

# Parish and Home

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## CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER.

- 1—All Saints' Day. *Morning*—Wisd. iii. to 10; Heb. xi. 33. *Evening*—Wisd. v. to 17; Rev. xix. to 17.  
5—23rd Sunday after Trinity. *Morning*—Hosea xiv.; Titus ii. *Evening*—Joel ii., 21, or iii., 9; Luke xx ii. to 26.  
12—24th Sunday after Trinity. *Morning*—Amos iii.; Heb. vi. *Evening*—Amos v., or ix; John iii. to 22.  
19—25th Sunday after Trinity. *Morning*—Micah iv., or v. to 8; Heb. xi., 17. *Evening*—Micah vi., or vii.; John vi., 22 to 41.  
26—26th Sunday after Trinity. *Morning*—Eccles. xi and xii; James v. *Evening*—Haggai ii. to 10, or Mal. iii. and iv.; John ix. 30—x., 22.  
30—54. Andrew, A. & M. *Morning*—Isaiah li., John i., 35 to 43. *Evening*—Isaiah lvi. 17; John xii., 20 to 42.

## AUTUMN.

Translated from the German.

The dry leaves are falling—  
The cold breeze above  
Has stript of its glories  
The sorrowing grove.

The hills are all weeping—  
The field is a waste;  
The songs of the forest  
Are silent and past.

And the songsters are vanished—  
In armies they fly  
To a clime more benignant,  
A friendlier sky.

The thick mists are veiling  
The valley in white;  
With the smoke of the village  
They blend in their flight.

And lo! on the mountain  
The wanderer stands,  
And sees the pale autumn  
Pervading the lands.

Then, sorrowful wanderer,  
Sigh not, nor weep;  
For nature, though shrouded,  
Will wake from her sleep.

The spring, proudly smiling,  
Shall all things revive,  
And gay bridal garments  
Of splendor shall give.

MANY eyes are at this time turned towards South Africa where war is now raging.

While we rejoice in the righteousness of Britain's cause and admire the patience of a great nation in seeking to secure justice and freedom for all her subjects, yet we grieve that a sturdy, hardy people like the Boers have thrown defiance in the face of a great power, and

so there must result all the sufferings of a bloody war.

Cape Colony was founded by the Dutch in 1650, but became a British possession in 1815, much to the dislike of many of the dwellers there. The Dutch farmers (or Boers) employed the natives as slaves, treating them very harshly; and the efforts of British missionaries to christianize the natives was opposed by them, as they thought their own interests were compromised by the encouragement given to the converts. The emancipation of their slaves in 1853 (which cost Britain a large sum), and the cession to the Kaffirs in 1835 of a frontier district filled up the measure of provocation, and the Boers resolved to place themselves by emigration beyond the British rule. They first went to Natal, where they settled for a time, but as there were also British settlements at Port Natal in 1837, they were not allowed to form an independent community in this district.

About 1848 they crossed the Vaal River, settling in the country to the north, and by an agreement with the British Government their independence was acknowledged and their country called the Transvaal.

A writer in the Windsor (Eng) *Chronicle*, referring to the time following, says:

The Boers of the Transvaal next attempted to seize the lands of our native allies, the warlike Basutos, who own some of the most fertile land in South Africa, consisting largely of lovely valleys lying among the spurs of the Drakenberg Mountains. We intervened in favor of the Basutos, and the Boers very unwillingly withdrew from the coveted farms which they had begun to form in the Basuto valleys. In 1876 the constant attempts of the Transvaal Boers to seize lands beyond their northern frontier led to fierce attacks upon them by the northern tribes whom they were trying to despoil. These tribes

were brave and fierce Kaffirs, possessing a very effective military system. Though armed only with shield and assegai, their numerous and well drilled regiments made them a formidable foe. This the Transvaal Boers soon found to their cost. A Kaffir chief, named Seccocooni, defeated the Boers in battle after battle, till at length our Government was forced to interfere to save the Transvaal from annihilation. They were bankrupt, less than a sovereign being found in the state coffers. They had shown themselves unable to protect their republic from their savage neighbors, and their troubles were a standing cause of anxiety to our Government. Our commissioner in the Transvaal—Sir Theophilus Shepstone—assured our Government that the Boers wished us to annex the Transvaal to our South African territories, and in 1877 this formal annexation took place. Immediately a number of the Boers began to protest loudly against being deprived of their independence. As our Government refused to listen to their protestations, the Boers took up arms, and virtually declared war against us. This was a bold measure, as we had just defeated the Zulus, the most powerful and well-organized of the Kaffir nations, who, under their king, Cetewayo, had made their name a terror to their fierce brethren.

Unfortunately we have always been inclined in these colonial wars to "despise the enemy"—a dangerous military habit. This error was repeated when fighting the Boers, who are excellent marksman, as they depend largely on their skill with the rifle in filling their larders. In consequence we were four times defeated, the last fight being at Majuba Hill, where less than four hundred English troops were defeated by a body of three thousand Boers. We lost ninety-two killed and fifty-nine prisoners, their commander, General Colley, being among the slain. Yet a large British