

A CURSE FOR THE DROWNER IN CHURCH.—A writer in the Independent says:—

My advice to those who are troubled with drowiness in the house of God, may not be of much service, but it shall be given as freely as medicine at the Dispensary.

1. Do not sleep too long and late on Sabbath morning. Nothing is gained by it but additional drowiness. The Scripture holds good emphatically here, "He respects extra sleep, to him that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance," even in Church.

2. Spend a few moments, before going to Church, in serious meditation on the Eutychus, mentioned in Acts x. 9, and remember if any accident should occur to you, you have not Paul for your minister to remedy it.

3. Be in mind that if you fall asleep, the preacher may treat you merely as the furniture of the pew, much as an old minister in Norwich, Conn., did his sleeping hearers, not many years ago, "I come now," said he, "to the third head of my discourse, to which I ask the serious and candid attention of all who are not asleep," giving a marked and peculiar emphasis to the last word.

4. Remember, if the sermon is peculiarly dull, that you meet with a double loss.

"If all want sense,
God taketh a text and preacheth patience."

But if you fall asleep, you lose man's sermon and God's too.

5. Behold yourself that it may be the last in this world that you will have the opportunity of struggling against drowiness under a sermon.

6. Last of all, resolve that when you make your journey to lodgings, you will pay for the privilege of being in the place or into the Lord's treasury, and not value at the best hotels.

If you use these remedies faithfully, and then fail to improve, I imagine you will have to call in a consultation upon your case. It is evidently desperate.—I shall fear that the disease was in the blood, that it was constitutional thing—and nothing but the arch-physician could effectually rouse you and keep awake.

INTERESTING INCIDENTS.—The following account is given by the Rev. Leigh Richmond, as having been related by a minister in a meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

A drunkard was one day staggering in drink on the deck of the sea. His little son by him, three years of age, being very hungry, solicited him for something to eat. The miserable father, conscious of his poverty, and of the criminal cause of it, in a kind of rage, assailed by his intemperance and despair, hurled his innocent into the sea, and made off with him. The poor little sufferer, finding a floating plank by his side on the water, clung to it. The wind soon carried him and the plank into the sea.

A British man-of-war, passing by discovered the child: a sailor at the risk of his own life, plunged into the sea, and brought him on board.—He could inform them little more than that his name was Jack. They gave him the name of poor Jack.—Spun up on board that man-of-war, behaved well, gained the love of all the officers and men. He was an officer of the sick department. During the late war, an aged man came under his care, nearly in a dying state. He was all attention to the suffering stranger, but could not save his life.

The aged stranger was dying, and thus addressed the young officer: For the great attention you have shown me, I give you this only treasure that I possessed of—(presenting him with a Bible, bearing the stamp of the British and Foreign Bible Society.) It was given me by a lady: has been the means of my conversion: and has been a great comfort to me. Read it and it will lead you in the way of wisdom. He went on to confess the wickedness and profligacy of his life before the reception of the Bible: and, among other enormities, how he had hurled his son, three years old, into the sea, because he would not give him for needful food.

The young officer inquired of him the time and place where he was his own history. Read the Bible if you can, of his feelings, to recognize the dying old man, his father dying a patient under his care! and judge of the feelings of the dying man, to find that the same young stranger was his very son whom he had plunged into the sea. He had no idea but he had immediately perished! Description of their mutual feelings will not be at-

tempted. The old man soon expired in the arms of his son. The latter left the service, and became a pious preacher of the gospel. On closing his story, the minister in the meeting of the Bible Society bowed to the chairman, and said, "Sir, I am little Jack."

THE OLD TUNE.—A young man had wandered far from his home, and far also from the promise of his childhood. His religious culture seemed to have been in vain, so far as related to the conversion of his heart, and the sanctification of his life to the service of God. He was passing in a steamer up the Hudson river, when standing near the wheel-house, he heard some one within, whistling a tune, with which he had been familiar from his childhood, in his home in England. It was a tune attached to sacred words in his memory, and at once, with an inconceivable power, the solemn verses rushed into his mind, and with them all the religious associations of his childhood.—The effect upon him was overwhelming and decisive. Powerful convictions of sin followed: a humble penitent, he sought and obtained pardon at the hand of God. Called afterwards to the work of the ministry, he became a faithful and successful preacher of the gospel, and this last spring, having finished the work that was given him to do, and kept the faith, with peculiar Christian triumph, he conquered the last enemy, and received the crown of life. The bread hus cast every Sabbath upon the waters, will not fail to return, though delayed for many days.

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.—There is now in the possession of, and manufactured by Mr. Collings, silver-smith, of Gloucestershire, England, a most ingenious piece of mechanism—an eight day clock, with dead beat escapement maintaining power, chimes the quarters, plays sixteen tunes, plays three tunes in twelve hours, or will play at any time required. The hands go round as follows: One, once a minute; one, once an hour; one, once a week; one once a month; one once a year. It shows the moon's age, the time of rising and setting of the sun, the time of high and low water, half ebb and half flood; and by a beautiful contrivance there is a part that represents the water, which rises and falls, lifting the ships at high water tide as if it were in motion, and as it recedes leaves these little automaton ships dry on the sands. It shows the hour of the day, day of the week, day of the month, month of the year. In the day of the month, there is a provision made for the long and short months. It shows the twelve signs of the zodiac; it strikes or not, chimes or not, as you wish it; it has the equation table, showing the difference of clock and sun every day in the year. Every portion of the clock is of beautiful workmanship, and performs most accurately the many different objects which are called into action by the ingenious proprietor, who is most willing to describe all its various achievements to any one who may feel a pleasure in paying him a visit.

WORTH KNOWING.—Some of the papers have had a paragraph recommending the use of wheat flour in the case of scalds or burns. A gentleman at Drayton writes that he tested it to his satisfaction. He says:—"While at table, a little child which was seated in its mother's lap, suddenly grasped hold of a cup of her tea, severely scalding its left hand and arm. I immediately brought a pan of flour and plunged the arm into it, covering entirely the parts scalded with the flour. The effect was truly remarkable—the pain was gone instantly. I then bandaged the arm loosely, applying plenty of flour next to the skin, and on the following morning there was not the least sign that the arm had been scalded—neither did the child suffer the least pain after the application of the flour."

AN EXCITING SCENE.—On Saturday evening, Mr. M. Driesbach, the Lion King, while exhibiting his feats in a den which contained several wild animals, in the Broadway Menagerie, was attacked by one of them, (a large Brazilian tiger,) which sprang upon him, knocked him down, and fastened his teeth in his breast. A lioness sprang to the assistance of her master, but unfortunately struck him a powerful blow on the chest, which she intended for the tiger, and thus made matters worse. One of the keepers then opened the door of the cage, and dragged Mr. Driesbach out. He was immediately attended by a physician, who found that only flesh wounds had been inflicted, and those not of a dangerous character. The audience was highly excited during the time the scene was acting. This is the first time in two months that the tiger has been exhibited, and it is probable that the glare of the gas lights rendered him confused and excited. He was always looked upon by Mr. Driesbach as one of his pet animals, and as extremely tame and docile.—New York paper.

Ecclesiastical.

SYDNEY CATHEDRAL.

A Meeting of the Parishioners of St. George's Parish, took place on Thursday, the 23rd February 1854, in the Parochial School House, in this place.

The Rev. the Rector in the chair.

The object was to receive from the Committee previously appointed, the plan and estimate which they had prepared of the Parsonage House, contemplated to be built in Sydney.

The following Resolutions were severally put and carried.

1st.—Resolved, That the plan of a Rectory submitted by the Committee be adopted.

2nd.—Resolved, That a Sub-committee to consist of Captain Ouseley, and Messrs. John Lewis, (Coxheath,) and W. Rudderham (N. W. Arm) be appointed to carry out the building of the Parsonage House, decided upon at this Meeting, to apply for assistance when required to the present Committee, and through the Rev. the Rector, when necessary, for the holding future Parochial Meetings, until the Building be completed.

3rd.—Resolved, That the Building having been decided upon, a subscription list be commenced forthwith, towards raising the Funds necessary for proceeding with the same.—subscriptions to be payable by three equal annual instalments.

The sum of £71 was subscribed by the parties present.

After the Meeting was adjourned, arrangements were made, as suggested at the Meeting, that the stone for the cellar Walls should be hauled and the scaffolding for the frame should be procured, gratuitously.

A Public Meeting was held in the School House at Cox Heath, on Thursday, the 2nd. March, for the purpose of taking measures to erect a Church for the use of the settlement—the Rev. H. J. Unlucke, Rector, in the Chair.

It was Resolved 1st.—That a Church be erected at Cox Heath for divine worship, according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England.

Resolved, 2nd.—That a Committee be appointed to procure a place and provide a site for the said Chapel, in the neighbourhood of the present School House, and to take such further steps as may be necessary for carrying out the above resolution.—And that the Committee consist of the following persons:—

Rev. H. J. UNLUCKE,
Messrs. JOHN LEWIS,
GEORGE LEWIS,
THOS. S. BROWN, and
JOHN G. ANDREWS.

Resolved, 3d.—That a building Committee be also appointed to take charge of the erection of the Fabric, agreeably to the plans and directions of the former Committee. And that it consists of the following persons:—

Messrs. THOS. S. BROWN,
GEORGE LEWIS,
JOHN LEWIS.

Resolved, 4th.—That a subscription list be now opened for procuring the necessary funds for the above mentioned object.

It is only necessary to add that the Meeting was characterized by the utmost unanimity, and that very liberal subscriptions were immediately made by every individual present.

DIOCESEAN CHURCH SOCIETY.—The Anniversary Meeting of this institution, which took place during the past week, were more than usually interesting. Although, owing to a variety of circumstances, the number of Clergy present was not great, the General Committee was very numerously attended by the lay deputies, who represented forty-six Local Committees. Among these, it was most gratifying to notice a goodly number of intelligent representatives from the rural districts, forming, with the delegates selected in the towns, and from among the members of the Legislature, an assembly of the highest respectability and talent.

The Report, read by the Secretary, indicated an increasing sense of the importance of the Society from all parts of the Diocese,—a determination of continued support—of confidence in its management, and a larger amount of contributions than had heretofore been received. A most satisfactory Report was made by the Auditors upon the accounts of the Treasurer, showing a considerable cash balance over the expenditure of the past year.

It was found that the Committee could dispose of nearly £1300 for the current year, which was appropriated as follows:—to missionary objects, (for which 15 missions are assisted) and the expenses of a travelling missionary paid, £725; aid in building churches £100; aid to parsonage £25; widows' and orphans' fund £50; special grant from this fund £25; for the importation of books £150; besides books to the amount of £150 out of the book depositories, for gratuitous distribution.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on Thursday evening. Besides the Delegates there was a large attendance of members from the city and its vicinity. After prayers, the Lord Bishop in a short, but most excellent address, expressed his thankfulness for the present prosperity of the Society, and urged upon its members increased exertion in its behalf. The Secretary was then called on to read the Annual Report and the Minutes of the late meeting, after the reception of which the officers of the Society and the Executive Committee were elected. The Hon. Charles Simonds was unanimously chosen a Vice President. Several proposed alterations in the present constitution were then taken up and disposed of after an animated and somewhat prolonged discussion. The Society then adjourned.—*Frederick Road Quarters*

On Sunday last a sermon in behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (under authority of the Queen's Letter) was preached at St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, by the Rev. Henry Allford, and a collection of £112 14s. was made. On the same day the Queen's Letter sermon was preached at All Souls, Langham, by the Rev. J. H. Gurney, after which there was a collection amounting to £60—*Eng. Paper, March.*

At Birkenhead an iron church is about to be erected for seamen.