwick Park for the public use for £159,000. Colwick was the seat of the late Mr. John Musters, who married Lord Byron's Mary Chaworth.

RECENTLY a unique and very successful lecture and exhibition of dissolving views, illustrating C. M. S. work in Central Africa, was given in the Guildhall. Mr. Mantle was the lecturer, and a most efficient one. Perhaps 1,500 children and young people were present, crowding every part of the Hall.

THE Committee formed in St. John's College, to support and work a Mission in South London, have selected as their permanent missionary the Rev. W. I. Phillips, B. A., of the College, 1876. Mr. Phillips will be licensed by the Bishop of Rochester, and be responsible to him and to the Committee. The district assigned is called Locksfields, in the parish of St. John, Walworth, and contains about five thousand people. It is expected that the work will begin with the new year. A subscription list has been opened, and amounts now to upwards of £250, in annual subscriptions, besides donations, which have been collected from past and present members of the college.

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

THE Bishop of Carlisle in his latest book on Science and Faith aptly says:—"Every preacher of the Word of God must feel, that one use to which the pulpit should be applied in these days in an educated country, such as our own, is the diffusion of sound thought on the subject of the relation in which human and divine knowledge stand to each other."

THE London *Record*, in speaking of the position and advancement of the American Church, says:—"In the progress of this sister Church we most unfeignedly rejoice, and we trust it will continue to expand more and more, furnishing a still more important rallying point for souls tempest-tossed with the scepticism and unbelief and spiritual negations too much abounding in America."

THE action of the General Theological Seminary in New York, forbidding all preaching by the students, suggests to the *Congregationalist* the inquiry if something similar might not be advisable in the way of restricting ministers to their own work. As an illustration of the need of this, it states that a pastor in Maine, either personally or by agents, runs three churches, a salmon fishery, a large farm, a coal office, a teamster's route, is a car proprietor, a road conductor, a stage-coach owner, a chief partner in a public bath and mineral spring, a holder of turnpike gates, a lodging-house keeper, a guardian of the poor and a member of the board of health.

THE appeal of the American Board of Missions has the following telling question:—"Why should we leave it to the Mammon of commercial enterprise to drive golden spikes in the railroad that binds the Pacific to the Atlantic coast, while we withhold our gold from that living bond of union, which would draw men everywhere, from the stormy seas of strife and unrest to the ocean of God's Peace and Love, and carry over all the earth the preachers of the Gospel of Peace?"

THE *Church Standard* thinks that a trifle more courtesy in the pews would improve things very much. It is showing very little consideration for the feelings of others to *make them* pass in front of you. If you wish particularly for the seat nearest the aisle, step out, into the aisle and let others in. We must ask that more attention be paid to this point; Christians should "be courteous."

THE *Living Church* mourns over the dearth of candidates for Orders in the States, in the following way:—"This is another proof of the great danger that threatens the Church, a dearth of clergy, a failure on the part of the best men in the Church to give themselves to the Holy Office of the priesthood. The candidates for Holy Orders reported are 302, in 42 dioceses and five missionary districts. This number would provide only about 125 clergy per annum. The Church must face this momentous question; How are we to provide for an increase in our clerical force?"

SPEAKING of the consecration of Bishop Smythies, as Missionary Bishop of Central Africa, in St. Paul's Cathedral on St. Andrew's Day, the *Guardian* remarks:—"Judging by the spectacle in St. Paul's on Friday, the interest in the Universities' Mission is not ebbing away. It was an honourable, splendid, and reasonable service. The Archbishop of Canterbury, recovered from his brief indisposition, did his part with conspicuous dignity. The Bishops of London, Carlisle, Oxford, Llandaff, and Bedford were good representatives of their order; and the religious tone of the service from the beginning to the end was admirable."

REFERRING to the difficulties attending the work, and the unusually large outlay of men and money, the *Guardian* say:—"Bishop Smythies in Africa and his counsellors in Delahay-street must trust each other with generous ardour and sober sense; and then, as Dr. King, in a sermon remarkable for a reserved unction and profound sobriety and loftiness of conception, put it before the congregation of St. Paul's on St. Andrew's

Day, the Church in Africa may by-and-by not only restore to England the blessings she is gathering from hence to-day, but renew for Christendom the enlightenment, and wealth of learning, and heritage of holy living and happy dying which came to the Catholic Church from the great Doctors and Bishops in Northern Africa, before the storm of Mahomet strewed the African Churches on the barren sand.

THE Irish *Ecclesiastical Gazette* says:—"At the close of his address as President of the Liverpool Diocesan Conference, Dr. Ryle gave expression to some remarkable sentiments as to the way in which, according to his Lordship, the English Bishops have been treated of late. "There is probably," said Dr. Ryle, "no order of men which is so severely and savagely criticised, so incessantly vilified, sneered at, ridiculed, abused and condemned, as the English Bishops. We can never say nor do anything without a storm fault-finding from some quarter. We live in an age of anarchy and lawlessness. Whether men really meant to give up Episcopacy and adopt some modified form of Presbyterianism I cannot say. But unless Bishops are treated with a little more fairness and a little more consideration for their difficulties, I predict that you will find one day that no right-minded man will consent to be a Bishop at all." We are not at all certain that his brethren on the bench will agree to ratify this rather querulous complaint of the Bishop of Liverpool.

Book Notices, Reviews, &c.

THE Christmas number of the "Canadian Missionary" is excellent, containing much original matter appropriate to the season. The serial story "Till the Day Break," reached chapter iv., which is occupied with a Christmas story told by a U. E. Loyalist, in which he gives an account of the adventures of his family in their journey to Canada. They narrowly escape being swept into the Galop Rapids, crossing the St. Lawrence in a raft. Other articles are "St. James' Church Carleton Place, with an illustration, by Rev. G. J. Low; "St. Joseph's Island Mission," by Rev. H. Beer; "Christmas on the Gatineau," by Rev. W. P. Chambers; "Our first Christmas in Branches," by L. M. Fortier; "Christmas among the Fishermen," by Rev. J. A. Richey, original verses of much merit. Reminiscences of Mission work among the Objibbway Indians," by Rev. James Chance; "A Christmas Tree in Labrador," by Rev. R. W. Brown. There is also a large amount of condensed Church news, and facts, incidents, and anecdotes. We are glad to learn that the Magazine is meeting with a very general support and promises to be a success. The Ven. Archdeacon Macdonald of North West fame who laboured so long and successfully among the Indians in the Yu Kon River, within the Arctic Circle, is to contribute a paper in the January Number.

The "Living Church Annual and Church Almanac for 1884" is full of valuable information about the American Church. A great deal of trouble must have been spent in preparing the work, and if its statistics are accurate, which we have no reason to doubt, it will prove an exceedingly good reference book for both clergy and laity.

The "Church Annual for 1884," issued by the *Episcopal Register*, of Philadelphia, and published by McCalla & Staveland, is, beyond all others, the most handsome and attractive Church Almanac that has yet appeared. Its make up is worthy of all praise, and its contents valuable. The numerous illustrations of English and American Churches add frequently to its appearance and value. And at 50 cents it is marvellously cheap.

"CHURCH BELLS" has removed to 12 Southampton St., Strand, W. C., London, England.