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# Canadian Churchman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JUNE 18th, 1891.

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FRANK WOOTTEN,

Box 2640, TORONTO.  
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## Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

June 21.—4 SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Morning.—1 Sam. 12. Acts iv. 32 to v. 17.  
Evening.—1 Sam. 13; or Ruth 1. 2 Peter 1.

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SILENT CHURCHES—churches without services—are very frequent in some parts of the country at times. There should be some way found to wake them up to new life and activity again. The Bishop of Maryland praises his Women's Auxiliary for some good work in this direction.

PHILLIPS BROOKS continues to occupy a large space in Protestant Episcopal newspapers. His qualities and qualifications (or otherwise) are being freely canvassed. The *Living Church* and *Eclectic* both seem "dead set" against the confirmation of his election by the Diocesan Committees and Bishops.

KAISER-I-HIND, Hindostanee for "Empress of India"—seems to have a very wide and deep personal influence on her Indian subjects of the East, as well as those of the West. The mothers of Hindostan look with admiring and imploring eyes to the "great mother" of the Empire for guidance and help.

SISTERS FOR AUSTRALIA.—We see complaints that English sisterhoods have given the Australian Church "the cold shoulder" thus far. The Dean of Perth is going to England to try and start a movement of the Sisters to that far off colony. Canada, fortunately, cannot complain of being now overlooked by them.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC has reached such proportions in Great Britain as to call for public prayers for relief. La Grippe is now said to be carried (in germs) on the wings of the north-east wind from China. When first noticed in Italy it was considered an *evil influence*, hence the name then given, "Influenza." The germs elude human vigilance.

THE SNOWBALL APPEAL, set rolling in 1888 by an English woman who wanted to back up the Bishop of Bedford's new Home for Destitute Women, is becoming embarrassing. The Bishop finds money pouring in more largely than is needed, and is trying to stop the snowball—which bids fair to become an avalanche.

THE PASTORAL STAFF, as a speaking sign of the Episcopal office, has become almost the rule with English bishops; and the Churchmen of the United States are following suit in the adoption of the same article of *insignia*, presenting their bishops with handsome emblems of office. Some of our Canadian bishops already have them.

SUNDAY DRINKING IN SYDNEY.—The liquor dealers of Sydney have taken the curious step of stopping Sunday drinking themselves in order to rouse the ire of the drinkers against the whole body of "Temperance" agitators. It seems a very hazardous step to take (for their interests) and may prove to be a "boomerang" against them after all.

SPURGEON'S EGOTISM.—In reply to the charge that the Baptist ministers are now-a-days an illiterate set, Spurgeon has retorted that at 17 he could have graduated—as if the whole Baptist ministry were to be summed up in his one personality. *Church Bells* argues that his very prominence among them proves the inferiority of the rest!

STRONGER THAN STEEL.—What is? Why, a spider's web—of all things. A Frenchman of science has been experimenting on this subject, and succeeded in proving his point, that a spider's web is really stronger than a steel wire of the same thickness—is, in fact, half as strong again. There is, therefore, probably nothing stronger after all than the spider's rope.

CHILDLESS FRANCE.—The statistics of the French population show an unnaturally small rate of increase, owing apparently to the failure of marriages and children. As things go, the death rate will soon exceed the birth rate. In the history of nations (as of Rome) this state of things precedes—rather is—decay. The French in Canada are famous the other way.

THE COMING RACE is a subject now very interesting to our Republican neighbors. They calculate as things are going, that the French Canadians, will be able to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. John the Baptist Society in less than 50 years in Boston, which would then be French Canadian, and the centre of the French Canadian nation—so rapidly are they increasing there now.

THE PROSECUTION OF MR. GORE by Rev. E. S. Ffoulkes, vicar of St. Mary's, Oxford—which is rumoured now—is a very doubtful kind of proceeding. Archdeacon Denison seems to have retired from his war against the Oxford professor, and there is a general feeling that he will manage to set himself with the Church public ere long. At present his meaning is painfully uncertain.

SUSPENDING AN ARCHDEACON is the kind of exercise or amusement in which a certain missionary secretary (!) indulged upon a recent occasion. This official had large ideas about the extent and importance of the duties of a society secretary—very natural where *untrained* agents are employed.

Secretary Eden has since apologized to Archdeacon Crowther, but the (African) *Lagos Times* is very severe on his impertinence.

QUAKERS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor of London, although a Church lay reader, is descended—on both sides—from the Quaker ancestry. This probably accounts for the fact that he lately entertained the leading members of the Quaker "May meeting" at luncheon. They did not indulge in the custom of toasts on this occasion; but several very interesting speeches were made.

CLAY BOOKS are a fruitful source of present information about the affairs of ancient Nineveh. Not long since the great library in the palace of Kanyan was brought to light by an English exploring party. Its books were tablets of clay—marked while soft and then hardened—carefully numbered consecutively, and forming connected narratives or treatises on various subjects of the Assyrian Empire.

BOY BISHOPS—that is, very juvenile nominees for Episcopacy—are very unusual in England, rather common in the United States. Protestant Episcopalians are getting alarmed and eulogize the Mother Church for choosing men for what they have done. At the same time Americans are warned that "promising young theologasters" do not perform quite up to the expectations of their admirers—not always.

NIGHT SONG is the name of an informal kind of mission service used by the Cowley Fathers and others in place of the usual late evensong—even-song being said in the afternoon instead—or immediately after a shortened evensong at the usual hour. There is much to be said in favour of an easy modification of our usual form suited to the capacity of promiscuous hearers, who find our service intricate and puzzling at first.

JEWISH COLONIES IN PALESTINE have been noticed by recent travellers in the East. The incoming Jews settle in detachments and take up land with great success. They make good farmers, making even of this quite a profitable business. Necessity is surely the mother of invention! They might—now that they have found out the way—kindly send a few teachers to other farming communities, where farming for profit seems to be fast sinking among the "lost arts."

WHAT WE OWE THE WELSH CHURCH.—In a recent speech at a Church Defence meeting, Bishop Westcott, of Durham, dwelt with great eloquence and power on the history of the old Celtic Church of Wales, as the real mother of the Church of England, the lowest stratum and base of the immense fabric of the Anglican Communion throughout the world. He referred at large to the stupendous revival of the Church in England and Wales during the last 50 years.

ARE THEY SHYLOCKS?—We do not yet seem to have got to the bottom of the Russian persecution and Corfu massacre of Jews. *The Rock* traces the odium against Jews in those parts to their unmerciful exaction of usury from the Gentiles—especially hard on the peasant farmer class, who cannot afford to pay high interest. It does not do to demand "meum," regardless of the disability of