

Paraphrastic.

Another American church of our Communion is building at Dresden.

It is intended to light Canterbury Cathedral with electricity for three months. The Brush system will be adopted for the experiment.

The Journal of the Diocese of Illinois informs us that that Diocese increased eleven hundred communicants in the year 1881-2.

The Church membership in Baltimore is said to be larger in proportion to the population than that of any other city of its size in the Union, 117,609 of the 34,000 people being enrolled as communicants in the several Churches.

The Rev. C. W. Whitmore, states in the London *Christian* that of the twenty infidel lecturers and writers who have been prominent in the last thirty years, sixteen have abandoned their infidelity, and openly professed their faith in Christ.

The Rev. John C. Hill says in the *Evangelist* (Presbyterian): "The older generations of ministers and elders may inveigh against the idea of re-introducing an optional liturgy into our own Church as much as they choose, but the fact remains there is a growing demand for a liturgy on the part of the people and the younger ministry, that must in time be met."

Recently at a theatrical licensing session at Liverpool a new set of regulations were substituted for those adopted in 1864. One of them is that no theatre shall be opened for the performance of stage plays during Holy Week or on any occasion when the magistrates, for the preservation of the peace, may signify their desire in writing to the manager to that effect.

The correspondent of the *Standard* repeats the rumor that an essential part of the coronation of the Emperor Alexander, namely, his anointment, has really taken place. It appears that doubts were entertained by Russian statesmen whether the right of succession of the heir to the Throne might not be questioned, were his father to die before having been anointed with holy oil.

It is stated that a sect calling itself "New Israel" has arisen among the Jews. It abandons circumcision, abstinence from certain viands, and changes the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day. It is also reported that there are upwards of one hundred clergymen in the Church of England who are converted Jews, and that there are several thousand Jews in London who have embraced Christianity.

It is not many years since a belief in the Intermediate State was accounted heresy by our Methodist friends. Probably most well informed Methodists now accept it. Some, it seems, are very "advanced." A minister in New Brunswick, according to the *St. John daily Telegraph*, October 14, at a funeral service "offered up a fervent prayer for the repose of the soul of the deceased!" And so they go towards Rome!

The Bishop of Guiana has taken a leading part in endeavoring to carry into effect the Resolutions of the Lambeth Conference, by constituting a West Indian Province, which has only been delayed by the changes that have taken place in most of the Dioceses during the course of the negotiations. Now that there is a prospect of soon

seeing everything settled down it is to be hoped that this desirable object will be accomplished with as little delay as possible.

The Moravians, or United Brethren, have celebrated the 150th anniversary of their organization at Herrnhut, the headquarters of this pious body—half Church, half sect. Delegates of thirteen other missionary societies were present. Dr. Frick, from the institutions at Halle, reported that they desired the resumption of the old relations with the Moravians; and the proceedings were concluded by evening service at the grave of Count Zinzendorf. The Moravians have now 315 missionaries labouring at 113 different posts.

The new English church at Rome, in Via Babuino, will require a greater outlay than which it was hoped would suffice for its erection. A bed of concrete to the depth of thirty feet below the surface was found necessary. What with foundations, cost of site, removal of former buildings, and legal expenses, only £5,000 remains out of the £17,000 raised; and this will not more than suffice for finishing the outer walls. The Bishop of Gibraltar endorses the appeal of the chaplain, the Rev. H. W. Wasse, for at least £5,000 more.

The invention of marks for punctuation is ascribed to Aristophanes, the famous Greek grammarian. Abbreviations of words were not made in ancient writing except upon coins and inscriptions. There are extant some remains of an ancient system of writing in which all the characters are formed by different combinations of one simple element. No satisfactory method of interpretation has ever been given of these writings. Of all books now in existence, the writings of Moses and the book of Job are considered the most ancient.

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