

entire Dominion, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Strenuous efforts were also said to have been made to defeat Mr. Cartwright. But the fact that Mr. Horton's majority at the general election was 371, shows it to have been most likely that the impression was a pretty general one that it was impossible to elect a Conservative candidate; and we know very well how difficult it is when such an impression prevails, to induce some people to turn out in order to record their vote. The result is also said to be owing to the feeling that it will be an advantage on all hands to have Mr. Cartwright in the House, "because his party is not strong enough to be without leaders, and because he will be in the House to defend the policy of the late Government; an advantage to the country, because an intelligent and critical opposition is just as needful as an honest and economical administration; and an advantage to the members of the Government, because they will have the ex-Finance Minister before them to hold responsible for the financial operations of their predecessors." At any rate, it is contended that the result of the Centre Huron election is no indication that any part of the country desires to reverse the decision of the whole Dominion at the late general election.

A great deal of dissatisfaction has been expressed in certain quarters because, the country having indicated pretty clearly its leanings on State policy, and having unmistakably chosen the former administration to office, there has been no improvement in the commercial state of the Dominion. In fact, prices have declined rather than risen; and if the present declension goes on as it has begun, it is feared that the ensuing winter will be a very trying one to all the financial interests in the country. In reply, it is urged that Sir John A. Macdonald, not having been Premier of Canada in August and September last, is not responsible for the unfavourable weather during those months, nor, consequently, for the state of the grain harvested at that time; and further, that no Premier of Canada could answer for the commercial depression in Great Britain and the United States; both which countries exercise a great influence over our own Dominion.

On Monday, Messrs. Tilley, Tupper, Macdonald of Picton, O'Connor, and Pope, of Compton, were elected by acclamation.

During a fog on the Mersey on the morning of the 4th inst., the steamer *City of Baltimore* sunk the steam launch *Hercules*, belonging to the Inman line. Several workmen on the launch were lost.

England's ultimatum to the Ameer of Afghanistan informed him that the Russian embassy must withdraw, and that he must not enter into a Russian alliance, but must preserve a neutral attitude. The Ameer is reported to state that he desires British friendship, but he complained that British policy was very apt to change with each new Viceroy. The Ameer declares he is open to make a new treaty, that he is not bound by any Russian alliance, and did not invite the Russian Embassy to Cabul.

France has issued a note advising that diplomatic pressure be exerted in favor of the claims of Greece on Turkey. Italy and Germany have already consented to mediate between Greece and the Porte.

The *Berlin Post* says: "Eight weeks ago when the Treaty of Berlin was in danger, Bismarck appealed to the signatories to defend it. England, who then rejected the request, now appeals to Austria and France, supposed adversaries of Russia, for the purpose of reviving the Crimean alliance. Such attempts are useless. Furthermore, England, by fostering jealousies, certainly will not succeed in preventing friendly relations between Bulgaria and Greece."

On the 4th, a severe snow storm was reported at Halifax, with a prospect of snowing all night; and it looked as though winter had regularly opened. On the same day, the sleighs were out at Quebec.

The Arab tribes occupying the country between Bagdad and Bassarah have revolted and cut off communication between Bagdad and Mosul. The Government functionaries have fled.

Dean Stanley preached at Grace church, New York, on Sunday night. Bishop Potter was present. The sermon dealt with the question as to the origin and destiny of man. The speaker showed that it was not a history of descent, but of ascent of man they had to deal with. He spoke of New York city as the Babylon of the West, a new creation almost within a generation, and said the question was whether there was a corresponding development of moral nature.

On the 18th of October, twelve persons were killed and forty to fifty injured by a collision on the Pontypridd Junction on the Taff Vale Railway. At a point where the Rhondda branch unites with the main line the Llanripant and Cowbridge lines run to and from the station. One of these, after discharging its passengers, overshot the points and struck the rapidly advancing Rhondda train fair in the centre.

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

THE Shield of Faith, which is the main piece of defensive armour, as necessary in attack as in defense, was never more needed by the Christian than in the present day. To quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one as well as to overcome the world, the shield of Faith must be in constant exercise; and the fiery darts against which it should be impenetrable are, unfortunately, hurled from within the battlements of the Church almost as frequently as from without its borders. For it is no less strange than true that many of those who boast of their faith, who profess to hold the notion that nothing but the exercise of this Christian grace is needed to begin, to carry on, and to mature the Christian character, are precisely those who have the least of it themselves, and who throw aside the plainest statements of Christ and His Apostles as to the grace communicated in the use of the means for that purpose, which are of Christ's own appointment. To pretend to *Gospel teaching* or to *Evangelical Christianity* and yet to ignore the agencies and instrumentalities of Christ's own institution, is so much self-contradiction, and is absurdity so glaring that the wonder is that we meet with so much of it among men who claim to be intelligent men, to know all about such matters and deny all mystery connected with them.

One of the main facts on which the faith of the Christian securely rests, and which is wholly denied or partially repudiated in the present day, is the Incarnation of the Son of God with its con-

sequent results;—and in the results of the Incarnation are included the functions of the Christian ministry as Christ Himself assigned them, and the grace flowing through the use of means, of no avail in themselves, but which are rendered effectual by His presence and blessing. Believe only that He is the Son of Man—the wisest, if you will, and the best of men—and the requisite force is lacking; you assent only to a fact which is bounded by the frontiers of human history. But believe that Jesus is the Son of God,—that His life was that of the perfect moral being manifest in the flesh, that His death was that of the everlasting Son purchasing His Church with His priceless blood,—that His mercy and His power are alike boundless, and that He helps and befriends us by His Spirit, in His Sacraments on earth, and by His majestic and ceaseless intercession in Heaven,—and life is at once irradiated by a new idea of its solemnity and its blessedness; while a firm and impenetrable defence is secured against all the fiery assaults of the wicked one, and the other portions of the Christian's armour have free and unrestricted facility for their respective purposes of attack or defense.

CHURCH MUSIC.

THE success of the Worcester Musical Festival has been complete, the collections and donations having amounted to \$7,000. On the Thursday morning of the festival week Dr. Armes' short oratorio, "Hezekiah," was given in the Cathedral. The text is compiled by the composer himself, and consists of passages taken from the Book of Isaiah, referring to the invasion of Judea by Sennacherib, the destruction of the Assyrian army and the sickness and miraculous recovery of Hezekiah. The vocal music is preceeded by a spirited orchestral introduction in the martial style, supposed to accompany the advance of Sennacherib's army upon Jerusalem. The choral writing is the best portion of the work, and proves that Dr. Armes has studied well the productions of our older cathedral composers. Dr. Armes conducted the performance of his work, after which the conductor of the festival, Mr. Done, took the baton, and the first part of the programme closed with Mendelssohn's sublime hymn, "Hear my prayer," for soprano solo, chorus and orchestra. The solo part was sung by Madame Albani with exquisite purity of voice and style, and unaffected devotional feeling. The Thursday morning's performance closed with a very satisfactory rendering of Spohr's "Last Judgment." The concluding oratorio on Friday was the "Messiah." Madame Albani's share included the airs "Rejoice greatly," and "I know that my Redeemer liveth," the first of which was given with fine bravura execution, and the other with affecting pathos. The special evening service which closed the Festival brought forward a *Magnificent* and *Nunc dimittis*, by the Rev. Sir F. G. Ouseley, and a sacred cantata, "The Daughter of Jarius," by Dr. Stainer—all composed specially for the occasion. The cantata contains much effective and masterly writing. The solo vocal music is full of melodious grace, while the choral writing is always effective, and in one instance of special mastery and power. In the first named respect we may refer to the tenor air, "My hope is in the Everlasting," and the duet for soprano and tenor, "Love divine." All the choruses told well, particularly that for female voices, "Sweet, tender flower," and, above all, that for full choir, "Awake thou that sleepest."

Sir F. G. Ouseley's two pieces of service music