

should in their case be a very simple matter. As it is, the work of the Church is being seriously retarded by the utter inability of any two men to exercise anything approaching efficient episcopal oversight. The population of these two dioceses is according to the census of 1891, 1,400,000.

THE CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA.

The following statistics given by the Bishop of Tasmania to his Synod, will be of exceeding value to the Australian Church, and not without interest to her well-wishers in England. "The entire population of Australia and Tasmania is computed at 3,982,000; our parishes and districts, 864; clergy, 863. Churches number 1,708; other buildings for worship, 1,426. That is nearly four places of worship apiece over the whole area; surely it is heroic work. Lay readers, mostly unpaid, 1,044; outnumbering the clergy—otherwise the clergy would expire, and the Church too. The average yearly confirmations are 10,350, and baptisms, 30,000. The Sunday-school children, 144,000, and their teachers, 11,500. The total yearly revenue of the Church from all sources is about £340,000. Compare that with what we do for the evangelisation of the world, and do more for the latter cause. Communicants are returned as about 85,000. You will like to know also how many have been ordained out here in the last five years; about 223, including deacons and priests. Of these I calculate that 111 were deacons. Three dioceses—Sydney,

Melbourne, and Ballarat—contribute 98 ordinations out of 228. On cathedrals we have spent £311,000. Let no one call it waste. We may say that money spent on great and beautiful central churches is, as Dr. Morgan Dix said of the cost of the New York Cathedral, "the strongest protest that could be made against the selfishness, covetousness, and greed of the day; yea, moreover, against that spirit which says that religion is losing hold on men." But what are the defects which my statistics show? Ponder over these. The column of deaconesses and sisters have ominous blanks. The total, including both, is twenty-nine, and a dispassionate and calm view of our church life impels me to say that we sorely need the devoted, skilled, and life-long service of women organized on lines suited to our characteristics."—*Church Times*.

The Church of England is numerically the leading religious body in Australia, numbering about 35 per cent.

LORD HALIFAX, speaking at Huddersfield of his thirty-six years' experience in Church matters, said he had been always hearing of a crisis and impending destruction, "but all the talking, agitation and fears came absolutely to nothing. Things went on improving, the work of the Church was advancing by leaps and bounds. . . . There was only one secret of real Church life, and that was that the members of the Church should live up to their professions" The very humblest and poorest member of the Church who did that, did more than the most influential, wealthy and powerful speaker.