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CHRISTMAS.

We are once more about to celebrate the festival of Christmas, which brings joy to every Christian heart and fills the Christian's soul with a feeling of intense gratitude for the great mystery which was accomplished in Bethlehem on the first Christmas day.

At the time of our Lord's birth, the world was sadly in need of a Redeemer and Regenerator. Man was in the beginning instructed by God in regard to his duties to God, his neighbor, and himself, and for a long period he retained this knowledge.

Such was the condition to which man was degraded when our Lord appeared on earth. Idols were worshipped, human sacrifices were offered, the grossest immorality was practiced, there was no restraint upon men's vices.

To save mankind, and to bring them back to the knowledge of God's justice and power, and restore them to a happy immortality, a Redeemer was needed, one who would not only enlighten men, but would also pay our indebtedness on account of sin.

The more orthodox section of the Church are at present very much moved by the fact, and a late number of the Churchman says:

"In the recent Diocesan Conference of Winchester, Bishop Harold Browne spoke with great seriousness of the latitudinarianism which is spreading so rapidly in the Church of England, and which expressed itself so boldly and baldly in the late Church Congress.

"The longings were satisfied when the angels of God appeared to the country shepherds watching their flocks on the mountains near Bethlehem, and announced to them:

"Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people: for this day is born to you a Saviour who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger."

At this holy time, therefore, all Christians should consider the mercy of God in

granting us the Redeemer who was so much needed for our regeneration, and to Him glory should be given, and thanksgiving rendered, who furnished us with so admirable a means of salvation.

At this holy time, no Catholic should be so lost to a sense of his duty to God as to neglect the sacraments of penance and the Holy Eucharist; for it is by the worthy reception of these two means of grace that we may best comply with the intention of the Church in appointing this anniversary to be observed every year.

LATITUDINARIANISM IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Many of our readers will remember the excitement caused by the late Bishop Colenso of Natal, who, contrary to all traditions and teachings of Christianity, gave permission to Zulus converted to his new species of Christianity to continue the practice of polygamy.

Then the Church of England moved in the matter, and the Archbishop of Canterbury declared Bishop Colenso an excommunicated heretic. However, it soon appeared that under the new-fangled ecclesiastical regime which the Church of England established, Bishop Colenso was in no way subject to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and as his authority was independent, he not only continued to keep the charge of his episcopal see, but also to draw the revenues of it.

Some time after the wide spread of Latitudinarianism in the Church of England was made still more manifest by the celebrated "Essays and Reviews," by most prominent clergymen, and which openly maintained that the Bible is but a collection of myths to which no serious credit can be given.

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SEPARATE SCHOOLS IN THE NORTH-WEST.

The Toronto Mail of the 13th inst. is much troubled about the existence of Separate Schools in the North-West, and thinks they should be abolished. It says that the support of one set of schools would be a severe burden, and the maintenance of two sets well nigh impossible.

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WHAT AILED DOUTNEY?

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