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The *Churchman* (New York) talks about the Christian ministry as a *chain*. Would it not be better to keep to the simile of a *NET*? A chain is no stronger than it's weakest link, and the breaking of one link, breaks up the chain. A net will hold together, even if some of its meshes are cut or weakened.

At the dedication festival of St. Peter's, London Docks, the chairman, Lord Nelson, said, "We want less attention paid to the decoration of our Churches, and more to the support of the real work. Surely the best decoration of a Church, in God's sight, is the altar crowded with devout communicants, whose daily life is a living witness to His truth." Over \$12,000 is needed to finish the Church as originally designed, but the first care of the clergy is to finish the schools, build up God's children in the Faith, and win human souls to Christ.

The parish of St. Bartholomew, New York, is doing good work amongst the sick poor. A night dispensary for diseases of the ear, eye, nose and throat has been established and ten physicians assist in the work, who during the past year treated 18,000 old and new patients, and performed 1,000 operations. There is an out-patient department, which gave medical attendance to 330 patients at their homes. The medical department attached to the parish has treated 2,023 new cases, while the surgical department has treated another 2,000 new cases. The Rev. Dr. Hodgkin, who is a medical man, is anxious to originate in a small way some such a work among the poor of Toronto. Who will help him.

The Archbishop of York has addressed a letter in the following terms to a number of Nonconformist ministers resident in Yorkshire:—"Dear Sir,—It has always been to me a subject of regret that the clergy of the Church of England should have so few opportunities of social intercourse with the ministers of other religious communities, however much they may be divided on questions of Church order or even of Christian doctrine. As a humble effort towards the removal of this defect I am venturing to ask the various ministers resident within the Diocese of York to spend some part of the day with me on Thursday, August 8. At twelve o'clock a steamer will bring the party to Bishopthorpe by the river from Ouse-bridge, and shortly after their arrival a brief devotional meeting will be held, in which I trust that some of my guests will kindly take part. I shall then hope to have the pleasure of your company at luncheon, and for the remainder of the afternoon. Through the kindness of the Dean of York I have arranged that there should be a special service at the minister at five p.m., at which your presence will be welcome, if you should find it convenient to attend. May I hope that you will favor me by accepting the enclosed invitation? Believe me to be faithfully yours in our Blessed Lord.—WILLELM EBOR."

The National Church of England has just emerged from a great crisis, and her deliverance from those who would have overthrown that part of the Establishment which is in Wales is surely due to the protection of her Divine Head. If the prayer and maxim for the present year of the Archbishop of Canterbury, "Cleanse and Defend," has been directly answered, the duty of cleansing, on the Church's part must not be overlooked. One abuse in her administration, and

we contend that it is the greatest of all, is the granting of privileges in many parish and district Churches, and the denying of their free use to the majority. In the late election the people have made the cause of the Church their own; what is the Church proposing to do for the people, in response to this magnificent effort on her behalf? For the freedom, or lack of freedom of our churches, the bishops, clergy, and wardens are responsible, and we now solemnly appeal to these officers, collectively and individually, to remove the stain of pew rents and appropriation in God's Houses. These attacks upon the Church will then be deferred, if not ended, and the work of God, in our midst, will be continued with the life and vigor of Apostolic times.—*Free and Open Church Association.*

Prof. Max Muller asks for money to photograph the inscriptions of the Kutho Daw, near Mandalay, in Burmah, before they are destroyed. The Kutho Daw is a collection of over 700 Buddhist temples, each containing a white marble slab, on which part of the Tripitaka, the great Buddhist Bible, is engraved.

More than two thousand years ago the results of alcohol on the body were compared to the bite of a serpent and the sting of an adder; and alcohol has not changed its nature since. At the present time alcoholic beverages are certainly the most injurious, deceptive and dangerous elements of death and destruction that exist, and the annals of criminal courts prove that it is an aggravated public nuisance generally. Yet the beverages are so fascinating, and the poison in them so insidious, that the whole human race has been deluded and cheated for thousands of years, and more injury has resulted from their use than has been occasioned by all the woe of war, famine and pestilence combined.

We are glad to note that the Provincial Synod of the Church in the West Indies decided at its recent meeting that the Primate of the West Indian Province should be designated Archbishop. This decision is quite in accord with the expressed wishes of Churchmen in that part for many years past. The formal assumption of the title is, however, postponed until the next Lambeth Conference two years hence. The new Archbishop is Dr. Nuttall of Jamaica. The desire to erect Primacies into Archbishops is growing apace in all parts, and its accomplishment is only a question of time. It will be remembered that at the General Synod of New Zealand last February the question was discussed, and although there was a strong party favorable to the change, the Synod decided that in its opinion the time was not fully ripe. Had it been known then that the West Indian Province was about to take this step, the action of our General Synod might have been different. Within the last year three Provinces—Canada, South Africa, and the West Indies—have adopted the title of Archbishop for their Primates, and the United States are now talking about following the example thus set. Probably New Zealand will presently do likewise, for the recent judgment of the General Synod only meant that so far as it could see the opinion of Church people in the colony was not generally favorable to the proposal. No doubt opinion will be strengthened by the action of the other Provinces, and possibly at our own General Synod in 1898 we may take this very desirable step in ecclesiastical polity.