

the clergyman and congregation by suddenly repeating in a loud voice the Lord's Prayer in the ancient Cornish tongue.

The Rev. T. M. Barrow, at St. John's, Taunton, officiated at the wedding of a deaf and dumb shoemaker on Bank holiday. Acting upon the direction of the bishop, Mr. Barrow received written answers from the bridegroom in response to each of the questions to which he was supposed to reply, and which, owing to his affliction, he was naturally unable to answer by word of mouth.

The Chester Diocesan Deaconess House is now being enlarged in order to receive more probationers, and will shortly be opened by the bishop of the diocese. The Home stands on a lovely site, commanding a view of the ancient city and the beautiful reaches of the Dee. Deaconesses are much needed in this diocese, and the authorities of the Home hope to be able to receive ladies for training in September.

The school for the blind in Liverpool, with the adjunct of the church for the blind, of which the Rev. W. M. Lund is the incumbent, has received an anonymous gift of £10,000 for the purpose of erecting a new school for the younger blind pupils. Wavertree Hall, a large house in the suburbs, with grounds attached, has been purchased, and an appeal is now being made for a second £10,000 to complete the scheme.

At the Mansion House a cigar maker was charged before Mr. Alderman Green with brawling inside St. Paul's Cathedral during service. The offender got up from his seat, shouted at the top of his voice and made a long speech about the starving poor in the east end of London. The prisoner in his defence said he was out of work and had taken a little extra liquor and became excited. He was fined 20s., or seven days imprisonment.

WALKER, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On the 12th of August the new Sunday-school buildings and Parish Hall were opened by the Mayor of Newcastle, in the presence of a large and representative assembly. Since the church was consecrated, the schools have been held in the church itself, and all parochial meetings have been in public halls, but now the vicar and his people are in possession of handsome and useful rooms for all purposes.

The charity school at Irthlingborough having ceased to exist, the Church people of the parish have applied to the Charity Commissioners for the scheme to be altered, so that the whole of the proceeds of the charity which supported the defunct school should go to the national schools. The parish council has protested against this course, and has recommended that half the proceeds of the charity should be given to the board schools.

A curious discovery has been made by the workmen engaged upon the restoration of Peterborough Cathedral. Under the southern leg of the parvise, or library, within the west front of the cathedral, a number of blocks of moulded marble have been found, which on being put together make a portion of a huge basin thirty feet in circumference. The Clerk of Works suggests that it may be the bottom basin of an ancient fountain from the cloisters.

There seems to be a general revival of Church work among the Maoris all through New Zealand. In the early part of the year, Mayor Kemp, with 150 chiefs from all parts of the North Island, went to visit Te Whiti, to induce him to return to the Church. Several old Maoris were met with who had kept up their daily morning and evening service ever since the war. Te Whiti received his visitors cordially, and the impression made seems genuine.

The mission ship "Goshawk," connected with the St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission, has just completed her cruise amongst the fishing boats assembled at the Orkney and Shetland Islands, where excellent work is reported as having been done amongst the fishermen there. Her visit appears to have been much appreciated by the clergy both at Stromness and Lerwick. She has now returned to Grimsby, and is carrying on her work in the North Sea.

The Bishop of Worcester has caused a notice of inhibition to be served on the Rev. J. W. Dance, incumbent of St. Luke's Chapel, Leamington. This is a proprietary chapel, and was recently sold. The congregation thereupon bought Hollywalk Congregational Chapel, in St. Paul's parish, and here Mr. Dance has since conducted service. The vicar of St. Paul's took exception to the opening of another church in his parish, and was supported by the bishop.

A memorial window representing Dorcas engaged

in "good works and alms-deeds" was unveiled on a recent Sunday afternoon at St. James', Burnley. The window contains the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Margaret Winfield, wife of the Rev. B. Winfield, B.A., vicar of this church, who entered into rest Saturday, October 12th, 1895, this window is dedicated by the congregation, with deepest affection and respect."

A new painted glass window was unveiled recently in St. Catharine's Church, Ventnor, as a memorial to Mr. Kenneth Sinclair Coghill, who was killed at Krugersdorp in January last, in the unfortunate expedition under Dr. Jameson. Mr. Coghill's early death was much lamented by all the inhabitants of Ventnor, and the window is a result of a spontaneous wish among his friends to record his bravery and self-devotion, to which many of his officers and brother troopers have borne testimony.

The Bishop of Winchester recently opened a new voluntary school at Ampfield, to accommodate 120 children, built at a cost of £2,000, raised by subscription. A silver key was presented to the bishop by Rev. Vere Awdry, vicar, in token that, the school being a Church school, the bishop, as representing Church teaching, had a right of entry. The bishop, while admitting that enormous good had been done by board schools, said they wanted to be certain that religious education was secured for all time.

It was recently announced that the Rev. W. Armon Ellis, curate-in-charge of St. David's Welsh Church, Wrexham, had refused the invitation given to him to accept the chaplaincy of the Welsh Church in Manchester. Mr. Ellis has since been pressed to reconsider his decision, and that, at the special request of the Bishop of St. Asaph, he has decided to accept the post, at a minimum salary of £200 per annum. He will enter upon the work in Manchester as soon as he can be relieved of his duties at Wrexham.

There was a three days' bazaar recently at Penmaenmawr on behalf of a new Welsh church in course of erection. It was opened the first day by the Lord-Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire (Mr. Greaves), who dealt at length with the position of the Church in Wales, urging its being liberalized and re-organized, a point since eagerly caught up by Sir Osborne Morgan. Mrs. W. E. Gladstone opened it the second day, and made some interesting remarks on the connection of her family with the place.

The rehanging of the bells forms a portion of the restoration scheme at Axminster. So long ago as 1553 Axminster had five bells, and these were rung when Charles II. was proclaimed King (£1 2s. 6d. being paid the ringers on that occasion); in 1665, when the town was in a state of rejoicing owing to the victory gained over the Hollanders; and in 1671, when Cosmo III., Grand Duke of Tuscany, visited the neighbourhood. In time the sixth bell was added, and in 1886 Lady Tulloch, of Axminster, gave two new trebles, thus making the octave.

The Primate of New Zealand, not seeing his way to appoint a commission to consecrate Canon Robinson to be suffragan-bishop for the Diocese of Dunedin, without the authority of the General Synod, the scheme, for the present, is in abeyance. Canon Robinson's leave of absence having expired, he has returned to Brisbane. It is hoped, however, that he may return in the course of a few months. In the meantime the bishop, assisted by the canons and town clergy of Dunedin, will supply the cathedral pulpit until a permanent arrangement is made.

The wisdom in war which won the palace and lands of Blenheim for the family of Marlborough is commemorated every year, when, on the anniversary of the battle of Blenheim, the Duke of Marlborough visits Windsor and presents to the sovereign a small copy of the French standard that was borne at the time of the battle. This bears the Bourbon lilies, and is given in recognition of the grant of land from Queen Anne. The standard is, afterwards placed above the portrait of the great Duke of Marlborough which hangs in the guard-room at Windsor.

The Bishop of Honduras has just received tidings of a calamity that has befallen St. Peter's Mission at Orange Walk on the 22nd of July. On that day a violent hurricane swept over the district, laying low valuable plantations and totally wrecking a parsonage which was nearly erected and paid for. The loss is estimated at over £300. As the bishop has so many building operations in hand, he is obliged to look for assistance to any friends who would help him to provide for this loss. His present address is Christ Church Vicarage, Highbury, London, England.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

Worth Considering by Those Interested.

SIR,—Please give me an opportunity to tell "Missionary" that my letter was intended for the exact opposite of what he thinks. It was intended to bring the issue flat out—"Private means, or the apostolic mind?" Of course the selection of a bishop on the qualification of private means is dangerous. But who thinks (that knows) that a bishop is ever selected on the score of theological learning—or even real and hard parochial work? The laity select a man who is a "preacher," and sometimes nothing else, and the clergy have generally to take the choice made by the laity. Why not suggest a quite different mode—the primitive one for example—of administering the endowments and funds of a prospective diocese? I am utterly and earnestly in favour of division of Toronto Diocese. R. D.

Sanctity of Married Life.

SIR,—It would seem that we in Canada are not to escape a struggle for the sanctity of married life. The deceased wife's sister and her daughter may legally commit incest with her brother-in-law, and now incest with a deceased brother's wife is apparently to receive the sanction at least of Provincial law. This I gather from the fact that neither brother's wife nor husband's brother appear in the list of prohibited degrees printed on the affidavits issued in connection with the Marriage Act, 1896. This is, of course, a direct defiance of God's injunction, "Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness"—Lev. xviii. 16. In enquiring of the lawyers concerning this, I unearthed the following dreadful state of things. Although it is contrary to law to marry within the prohibited degrees, yet any one who does so is, in the majority of instances, perfectly safe from any punishment. Until 1890 a man might marry (save the mark) his mother or sister with perfect security. In that year incest was made a crime punishable with 14 years imprisonment, and a whipping in addition for the male. But incest includes unlawful connection only between any parent and child, brother and sister, or grandparent and grandchild. All other unlawful marriages are apparently not void, but only voidable. And this is only theoretically, not practically, for the courts have held that until a marriage has been voided by the ecclesiastical court the civil courts can take no cognizance of it, and there is not an ecclesiastical court of competent jurisdiction in all Canada. And as a voidable marriage can be voided only during the life-time of both the parties to it, the children of such marriages are not even bastards. This is what I have been told by two learned counsel, one of whom holds office under the Crown, and the other under the Church. I shall be glad to hear from any one who is willing to take action with a view to remedying such an awful scandal.

ROBT. W. RAYSON,

Rector of All Saints', Kingston, Ont.

P.S.—I am glad to hear from the Provincial Secretary that the omission of brother's wife was an oversight which is to be corrected.

Policy of the Church of England.

SIR,—Rev. Mr. French's recent letter on the "Policy" of the Church of England—synchronising, as it does, with the first session of the General Synod of the Canadian Church—reminds me of the text: "A word fitly spoken (apropos—in due season) is like apples of gold in pictures of silver"—(or following the lxx.), "As a golden apple in a necklace of sardius, so is it to speak a wise word"—Prov. xxv. 11. In reply, it seems to me that in the three creeds, we acknowledge ourselves to be, at least, a branch of the Catholic Church. Bishop Harold Browne says: "Its unity depends on unity of foundation, unity of faith, unity of baptism, unity of discipline, unity of communion." "The designation Catholic originated probably in the universality of the Christian Church, as distinguished from the local nationality of the Jewish synagogue." Again, "Catholic, in one view of the term, became nearly identified with orthodox." Passing by the great schism of the East and West: "The gradual corruptions of the Western Church perilled still further unity and