Prayer Book Revision.

At the 48th anniversary meeting of the English Church union a number of matters of interest to Churchmen were referred to in the annual report. The proposed revision of the Prayer Book was sturdily opposed. "The proposal to revise the rubrics of the Prayer Book is inopportune and dangerous," says the report. "There are probably few who consider the book perfect or incapable of improvement, even when quite alive to its many excellencies; indeed, Catholics would be among the first to welcome a genuine revision in the direction of a return to many usages which have the sanctity of antiquity. Nevertheless, with the exception of an insignificant minority, they are content to go on using the present service-books until more peaceful times shall come. In a time of controversy anything like prudent or scientific revision is impossible. Revision cannot produce peace. Peace must precede revision. The existing book is practically a bond between sections of schools of thought which differ widely in their interpretation of the rubrics, and, indeed, differ as to the authority on which they rest. No revision can be accepted in our disunited condition. It is wisest to face and accept that condition; no positive action can change it; union can be brought about only by gradual approximation to one standpoint. The result of any revision is more likely to be disruption than peace or union."

The Cathedral at Washington.

An English exchange gives us some interesting particulars as to this cathedral as follows: "Mr. George Bodley, the well-known English architect, in conjunction with his American partner, Mr. Vaughan, of Boston, has been appointed architect for the new cathedral at Washington. The plans have already been accepted by the authorities, and the work is to proceed forthwith. The cost of the building will be about £1,000,000. It was explained to a representative of the 'Pall Mall Gazette,' who visited Mr. Bodley's London office, that it was intended to make the cathedral one of the finest in the world. The style of architecture is to be Gothic of the fourteenth century; and the plan is that of nave and aisles, transepts, choir, and two chapels. Double aisles are planned for the nave, and will be fitted for the placing of monuments and memorial windows and tablets. The total length will be 476 feet, and the width 132 feet, the central tower rising to a height of 220 feet from the ground."

The Bishop of London.

As we are soon to have a visit from the Bishop of London any pronouncement of his has at the present time an especial value. Recently the Bishop had a very delicate office and that was to preach the annual festival at Cuddesdon College on Trinity Sunday. His sermon was on peace and was an admirable plea for peace in the Church. After touching on the dissensions of a quarter of a century ago and their causes, the Bishop pointed out the drawing together of all parties recently, the causes of such re-union, and the peace which might be enjoyed in and beyond the Church of England. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Ask especially if you are looking upon the Evangelical in the next parish as a true brother in the Lord; and if I was preaching to him at his college festival I should ask the same question of him with regard to you. You have

the same grace of Orders, you use the same Prayer Book, you recite the same Creeds, you live upon the same Sacraments. He preaches the Incarnation, the Atonement, the Resurrection, and the Ascension of the same Lord, and on nine points out of ten, if he is an earnest parish priest, your doctrine is the same as his. Why not agree to differ on the tenth point without any breach of concord or sense of unworthy compromise? Again, I go further, the time has come to cease to look upon the Nonconformists of England as anything other than an integral part of the religious life of England. They form almost exactly half the Christians of England. Is it quite Christian, then, to ignore the existence of the Nonconformist minister in your country town or village? It does not mean that you are to preach in his chapel or invite him to your church-in my opinion, such short cuts to re-union defeat their own purpose; it does not mean that you are not to preach and teach the Catholic truth of Christendom as clearly and effectively as you can; but it does mean that you are to recognize him as a Christian brother who is shepherding his own flock in his own way, and teaching them to love and follow Jesus Christ. So far from such a spirit being inconsistent with sound Church principles, the contrary is the case, and all over the country it is the strong, convinced Churchman, who knows his own principles, and who is not ashamed of them, who is living on more bretherly terms than any one else with his Nonconformist neighbour." This is part of an address which the Bishop of London delivered this year at Cuddesdon. Some of our readers will understand how much that means and re-echo his closing message. "And so, dear brethren, I leave with you this Whitsuntide message of peace. 'Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love her'—pray for peace, work for peace, live for peace, breathe peace, and we may have good hope that down from Heaven shall descend, like the cloud of glory which came of old, the peace of God which passeth all understanding, and that wrapt in that peace, the hosts of God shall move forward with new power to the

French Wines. The uprising of the wine-growers of the south of France has brought to public notice another illustration of the preparation of food and drink brought about through ease and cheapness of transportation. The grievance is intensified by the artificial cheapness and abundance of wine by manufacture, but the very grievance of the south causes resentment in the north of France, which furnishes the sugar for the concoctions to be brewed. To illustrate take champagne, the demand for which is world-wide, and the character and extent of the industry is immense. People have no idea of the danger involved in its manufacture, or the capital required. Champagne scars decorate the visages of all the workers in the underground champagne mills of Rheims. They are caused by the bursting of the bottles. About one bottle of champagne in every ten bursts. There are miles and miles of champagne caves in Rheims, caves cut in the solid limestone rock, where, in a constant temperature of forty-five degrees, millions of bottles of wine refine and ripen. The workers down there smell nothing but champagne all day long, champagne escaping from burst bottles. And as the turners move along the racks-each turns 35,000 bottles daily-they are continually saluted with explosions. Bang! And the glass splinters fly and a little fountain of champagne perfumes the damp air. Day after day each bottle must be turned fifty times altogether, till the sediment in it has all mounted up and concentrated itself around the cork. Then the corkers remove the corks, let the ediment-thickened wine in the neck of the bottle blow off and skilfully replace the cork again. The corker and turners' work is dangerous. These men are nearly all scarred.

battle."

is reported to have said: "That no man, however, exalted his station, or how strong and powerful the political, social and financial influences which surround him is above the law." So long as the principle embodied in this statement is fearlessly and impartially maintained by its judges the spirit of true and well ordered freedom will be maintained in the United States. Whatever may be thought or said of the occasional outbreaks of lawlessness and crime in the Great Republic we may rest assured that the man will be forthcoming, whether he be a Roosevelt, Hughes of Dunne who will rise to the height of even the greatest emergency and maintain in its integrity the priceless spirit of Christian freedom and be honoured by the people in doing it.

The State and the Church.

"The ethics of individual life must be traced its roots in the ethics of the social whole. The family, property, the common law, the State, and the Church are all involved," says President Butler. In our opinion the lack of sound ethics ir the social whole must be traced to the lack of sound religious instruction to the individual at the outset of life. What is the cause of the ignorance, indifference and opposition to the Christian religion that is so largely prevalent to-day? The lack of simple, elemental, faithful instruction in the doctrine and practice of the Christian religion is our answer. Wherever a sincere, devout, fearless clergyman or layman demonstrates by precept and example the Churchman's duty towards God and his neighbour the light will shine in the darkness and men will be drawn to the light. Not so with the learned theorist, the dabbler in doubt and science, and the speculative theologian who from a Christian pulpit seeks to graft, on the Christian religion the scions of Pantheism, Buddhism, Mahometanism, and the thousand and one other isms which have sprung from the earth from the time of the flood to the present day.

Reporting Speeches.

An unusually able, but much needed article, has appeared in the "Illustrated London News," by G. K. Chesterton, upon the Decay of the Art of Reporting Speeches. He asserts that the method employed by the reporter is dangerously unjust, An article by Mr. Chesterton is sure to be above the average, and this is markedly so. In the course of it he says: "The present method is this, the reporter sits listening to a tide of words which he does not try to understand, and does not, generally speaking, even try to take down; he waits until something ocdirs in the speech which for some reason sounds funny, or memorable, or very exaggerated, or perhaps, merely concrete, then he writes it down and waits for the next one. If the orator says that the premier is like a porpoise in the sea under some special circumstances, the reporter gets in the porpoise even if he leaves out the premier. If the orator begins by saying Mr. Chamberlain is rather like a violoncello, the reporter does not even wait to hear why he is like a violoncello. He has got hold of something material and so he is quite happy. The strong words are all put in, the chain of thought is left out. If the orator uses the word 'donkey' down goes the word 'donkey.' If the orator uses the word 'damnable' down goes the word 'damnable.' They follow each other so abruptly in the report that it is often hard to discover the fascinating fact as to what was damnable or who was being compared with a donkey." We are induced to copy this portion of a paragraph out of an essay well worth reprinting, being specially incited thereto by reading a report of a speech by one of our leading men, which report consisted of the usual introduction and ending, and between them a sentence of ten meaningless words, evidently a portion of a long and appropriate address. Often we regret to find the speeches of men like

July 18, 1907.

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