

The Brighton Board of Guardians having lately decided by two to one that "an electroplated communion service" shall be provided for the work-house chapel instead of a silver one, thereby saving £000 in the rates of that wealthy watering place of nearly 100,000 inhabitants, a dissenter writes to a local Radical paper, and offers 10s. towards the purchase of the silver service. The editor appends a note, stating, that he "will be happy to receive and acknowledge subscriptions for this purpose, and add his mite."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Goulstone) has consented to restore the Chapter House, Westminster Abbey, at the public cost, on the proper ground of the edifice being a great public monument, intimately connected with our civil history.

At a meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge held in March last, a resolution was carried, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee, directing the foundation of a new class of subscribers to a special fund for the publication and circulation of Bibles and Prayer books, in English and Foreign languages. Subscribers of not less than £1. 1. 0. to this fund, would have the privilege of purchasing the publications of the Society at the reduced rates, but would have no voice in the arrangement of the Society,

During the last two seasons of Lent the attention of Churchmen in England has been drawn to the due observance of Good Friday. This year, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge voted 10,000 tracts on their list of publications for free distribution. Handbills, bills for shops, and large posting-bills for walls were extensively circulated. The English Church Union Council made a grant of £25, 0. 0. to meet the expenses of this endowment. When it is known that many heads of firms and shop-keepers are in the habit of cleaning and painting their places of business on Good Friday, and that the principal Railway Companies hold out special inducements to the excursionists, it is scarcely to be wondered at that various steps have been taken to promote the better observance of the day of our dear Lord's most bitter sufferings.

Exwick Chapel, near Exter, and of which the Bishop of Exeter was the first incumbent, had a narrow escape from being burnt on Saturday week, by the overheating of a flue. The organ and some of the seats were much injured. *English Paper.*

On Easter Eve the choir of *St. John's Church, Elmocell*, were specially set apart for their office with a solemn form of prayer and an address from the Rector, and then vested by him in surplices for the first time. The church having been chastely decorated with flowers, Easter Day was ushered in by an early celebration of the Holy Communion at eight o'clock. The services were choral. That at 10.30 was opened with a processional hymn, the white-robed choir entering at the west door of the church, beneath the new window just placed there by Messrs. Powell of Whitefriars, the gift of Mrs. Blakeley, a relative of the Rector. *Guardian.*

The Archbishop of Dublin held his annual Confirmation for the city and neighbourhood of Dublin, commencing on the 17th of March, and ending on the 24th. The number of persons confirmed was 902—viz., at Christ Church Cathedral, 75; at St. Anne's, 135, at St. Stephen's, 194; at Trinity Church, Rathmines, 106; at St. George's, 216; at Christ Church, Bray, 71; at Monkstown, 105. The numbers at the general Confirmation throughout the united diocese in 1864, and in Dublin in 1865, were proportionably large. *Ibid.*

**SOUTH AFRICA.**—The *London Guardian* says that the Bishop of Natal, although excommunicated, continues to do duty in the cathedral at Pietermaritzburg, where he recently christened a child, but the Dean refused to register, and the Supreme Court decided that the register was private property. The Dean, before the commencement of the services, bade all Christians depart from the presence of the excommunicate, but the *Argus* says no one left the building. The following are the terms of the excommunication:—

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: We, Robert, by Divine permission Metropolitan of the Church in the province of Capetown, in accordance with the decision of the Bishops of the province in Synod assembled, do, hereby, it being our office and our grief to do so, by the authority of Christ committed unto us, pass upon John William Colenso, D. D., the sentence of a greater excommunication, thereby separating him from the communion of the Church of Christ so long as he shall obstinately and impenitently persist in his heresy, and claim to exercise the office of a Bishop within the province of Capetown. And we do hereby make known to the faithful in Christ, that, being thus excluded from all communion with the Church, he is, according to our Lord's command, and in conformity with the provisions of the Thirty-third of the Articles of religion "to be taken of the whole multitude of the faithful as a heathen man and a publican."—(Matt. xviii. 17, 18.)

"Given under our hand and seal, this sixteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

"R. CAPTOWN.