

erably fluent delivery will lead many to believe that a sermon is what they style a good one, but when one reflects on the unbelief, which anyone who mingles much in society must know to be widely extended, it is impossible not to perceive that something very different from Mrs. Alexander's poetry is needed, if the pulpit is not to sink to a lower level of contempt than that in which it is held at the present time. Reality of conviction on the part of the preacher, is a matter of prime necessity; but when one finds a man telling us that Moses might have been expected to be 'a child of fear,' rather than 'a child of faith,' and the ground of the expectation is traced to his experience of the crocodiles, while floating in his bulrush ark, one is apt to question the sanity of the man who promulgates such a sentiment. The tears of the crocodiles of to-day would doubtless swell the volume of the Nile, as they learned the libellous intelligence of their ancestors having stricken terror into the heart of Moses, as he lay, rocked in his bulrush cradle, among the lotus-leaves; happily for the security of the Rev. J. McCarroll, there is not so much as a stuffed member of this injured family within the precincts of the Zoo. It is probable that the herald king-at-arms would, in view of this brilliant achievement of genius, on the part of the reverend gentleman, grant him the privilege of adding crocodiles *rampant*, as supporters, to his coat of arms. The evidence of this gentleman's incompetence for the office he is allowed to hold, was but, too manifest; Moses, we were told 'became a slave,' 'had been offered almost a crown,' 'being a prophet he could have foretold suffering,' etc., etc. It is time this gentleman understood that the circumstance of a man being a prophet caused him to predict only what the Almighty empowered him to foretell, and that we have no warrant for affirming that a prophet was more privileged than other men, in forecasting his own destiny, apart from God-given light thereon. That the

prophets "enquired and searched diligently" into the meaning of their own utterances, is evidence enough that they were actuated from without as to what they uttered. The burlesque styled "blessing" was duly performed at this church, and the silly people, each because the other did, no doubt, stood to receive it as a kind of mesmeric pass, from one uplifted hand. One is reminded by all this, of that remarkable arrangement in the kingdom of nature, which results in spiders living at the cost of flies, pike on minnows, hawks on chickens, and "grievous wolves" who do not spare the flocks.

#### EVENING SERVICE.

As it was announced in the morning, that a confirmation service would be held in the evening, at the above-named church, the writer felt constrained to be present on the occasion. He was amused to perceive how pliantly the two clerical ex-Methodists, who doubtless exhibited all the virtues apart from 'the grace of confirmation,' when adorning the Methodist fraternity, participated in this link with the Church of Rome. At a time when we are forcibly reminded of the impressive words, "*when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?*" one may be permitted to observe that there are not a few who regard what is termed "the baptism of infants," and "confirmation" as a fiction in two volumes, and considering the extent to which ecclesiastical force-pumps are brought to bear on these occasions, it is worthy of note that but six male candidates had been induced to present themselves, while of 'silly women' there were all but six times the number; men are notoriously less afflicted with sentiment, than are 'the weaker vessels,' and this, as might be expected, was '*a matter of deep regret*' to the former bishop of Seaton Village. In due course, it devolved on 'the Lord Bishop of Toronto,' to open his mouth in what, to some of us were decidedly "dark sayings." His Lordship, whose memory for certain apostolic injunctions (1 Tim. ii. 9; 1 Pet. iii. 3.) would appear