

The Church Guardian.

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."—Eph. vi. 24.
"Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."—Jude: 3.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1879.

One Dollar a Year.

REV.
REV.

D. H. BROWNE,
S. W. PENTREATH,

LOCK DRAWER 29, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA,
MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK,

EDITORS.

THE Bishop of Exeter, in consecrating a portion of Burslem cemetery, has shown that Consecration was not a mere asking for God's blessing, and not a superstition.

THE Bishop of Fredericton's new work on the Book of Job, reviewed elsewhere in our columns, well sustains the venerable Metropolitan's reputation as a ripe scholar and a profound theologian.

HAWORTH CHURCH, to save which there was a sentimental attempt on the part of the "Brontë" family, is to be pulled down forthwith. The new Church will cost £10,000, of which Mr. Michael Merrall has promised £6,000.

ON Saturday Mrs. S. C. Hall unveiled a memorial window to Moore, the poet, at Bromham Church, Wiltshire. It represents the Last Judgment. Many eminent literary men have subscribed towards the memorial.

IN the Annual Address of Bishop Potter before his Convention the other day in New York, he mentioned that in his twenty-five years' episcopate he had ordained 418 deacons, and 342 priests; 108 churches had been consecrated, and 100 corner-stones laid; 72,900 persons confirmed; 144,383 baptized, of whom 17,753 were adults.

THE Bishops of the Southern dioceses of Easton and North Carolina have sent a letter, endorsed by the venerable Bishop of New York, to the English *Guardian*, repudiating the recent assertion of Dean Stanley that there had been hesitation on the part of the General Convention after the war in receiving the Bishops of the South. They say, so far from that being the case, the initiative in the matter was taken by the Northern dioceses themselves, and great warmth of brotherly love and christian feeling was displayed when a reunion took place.

REFERRING, in the course of a recent sermon, to the position now occupied by the Church of England in the eyes of Christendom, the Archbishop of Canterbury called special attention to the fact that applications for advice and assistance are now being urgently and repeatedly made to the Church of England by the ancient christian communities in Eastern Turkey, Armenia, and Kurdistan. The representatives of these ancient historic churches have, the Archbishop remarked, a very strong claim upon our sympathy and help, as having maintained in one form or another their christian faith and worship during many centuries of oppression and mis-rule.

THE magnitude of the labours of the late Dr. Baring, during his seventeen years' administration of the see of Durham, may be gathered from the following facts. There were erected 119 new churches, at a cost of £363,830, and affording accommodation for 40,590 worshippers; 129 churches were enlarged and restored at an expenditure of £179,870; and a further outlay was incurred of £18,534 for burial-grounds. The clergy were increased by 186, and 392 deacons were ordained. No fewer than 183 schools for elementary education were erected or enlarged in the diocese during Dr. Baring's episcopacy, at a cost of £137,831.

THE display of wheat, and the choice quality of the flour made from it, exhibited at the Halifax Exhibition, must have opened some eyes to the capabilities of the Province for producing its own food.

The Transcript is the name of a new weekly, published in Sackville, N. B., by the Messrs. Bowes, formerly owners and publishers of *The Borderer*. The appearance of the new paper is particularly good, and we heartily wish it great success.

OVER 25,000 people visited the Provincial Exhibition recently held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. About \$6,000 was received at the ticket offices. The Exhibition, which opened on Tuesday, the 30th September, closed Saturday evening, the 4th October.

FROM the best statistics attainable, the Almanack de Gotha states that out of 388 millions of nominal Christians in the world, 332 millions are Episcopalians. 56 millions are non-Episcopalian, and of these the larger portion are to be found on this continent.

THE *Building News* of last week gives an engraving of Mr. Street's design for a memorial cross to Sir Gilbert Scott. A sum of about £900 has been subscribed, of which the monument will absorb half, and the rest will go towards founding "An Art Workman's Teachership."

AMONG the exhibits at the Nova Scotia Exhibition was a "brick" of gold weighing over 397 ounces, and valued at \$7,666.92, taken from the "Rose" lode at Montague, Halifax Co. This large quantity of the precious metal was the result of 14 men's work for one month.

THE disruption among the Democrats of New York, by the withdrawal of the Tammany section and their nomination of a candidate of their own for the gubernatorial office, may lead to the loss of the State for the democracy. It is several years since a Republican Governor was elected.

THE Bishop of Ripon has consecrated the new Church of St. Margaret's, Ilkley, which has been built from designs of Mr. Norman Shaw, in Transitional Decorated. It will seat a thousand persons, and has cost upwards of £12,000. At the subsequent luncheon, the right rev. prelate mentioned that St. Margaret's was the 138th church that he had consecrated.

THE Rev. Dr. Bacon, of Connecticut, in urging the change of time in the "Week of Prayer," to correspond with our Holy Week, says: "The week which I propose has this advantage. It is a week of prayer observed with great solemnity by Roman Catholics and Episcopalians. Perhaps there are some souls so bigoted as to feel that this is an argument against my proposal. I cannot stop to reason with them. Ministers and churches in Connecticut have learned not to be quite so narrow. Our State Fast always comes on Good Friday, which is to Episcopalians and Roman Catholics, the most sacred fast day of all the year. On that day it is, therefore, so much the easier to obtain a suspension of business, and a general attendance on religious observances."

THE Congregationalists recently celebrated the 250th anniversary in Salem, Mass., the home of the witch-killing, torturing, etc., indulged in by the Puritans; and invited the Quakers, whom they formerly whipped, and mutilated, and hanged, to join them. Whereat, the Quakers very properly declined, and instead, read them a homily on their conduct in the past, under the name of religious liberty.

ON Tuesday, the 25th November, there will be a celebration in the Academy of Music, New York, of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Rt. Rev. Horatio Seymour as Bishop of New York. On this occasion, a casket of great value and beauty of workmanship, and one of the most elaborate pieces of the silversmith's art ever made, will be presented to the venerable Bishop as a token of the esteem and gratitude of the Diocese.

THE new cathedral of the Scottish Episcopal Church in Edinburgh is thought to be the most important specimen of Gothic architecture attempted in Scotland since the reformation. It was the last, and many persons believe it to be the greatest, work of the late Sir Gilbert Scott. Its length is 278 feet, and its breadth 98 feet, 6 inches, while the central towers, when completed, will be 300 feet high, and the two towers which flank the west front will be 209 feet 9 inches. In picturesque Edinburgh a more commanding site could not have been chosen, and the completed towers will form striking objects from all parts of the city. The portal is modelled after what remains of the splendid doorway of Holyrood Abbey, and the front, as a whole, will be, it is said, the most splendid Gothic facade in Scotland. Already the building has cost \$800,000, and the entire cathedral, aside from the towers, will be ready for use at the end of the present year.

I AM MADE to feel at times that communicants of the church do not always remember that they are a royal priesthood, especially when I listen to their criticism upon the life and labors of their pastor, and know in my inmost heart that what they call want of success and failure in the ministry is largely owing to the selfishness, neglect or open hostility of those members of the parish who should be faithful co-workers with their pastor and priest. Point me to a parish which year after year is faithful in all its duties; where canonical requirements are conscientiously observed; where the salary of the pastor is promptly paid; where the services of the Christian year are valued; Festival and Fast gladly kept; and the Holy Communion often administered; where everything pertaining to a proper ritual is cheerfully observed; where the church building and all material fabrics are reverently cared for, and I know that in that congregation are devout men and women who love the Church because it is the kingdom of their dear Lord, and who pray and labor for it with a devotion and sincerity and faith wholly unworldly and unselfish; and it is in such congregations and under such influences that the spiritual building, priceless and precious beyond words to express, grows into the perfectness of saintly character.—*Bishop of Wisconsin.*

[From the Parish Record.]

PASTORAL CALLS.

How shall our Parishes be thoroughly worked? How shall the clergy become more efficient? How shall our pastors obtain more direct, personal intercourse with their flocks?

These questions and many like them have been answered by the mild suggestion, of increased pastoral visiting. But can pastoral visiting, such as we have been accustomed to, promote the desired end? or are the visits of the wisest pastor, very often, more than a well intended, but a wholly unfruitful expenditure of time? Most of the visits of the pastor are received if not so intended, merely as a polite call, and the reverend visitor is entertained in about the same manner, that any other cultivated caller would be. First, that ever available subject, the state of the weather, is commented upon; then the health of the family, the news of the day, and if the visit is not a brief one, the conversation runs down to the edge, if it does not enter the confines of the domain of gossip. If, when the pastor rises to withdraw, he has been able to get in one word about that which is to him all important, he is very fortunate.

Again he has a member of his flock on his mind. He knows where he lives. He knows exactly the hour that he may be found at home, in the evening. The first unoccupied night, though the distance is great, he goes to see him.

This visit is unsuccessful, the man is out. The next unengaged evening he tries again. His friend is at home. He is ushered into the parlor, where he finds him entertaining company. He spends a pleasant hour with him but departs without being able to give his host a word in private. And so such visits may be continued indefinitely, without the least success.

Now of course we do not advocate the abandonment of all parochial visiting by the clergy; new families should be visited often, the careless or lukewarm must be looked after, and the sick must be tended daily; at the best, there will be visiting enough; but we think that there should be a reformation in this matter of parochial calls. The time of the clergy, both in the study and in the street, is much too precious to be frittered away in meaningless and insipid visits, or in frantic but ineffectual efforts to see those whom the pastor feels he may affect.

But what remedy can we propose for this custom?

Well, for social purposes, the pastor's reception ought to relieve him of that travelling up the street and down the street, in the house and out of the house, merely for the purpose of wishing the people "Good morrow;" and for matters spiritual, why should not there be a stated time, every week, for the people to come to the church, not to hear a lecture or sermon or to worship, but to converse or consult about matters pertaining to the Soul?

It is foolish to say that this is an imitation of the Roman Catholics, for the denominations always have this plan in operation during a revival, and the Prayer Book says to such, "Let him come to me or some other minister of God's Word," if he is in difficulty or trouble.

If the pastor had a stated hour to see such as should come to consult him, then the man of many engagements in the world would know just when and where to find him; and there would be fewer