

character, and for the ability with which he rules over his diocese, and the indefatigable industry with which he visits every part of it during the year, sparing himself no labour, and no fatigue, allowing himself no rest so long as the work of the Church has to be done.

The Bishop's Address.

The general tendency of Synods is rather to congratulate the diocese on work done, than to acknowledge with due humility failure to accomplish work left undone; but such is not the tone of the Bishop's address. His Lordship spoke plainly and pointedly on the failure of congregations generally to give adequate support to such deserving objects as the Widows' and Orphans' Fund and the Superannuation Fund. His Lordship's remarks on the justice of the war in South Africa, and the necessity laid upon the British nation to carry it on to its final issue in the interests of humanity, freedom, and civilization, provoked, as they well deserved to do, loud outbursts of applause.

The Revised Version.

We are not disposed to quarrel with the resolution of the Synod not to hurry the substitution of the Revised Version of the Bible for the Authorized; though we think that permission might well be afforded for using the former at daily services, where the bulk of the congregation are generally of a class sufficiently educated to appreciate the new readings of many passages, which, owing to incorrect translation, or the use of language now become obsolete, do not carry the correct meaning of the writer. But it is admitted on all hands that the Revised Version is still far from perfect; and before the Authorized Version is laid on the shelf, we may hope to see some better translation of St. Paul's noble panegyric on "Agape," than is got by substituting "love" for "charity."

Female Voters at Vestry Meetings.

The fair sex monopolized a whole morning's sitting, and we have no fault to find with the resolutions passed of which they formed the subject. The right of women to vote at vestry meetings was recognized; and, we think, rightly; so long as women form the majority of the attendants at the daily and weekly services, and take an active share in parochial work, it seems ungracious to contend that their sex alone should disqualify them from voting at vestry meetings; but beyond this we are not disposed to go; they would be out of place in the Synod, nor would they, so far as we know, care to enter that arena as gladiators.

Deaconesses.

The revival of the ancient scriptural office of deaconess is of the first importance in the diocese of Montreal, where the Roman Catholics largely predominate, and through their organized Sisterhoods accomplish much excellent work in the homes of the sick and poor, work of which they ought not to have a monopoly. There are many excellent women to be found in the Anglican Church,

well qualified to carry on the same good work, who shrink from submitting to the discipline and taking the vows and entering on the secluded life of a Sisterhood, even of the mild form to be found in some parts of England and elsewhere, in communion with Anglican Churches. In this, as in every other branch of Church work, the necessity for organization under episcopal supervision, and for due training is obvious.

The Cathedral.

The desirability of placing the Cathedral Church of the diocese on its proper basis, as the Mother church, and not as a weekly house of meeting for pew-renters, was discussed and recognized; and we hope that, with the celebration of the sixtieth year of the venerable Bishop's first ordination, means will be forthcoming for carrying out this laudable object. It is to be regretted, however, that the dates fixed for celebrating the Bishop's jubilee should be coincident with the dates already fixed for holding in Toronto the annual convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, at which we hope to see all of the Bishops of the Archbishopric present.

From the Editorial Chair.

The Editor of a Church paper has hard work to please everybody. If we were to publish in one week's issue the various letters coming to us from correspondents in all parts of the Dominion, our readers might possibly be able to appreciate our difficulty. One correspondent suggests that we should open our columns to admit letters from rectors, who, tired of their parishes, seek other fields of usefulness; but would our readers thank us for doing so? Our advertising columns are at all times open to any rectors who seek to exchange their livings, or who desire to obtain the services of assistant curates, also to clergy who desire to obtain curacies or other Church preferment; and our rates for advertising are as reasonable as they can be made. Another correspondent forwards us a clipping from a newspaper containing a long account of an interesting reopening service, after restoration, held in his church more than fourteen days previously; do our readers care to be provided with stale news? We are always under great obligation to clergymen, and to others, who will supply us with interesting items of Church news, which we are at all times glad to print for the benefit of our readers; but it should be "news," and not stale news.

The Mission Field in South Africa.

When we consider that the nine dioceses of South Africa are at this moment, if not the scene of actual fighting, at least greatly disturbed by the warfare now going on, and that missionary effort is consequently paralyzed for the time being, the prayers of the Church for the ultimate success of the Imperial forces, and for the speedy establishment of peace, should be offered up without ceasing. Up to the outbreak of the war the Church had, in spite of great difficulties, been making steady progress; with the restoration

of peace, and the establishment of the Imperial rule on a firmer basis than hitherto, the spirit of missionary enterprise among the native races should be increased an hundred fold. Ample provision will have to be made not only for the loyal colonists who already occupy the country, but for our present enemies as well; and lastly, but not least, for the thousands of new emigrants who will, without doubt, flock to that golden land of promise as soon as law and order are re-established there.

Madagascar.

"The Mission Field," for January, contains an interesting account of the work which is being done in this vast island. There is an excellent college created and ruled over by the Rev. F. Gregory, a son of the Dean of St. Paul's, whose work is to turn out a regular supply of well-taught religious men, who are destined to make village schoolmasters and catechists, and some of whom may, in due time, become deacons and priests of the Church. Each central church, under an English missionary, has attached to it a group of daughter churches and schools, varying from ten to thirty-six in number. A missionary, who has many village school churches under his control, has, in addition to work at his own station, to pay flying visits to the few village stations which are fairly near, as also to the more distant stations, which he can only visit twice or three times in a year. The evangelist's life abroad is one which should attract many of the strongest and best priests of the Home Church. More men and strong men are needed for the work, and larger alms to support it.

English, "as She is Spoke" Abroad.

The attention of English-speaking visitors to the Milan cathedral is readily attracted by the following notice, which appears over an alms box: "Appele to Charitables. The Brothers, so called, of Mercy ask slender arms for the Hospital. They harbour all kinds of diseases, and have no respect to religion."

DEATH OF RUSKIN.

The death of Mr. Ruskin removes from us one of our most eminent art-critics, and one of our greatest writers of English. He has, for several years, dropped out of public notice through his age and infirmities; but the influence of his writings has never ceased, although at particular moments it may have been higher than it is now. Mr. Ruskin was born in London in 1819, the same year as the Queen, and ten later than Tennyson. He was therefore 80 years of age at the time of his death. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and his first works were published under the designation of an Oxford M.A. While at the University in 1839 he gained the Newdigate prize for English poetry; and after he left the University he gave himself to the study of painting, and attained to considerable proficiency in that art. At an early period he conceived a great

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