

Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

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A question has been lately put in the House of Commons on a subject in which the Churches of Scotland and America have deep interest. It took its immediate rise from the fact of English Bishops being at times assisted in their Dioceses by Scotch Bishops. The Home Secretary shewed that there was no law preventing this custom. Of course the same holds good with respect to the American Bishops. The Act only has reference to Clergymen who have not received English Ordination, and not only prohibits such from holding any benefice or curacy, but from ever officiating in any English Church or Chapel.

The Bishop of Argyle and the Isles will confirm in Germany, this year, for the Bishop of London. In August he will confirm at Homburg.

The Colonial Church and School Society have established an English Chaplaincy for the summer at Milan.

The English Church at Chamounix is to be formally opened by the Bishop of Winchester, who will officiate for the Bishop of London, in the first week of September.

A curious literary novelty is the production of a Bible which is indexed after the fashion of the Post Office Directory—that is, on the fore edge—so that the desired spot can be opened at once.

It appears from the Parliamentary Reports that the Government does not at present intend to disturb the existing arrangements for printing and publishing the authorized editions of the Holy Scriptures.

There is nothing new to say about St. George's in the East. At eight o'clock on Tuesday morning, July 24th, Mr. King administered the Holy Communion, preaching a short sermon after the Nicene Creed. On the following morning, at five o'clock, he left for the Continent, surrounded by many of his choristers and friends, some of whom accompanied him to Gravesend. In the evening a disorderly mob paraded the parish, preceded by a band, and carrying banners, on which were inscribed "The Downfall of Puseyism," "Flight of the King," "St. George trampling on the Dragon," and other devices. At a late hour they adjourned to a public house; when they left, the "musicians" were quite incapable of playing. Mr. Hansard commenced his duties on Sunday, July 29th.

The English Churchman says that the advocates of the Revision of the Prayer Book have met in large numbers, and elected Lord Elbury as their President, who is to be supported by petitions, meetings, and newspapers, to bring forward next session, his motion for revision, "in a modified shape."

PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A HOUSE OF REFUGE FOR FALLEN WOMEN IN CORNWALL.—On the 3rd inst., a meeting was held in the Guildhall, Bodmin, for the purpose of taking into consideration the above object. The chair was occupied by T. J. A. Robertson, Esq., M.P.; and there was also present the Rev. A. Tatham, V. Page, J. J. Wilkinson, S. C. Childs, J. H. Glancroft, Dr. Martin, W. J. Everest, R. B. Kinsman, C. M. E. Collins, J. French, S. Sandilands, T. Pascoe, Uriah Tonkin, H. N. Barton, Colonel Cocks, J. B. Collins, Esq., &c. The Chairman said, that at a meeting of Christian gentlemen, it was needless to enlarge on the importance of providing a remedy for an admitted evil; he would therefore call on the Rev. W. F. Everest to explain the plan he had in view for that purpose. Mr. Everest said that before he explained the nature of the proposal he had to make, he would remark upon the necessity which existed for an institution such as was contemplated in Cornwall; he thought that by having a Refuge in the county new energies would be created in favour of the poor women. He then proceeded to detail the particulars of his plan. 1. That the work should be carried on by means of the unpaid services of Christian women. Mr. Everest observed that he thought one great advantage of such services over those of a paid agency was, that whereas the interest of a paid matron might be supposed to feel in the work would naturally terminate with the discharge of her duties in the house—that of a lady who for love's sake gave her energies to it would extend beyond this, lead her to look abroad for the gathering in of penitents, and to promote in every way the objects of the proposed Institution. 2. That the lady at the head of the Institution with her associate workers should be under the control of a Warden, who should be a Clergyman of the Church of England in Priest's Orders. 3. That there should be a council of five laymen, and four Clergymen, who should have the entire management of the funds of the Institution, and be a security to the subscribers for their proper distribution, to whom also the Warden should be responsible. After a brief discussion, in which Mr. Carow, Colonel Cocks, and the Rev. R. Kinsman, with others, took part, it was resolved that an attempt, in accordance with Mr. Everest's plan, should be made on a small scale at first; and that the following gentlemen be requested to act, with power to add to their numbers, with a view to continue a temporary working Committee:—the Hon. G. M. Fortescue, T. J. Agar Robertson, Esq., M.P.; J. J. Rogers, Esq., M.; W. H. Polo Carow, Esq.; Francis Rodd, Esq.; the Rev. the Vicar of Bodmin; Rev. A. Tatham; Rev. C. M. Edward Collins; Rev. W. P. Chappel. Contributions will be thankfully received by the Rev. W. F. Everest, at the Chaplain's House, Bodmin.

Mr. Spurgeon has returned from his continental tour and resumes his Exeter Hall preachings next Sunday. The Times says:—"During his travels he preached in the Cathedral at Geneva, and contrary to the Baptist mode of addressing a congregation, the rev. gentleman ascended the pulpit dressed in full canonicals. So great was the anxiety to hear him that some came as many as two hundred miles for the purpose." Mr. Spurgeon "in full canonicals" must have been a sight worth seeing.

Lord Lyttelton has recently introduced a bill into the House of Lords for the increase of the Episcopate. The bill proposes to carry into effect the recommendation of the two Archbishops, the late Bishop of London, and the present Bishops of Durham and Oxford, and of the other Cathedral Commissioners, "that a permissive Bill should be introduced into Parliament, empowering Her Majesty to divide any Diocese under certain conditions, and with the consent of the Bishop, where it is proposed to effect the division before the avoidance of the See." A Memorial setting forth the grounds of the measure, and bearing numerous influential names, has been addressed to Lord Palmerston, requesting him to support a legislative measure for that purpose. The principle and mode of proceeding adopted in the Bill have already been sanctioned by Parliament in the year 1847, in the Manchester Diocesan Bill. The Memorial has also been signed by all the Churchwardens of all the parishes of Coventry, and by many magistrates of the county of Warwick. A Declaration to the same effect has already been signed by more than six thousand clergy.

The friends of the Greek Church, in England, are still taking lively interest in the idea of establishing Hcolats at Cambridge, and Schools at Ho Bower, for their special benefit.

THE CEMETERY AND THE DISSENTERS.—SIR,—Although the Dissenters in sheer terror have hindered the declaration of the religious profession of the living, they cannot obstruct the facts which may be gathered from the interment of the dead. Observe any town where there is a new cemetery, and the truth will soon be apparent. I write from a town where the whole Nonconformist interments, including Romanists, do not amount to one-tenth of the Church of England alone. Before the cemetery was built the Dissenters in this borough said that they must have ground twice as large as the Church's portion, because they were so much more populous than the Establishment! Behold the result. It would be a real value if a return could be obtained from all the cemeteries of the proportionate amount of Church and other burials.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

RURAL DEAN.

IRELAND.—The subjoined statistics relative to the Irish Church are not without interest:—In the year 1806 there were in Ireland 912 Incumbents and 529 Curates, being 1441 Clergymen of the Established Church; in the year 1824, there were 1412 Incumbents and 565 Curates, making 1977 Clergymen of their Church, an increase over 1806 (a period of 18 years) of 536 Clergymen; in 1860 there were 1548 Incumbents and 708 Curates, making 2256 Clergymen of the Church of Ireland, an increase over 1824 (in a period of 36 years) of 279 Clergymen, and over 1806 an increase of 815 Clergymen, being at the rate of 65 per cent. in 54 years. With regard to the increase of Churches, a few figures might be given. In 1806 there were only 1029 Churches in Ireland; in 1824 there were 1102; whilst in 1860 the number of Churches and licensed places of worship supplied with church requisites by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the number might be fairly taken at 1600, being an increase of 55 per cent. in 54 years.

UNITED STATES.

BOSTON.—A new Church paper is to be started in Boston next month, devoted to sound Church principles.

Bishop Davis at the last accounts, was still in Philadelphia. There had been no improvement in his vision, and he himself had given up, we are informed, all hope of the operation proving of any benefit. It was thought however by others that there was a "possibility" that he might see, but there was no appearance as yet of absorption of the cataract. His general health is said to be feeble, but as soon as he is able to bear the fatigue of travel he will return to Camden. The prayers of his clergy and of the whole Diocese are offered in our Bishop's behalf, and we trust he may be restored to us, as it shall be the will of God, and preserved for many years of usefulness in his holy office; for the "making full proof" of which there can be no more excellent school than that of suffering and trial.—Southern Episcopalian.

TENNESSEE.—At the recent Convention of the Diocese, held at Columbus, Mr. Josiah P. Cannon, for seventeen years a minister among the Baptists, was received into the Church by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Otay. Mr. Cannon being dissatisfied with his baptism, was baptized by the Bishop and afterwards confirmed. After a sermon by the Rev. O. T. Quintard, fourteen persons came to the chancel rail, and knelt to receive God's strengthening grace. Among those confirmed was Major Wm. H. Polk, brother of the late President Polk.

HARTFORD.—The Unitarian Society in this city being defunct, its edifice is in process of being taken down, in order to the erection of a large block in which will be the Charter Oak Bank. Judging from indications and reports, we fear that some who have not the Unitarian name have the thing.