

it would be well if persons would recollect that the Sovereign was a highly spiritual person, and that the spiritual character was conferred by the highest ecclesiastical officer of the realm, at his solemn consecration and anointing, when he was crowned. If then there was so much dissatisfaction at the present moment, it must be because something unconstitutional had been done. The mischief had, in fact, arisen from the suppression of Convocation for 150 years. During that time fresh legislation, of course, became necessary; but instead of providing it by canon, as ought to have been done, it had been provided by statute, and this system had culminated in the Clergy Discipline Bill and the Public Worship Regulation Act. The Rev. G. Body (Cleveland) said he felt sure that no court would even obtain the allegiance of English Churchmen and restore discipline till it came to them with distinct synodical sanction.

(To be continued.)

THE LATE ARCHDEACON PALMER.

THE announcement which recently appeared in the secular papers of the death of Ven. the Archdeacon of Toronto will, we are well assured, awaken a feeling of unfeigned sorrow in many hearts, not only in the immediate locality where he was so long resident, but throughout Canada.

It will, we are sure, be very acceptable to our readers to have a brief notice of the life and character of one who so long occupied an important position and exercised a powerful influence in this diocese.

The family to which the Archdeacon belonged was of ancient English extraction. The English branch is now represented by the holder of an ancient English baronetcy. His immediate ancestors had been for some generations settled in Ireland, and among other professions have been distinguished in the Church. His great-grandfather, the Rev. Thomas Palmer, was an Irish prebendary and rector. His grandfather, the Rev. Arthur Palmer, was Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. His father, Capt. George Palmer, was Brigade Major on the staff of General Lord Hill, and married Miss Le Poer Trench, daughter of Nicholas Power Le Poer Trench (brother of the Earl of Clancarty), by Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Butler, Bart., and died early, leaving a young widow, and two sons, Arthur (the subject of this notice), and Nicholas Power. The eldest, Arthur, was only four years old at the time of his father's death. Great as such a calamity must always be, his father's place was to a very great extent, filled by the kindness of his maternal relative, Power, last Archbishop of Tuam, who took a paternal interest in him and his younger brother.

The writer of this notice has frequently heard the late Archdeacon say, with the warmest expression of gratitude, how much he owed to that great and excellent man. His younger brother, Nicholas Power, entered the army, and having reached the rank of captain, was killed in the Sikh war in 1838. He left an only son, Arthur Power, now colonel in the Bengal cavalry, and a distinguished officer.

The late Archdeacon entered Trinity College, Dublin, where he took his B.A. degree, and was soon afterwards ordained. For a short time he held a curacy in a County of Longford, but in the autumn of 1832 he emigrated to Canada. He was one of the remarkable company whose names have since become conspicuous in Canada: Bishop

Cronyn, Archdeacon French, Chancellor Blake, the Rev. Dominick Keble, the Rev. R. Flood, all of whom have now passed away.

The village now the city of Guelph was the sphere of duty to which Mr. Palmer was appointed, and the writer has been greatly interested in hearing him describe the character, and point out the positions of the first half-dozen log houses, which in those early days formed the nucleus of that now thriving and important town. Of course the want of roads and the manifold inconveniences which marked every settlement involved many hardships; but the essentially manly character of the late Archdeacon, combined with the energy and hopefulness of youth, enabled him to disregard and overcome these difficulties, often so disheartening to a new comer. Before long a simple frame structure was erected, in what subsequently formed the very centre of the town, and was known as St. George's, where for some twenty years the services of the Church of England were regularly celebrated. In due time a little log parsonage followed, and in subsequent days one could appreciate the marvellous change which has taken place in "this Canada of ours," when passing from Tyrcathlen—the handsome mansion afterwards erected by the Archdeacon—and those warm-hearted and generous hospitalities for which his home was always conspicuous, one came to the tiny log cabin, now falling into hopeless ruin, in which he and his family had dwelt in the early days of his ministry.

In 1851 or 1852 the growth of the town and the increase of the congregation required the enlargement and improvement of the church. A stone structure of Norman character was begun and united with the old building. While waiting for funds to secure its completion, it was thought better to abandon the old site, as being hardly suitable for the increased needs of the congregation, and a beautiful position in a quieter situation was secured, which is now occupied by one of the noblest churches in the Dominion. Into the history of that church we have not space to enter, but its erection and completion redounds to the credit of the devotion, liberality, and energy of the late Archdeacon, the building committee, and the congregation of St. George's.

The fine presence, courteous, and polished bearing, and marked ability of Mr. Palmer had very early made him a conspicuous man in the clerical ranks, and when the first Bishop of Toronto revived the office of Rural Dean he, as every one anticipated, was at once appointed one of their number. For the discharge of such an office he had special qualifications, in his clearness of head and decision of character, and the writer has reason to know how highly his judgment was valued by the bishop, who had nominated him to the position.

In 1867, when Archdeacon Bethune was elected as coadjutor to the aged Bishop Strachan, the mind of the Church turned at once to the Rector of Guelph as his probable successor. The diocese was now divided into two archdeaconries, that of Toronto and Peterboro', to the former of which Mr. Palmer was duly appointed, and it is unnecessary to say to the majority of our readers, that he discharged the duties of his important office with zeal and efficiency. Those duties on several occasions were of a delicate and unpleasant nature, but the judgment, tact, and kindness of the Archdeacon never failed.

In the Diocesan Synod it is unnecessary to say that from his position and ability he wielded a powerful influence, which would have been much greater than it was but for some peculiarities of mind and conscience which were misunderstood by those who were not intimately acquainted with him.

As a member of the Provincial Synod the weight of his character, the clearness of his intellect, and his fervor of expressing himself with force, combined with perfect courtesy, made itself strongly felt; while his remarkable social qualities never failed to charm those who were fortunate enough to have him for their guest.

In 1870 he first laid the foundation of the bronchial affection which so often prostrated him since, and which ultimately, by the imperative advice of his physicians, including Dr. Radcliffe, of London, obliged him to remove to England in search of health. He accepted a small living in a beautiful part of the north of England, but finding the climate of Cumberland too damp he removed to Clifton, Bristol, where in 1879 he had a most severe and prolonged attack of illness, which, however, his excellent constitution enabled him to overcome. But the climate of Clifton was pronounced too relaxing, and he was ordered to a more bracing air. He decided on Ireland where he had many ties and old associations, and took up his residence at Mountjoy square, Dublin, where for some time he was much stronger. The past winter has

been unusually severe in Ireland, and continued east winds proved very trying to the delicate. The Archdeacon suffered from a severe chill on Thursday, April 28th. This speedily developed into a very serious illness, and on the 4th of May he "entered into rest," surrounded by his sorrowing family, and ministered to by the Rev. Dr. Maturin, whose church he had attended, and whose son conducted some special services in Toronto during the past winter.

Archdeacon Palmer was twice married, first to Hester Madeline, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Crawford, and leaves three sons and four daughters; and secondly to Catharine, daughter of Captain Blanchard, by whom he leaves three sons and a daughter.

Such is a brief sketch of the life and work of the late Archdeacon: a fine type of a class which in these days is not so abundantly represented in the ranks of our clergy as we could desire. A gentleman by birth, fortune, and education, ever bearing himself, in every relation, as became his position. A Christian and a clergyman earnest in life and diligent in duty; a Churchman growing in love and loyalty to the Communion in which he lived and died, with every advancing year. A parent full of love and devotion to his family; a friend true, warm-hearted, and hospitable, while the geniality of his nature, combined with overflowing wit and humour, bound to him by strong attraction those who enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance.

The warmth of his attachments overpassed the limits of his own immediate family, and since he left Canada, he has kept up with several of his brethren, who were intimate with him, a cordial and loving correspondence. Chief perhaps among these was the Provost of Trinity College, for whom he entertained the deepest respect and affection. In a very beautiful letter addressed to that gentleman, and dated less than a month previous to his death, he expresses the very deepest interest in everything concerning the old diocese with which he was so long connected; speaks with touching sympathy and most true appreciation of the Provost's work, sends the kindest messages to many of his old friends, and pleads the broken condition of his health as a reason why he was compelled to omit or put off writing to them. In a previous letter to the writer of this article, which was prompted by the news of the sudden death of the Rev. Canon Givens, he speaks in the warmest terms of that gentleman, and regards his departure as a special warning to himself, inasmuch as he was "about his own age, and one of the rapidly diminishing band of clergy with whom he had been specially associated in days gone by."

In conclusion, we can but offer to his immediate family our heart-felt sympathy under their great affliction, and pray Him who is "the Comforter of all them that are cast down" to give them strength according to their day.

BOOK NOTICES.

COMPANION TO THE REVISED VERSION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, explaining the reasons for the Changes made on the Authorized Version. By ALEX. ROBERTS, D.D., Professor of Humanity, St. Andrew's; and member of the English New Testament Company. Canadian Copyright Edition, Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison. Price 30 cents.

The fact that three million copies of the "Revised Version" were sold in London during the first week of publication, shows the intense interest taken in it, and the large amount of curiosity in the public mind about it. Both learned and unlearned alike will be almost equally curious to learn the reasons for many of the alterations that have been made—first, with regard to the principles of Textual Criticism the revisors agreed upon, and next as to the application of these principles to particularly perplexing cases. Dr. Roberts, in the very interesting pamphlet before us, has entered into both these departments as fully as could possibly be done, within limits so confined. And coming, as it does, from one of the revisors themselves, the information will be thankfully received as authoritative and trustworthy.

The volume also contains a large amount of information, of general utility and interest, respecting the general principles of Textual Criticism, with an accurate account of the principal Manuscripts of the New Testament, and the history of the English Bible—every particle of which ought to be treasured up by all readers of the Bible in English.

The Canadian Edition contains, besides Dr. Robert's treatise, an equally reliable account of the action of the American Committee, which is also necessary to be known in order to understand the relations subsisting between the two committees.

Whoever thinks it desirable to possess a copy of the new Revision, will find it absolutely necessary like-