

ment. Without doubt, Mr. Arkell is an earnest, indefatigable worker, and a splendid preacher. Our Sunday school had no Christmas tree or entertainment this winter, but intend to have a sleigh-ride instead.

#### ALGOMA.

GEORGE THORNELOE, D.D., BISHOP, SAULT STE. MARIE.

Huntsville.—The Ven. Archdeacon Llwyd heartily thanks branch of W.A. (name and place unknown), who sent him a bale of clothing, freight free, at the end of December last.

### British and Foreign.

The Rev. P. M. Smythe, M.A., Vicar of Westbury, Wilts, has been appointed rector of Kettering.

Dr. Rendall, of Liverpool, has been appointed head master of Charterhouse school, in succession to Dr. Haight-Browne.

The Bishop of London wore his new mitre, as well as cope, on the occasion of the Christmas ordination at St. Paul's cathedral.

Mr. Charles Williams, a noted war correspondent, and also a devoted Churchman, is believed to have been the donor of the Bishop of London's new mitre.

The oldest baronet in England (Sir Henry Paul Searle) died recently at Dartmouth, aged 92. He had been Mayor of Dartmouth no fewer than sixteen times.

The most noteworthy event of the recent Advent ordination held in England is that the new Bishop of Wakefield held his at 8 o'clock in the morning. The usual hour for such functions is 10 o'clock.

Mr. Perrin, who has recently been appointed organist of Canterbury cathedral, is at present holding a similar position at St. Michael's, Coventry. He will commence his new duties on the Epiphany.

An "Oxford Evangelical Settlement" has been established in the Parish of Bermondsey. Its first task has been to open up a medical mission for poor people who cannot afford to call in the services of a doctor.

The Bishop of Salisbury has collated the Right Rev. L. G. Mylne, D.D., until lately Bishop of Bombay, to the vicarage of St. Mary's, Marlborough, Wilts, and has also appointed the Bishop Rural Dean of Marlborough.

Bishop Burdon, who resigned the See of Victoria, Hong-Kong, a few months ago, is returning shortly to China as an ordinary missionary. He is 70 years of age, and has been in the mission field for 44 years, during 23 of which he has held the Episcopal office. He proposes to settle at Pak-hoi.

Mr. Alfred Bevan has made up the collection at the recent Masonic commemoration service, held at St. Paul's cathedral, for the Freemasons' section of Sir William Richmond's (R.A.) decorations to the sum of £1,100, so as to cover all expenses and leave £1,000 or more clear for the mosaics. The subscription list still remains open.

On the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the parish church, Kidderminster, when the late Bishop of St. Alban's (Dr. Piers Claughton) was vicar, a beautiful series of clerestry windows in his memory were dedicated therein by the Bishop of Worcester, together with a memorial brass. A special sermon was preached by the Bishop of Lichfield.

This year will be an especially interesting one to the friends of the C.M.S., owing to the fact that during the next twelve months that society will be celebrating three important epochs in its history.

On April 12th next begin the third year of the Three Years' Enterprise, the second Jubilee year of the society, and the centenary year also. All three will culminate on April 12th, 1899.

Amongst the students of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, there is at present a young Zulu, who hopes to take Holy Orders and work under the Bishop of Zululand. He has passed successfully the preliminary examination of candidates for Holy Orders, doing especially well in Latin, Greek and elementary Hebrew.

Some very interesting discoveries have been made in Carnarvonshire, in the parish of Clynnog, where there is a very fine old abbey church. The discoveries were made whilst some workmen were making a road in the parish with the view of laying down a sewer. They came across a large quantity of human and other bones. Further excavations disclosed a trench some 25 yards long and 7 yards wide, where hundreds of men and horses appear to have been buried. The remains were first found about eight and a half feet below the surface, and here and there roughly hewn stones were found, but they had no inscription. The coast of Carnarvonshire is full of historical interest and traditions, and it is significant in connection with these discoveries that there are such place names as the following in the parish of Clynnog: Brynybeddau, that is, the hill of the graves; Brynecyrph, that is, the hill of the corpses.

### Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer. We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents. The opinions expressed in signed articles, or in articles marked Communicated, or from a Correspondent, are not necessarily those of the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN. The appearance of such articles only implies that the Editor thinks them of sufficient interest to justify their publication.

#### "CHRISTMASTIDE THEN AND NOW."

Sir,—In the genial and interesting reminiscences of Mr. George Ward in your Christmas Number, occurs a quaint description of the old Yorkshire custom of carol-singing. In these days of the revival and purification of an ancient form of rejoicing, Mr. Ward's remarks may surely be somewhat modified. He says "This particular custom has become so much of a nuisance now that its breach is more honoured than its observance." He is doubtless thinking of some bad examples of the degradation of carol-singing. He seems to be unaware that these ancient religious folk-songs have been rescued from degradation and oblivion, and seem likely to continue to express the rejoicing that is universally felt at the Christmas season. Two admirable collections of carols have been made; one by Rev. H. R. Bramley and Sir John Stainer, the other by the Rev. R. R. Chope; and the possessor of either selection will find it a storehouse of popular religious song. So far from dying out, these carols have now found their way into Divine service, and may be heard not only in the churches, but in the cathedrals of the Motherland. I myself have heard in St. Paul's cathedral on Christmas-eve, sung at evensong by "the finest church choir in Europe," as Gounod called it, the old traditional carol, "The Lord at first had Adam made."

May I try and elucidate a point in Mr. Ward's interesting account? He says, in Yorkshire these carols were called "Nominies." The origin of this name is not far to seek. Every religious announcement was formally made with the words, "In Nomine Domini (in the Name of the Lord), just as we now begin our sermons. It is easy to see how the word "Nominie" would pass from this into a title. But the use of the word is new to me, and probably quite local.

If Mr. Ward would like to see the words of the two "Nominies" he mentions, he may find them both in Bramley and Stainer's collection. "The Seven Joys of Mary" is No. XII., and "The Wassail Song," is No. XXXVII. Perhaps neither of

them are very good examples of the religious sentiment in carols, but they are interesting from the simple and popular form of their composition. They have no more poetry than a nursery rhyme. The former is a sort of homely "Life of Our Lord." The first verse runs as follows:

The first good joy that Mary had,  
It was the joy of one;  
To see the Blessed Jesus Christ,  
When He was first her Son.  
When He was first her Son, Good Lord;  
And happy may we be;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
To all eternity.

"The Wassail Song" is not by any means of so religious a character, though its composition is almost as elementary. To "Wassail" is old English for to "wish-health," and the singers of this song are supposed to bring round a "wassail-cup" to drink the health of the good neighbours. The first verse is sufficient to give a taste of its quaint wording. This song is native of Yorkshire, Mr. Ward's own country:

Here we come a-wassailing  
Among the leaves so green,  
Here we come a-wandering  
So fair to be seen.  
Chorus.—Love and joy come to you,  
And to you your wassail, too,  
And God bless you and send you  
A happy New Year.

But of course neither of these carols are suited for church-singing; neither are they fair examples of the old religious carols. They are only two of the quaintest of old folk-songs.

FRANK V. BAKER.

### Family Reading.

#### THE LONELY GRAVE.

It was "God's Acre;" homeward bound,  
And wearied with the town,  
I found a quiet resting-place,  
And there I sat me down;

And idly in my mind I traced  
Each grave with grass o'ergrown,  
Or mus'd on the inscription plac'd  
On many a mossy stone:

When a young girl with light step pass'd  
Beneath the grey church towers,  
And on a rugged mound of earth  
Plac'd a small wreath of flowers.

I rose and met the thoughtful maid,  
Who sought to 'scape my eye:  
"Why have you left your flowers?" I said:  
"They'll only droop and die."

She courtsied, and her glances fell  
Where the green grasses wave,  
Then faltering, said, "I cannot tell—  
It was a lonely grave."

#### CHILDLIKE FAITH.

In the midst of the crash and din of the world's battle to-day, the striving for wealth, power and position, amongst those on the surface; and the fight for existence, the struggle to even keep body and soul together among the seething mass of humanity composing the so-called under-strata of society; surrounded as we are by dry argumentative rationalism and opposition of science, falsely so-called, it is a thought that makes us pause in the onward rush, that except we be converted and become as little children, we shall in no wise enter the Kingdom of Heaven! Become as little children! In their loveliness, their beauty, their freshness, their truthfulness, their innocence, their childishness, their simplicity, and their trusting, immovable faith. Oh! these treasures we have around us, fresh from the hand of the Almighty God, uncontamin-

ated by  
evil con  
teach us  
will but  
only obs  
lives of  
have us  
Lord Jes  
the child  
like fait  
morning  
chilled,  
found to  
slightly,  
On end  
such a  
told me  
vious e  
had bee  
hearth  
lest the  
his old  
his gifts  
should  
"Beh  
And lo,  
the fee  
hearts  
is the r  
pitying  
for it  
knocks  
child,  
would  
our Ho  
sup wi  
child a  
ings m

The  
drous  
plating  
Beaut