

think, that there must have been something better than pitiful mismanagement, lethargy, and ignorance, to have brought about such a marvellous increase as has marked the progress of the Church during the last fifty years, in spite of the prejudice, hostility, and active opposition of the overwhelming majority of the people, aided by the advantages of establishment and the favour of royalty. As an example of this progress, I may say that forty or fifty years ago there were in this diocese five incumbencies: there are now thirty. In this city there was one congregation of about fifty members, there are now three, (though the city is by no means a greatly increasing one,) with an aggregate of above eleven hundred adherents. Any candid person would see that the absence of cathedrals and of a parochial system was the result of the disestablishment and prostration of the Church; and that the retaining the title of Dean, who might perhaps have been better called an archdeacon, though why not archpriest? for the official next in authority to the Bishop, is due to circumstances. What your correspondent means by our churches having only an architectural right to the appellation I cannot imagine. Is it because we are not established, and therefore not parochial. That, as I said, is our misfortune, not our fault. They are applied to all the purposes of a church, and to no other. The "Constitutions" are necessary concordats between the Bishop, the Incumbent, and the congregation. They are subject to canonical interpretation, and any breach of them is liable to legal action. They are as indispensable for the security of the Incumbent as for that of the people. The title "Incumbent" is adopted, because that of Rector or Vicar would be utterly inapplicable. I may add that S. Y. E. N. is wrong in saying that the general Synod meets at stated periods. It is not so: but it is convened only when occasion requires. The numbers of the laity are nearer a hundred thousand than thirty thousand. But supposing them to be so few, it surely makes their zeal and liberality only the more remarkable. This is one of the least numerous dioceses in the Church; not numbering above 5,000 of all ranks and ages. Now imagine, if you can, an English parish of that number of Churchmen, or ten times that number, supporting, as this small diocese does, a bishop, a dean, and thirty-two clergymen, keeping up thirty churches, providing all their own endowments and stipends without a penny of aid from the State, or from Church property, and that besides their necessary large contributions for parochial and other objects in

connection with the Presbyterian establishment, and I think you will see that a community that does all this does not deserve to be branded with scorn and contempt. It is true the stipends of some of the Incumbents are small: but their congregations are small; and there are none of them, I venture to say, so ill-paid as hundreds of most excellent curates, or of benefited clergy in England. The clergy generally are respected, and if any of them are not, it is their own fault. The fact that, as S. Y. E. N. acknowledges, the Episcopalians in Scotland are "steadily increasing," and that that increase is chiefly from the better-educated classes, is itself an answer to the aspersions of your correspondent.

WM. BLATCH,

Incumbent of S. John's, Perth;
Synod Clerk of the Diocese of S. Andrew's;
Acting Chaplain to H. M. Troops.

48.—Can any of your readers give me a correct account of the opening of the tomb or coffin of Gundreda, daughter of William the Conqueror, at Leves Priory, some years ago?
ALTIQUIS.

Gundreda's coffin was discovered, Oct. 28, 1845, by the workmen employed in forming a cutting for the Lewes and Brighton Railroad, through the grounds of St. Pancras Priory at Lewes. It is made of lead, is 2 ft. 11 in. long, 12½ in. broad, and 8 in. deep, and has the word "Gundrada" deeply cut across the lid at one end. It contains a great number of bones. It is now deposited in Southover Church, together with a tablet previously discovered, which preserves part of the mutilated monastic verses that commemorated her virtues. Full particulars of the discovery of Gundreda's remains are given in Baxter's "Guide to Lewes;" Dr. Mantell's "Day's Ramble;" and Mr. M. A. Lower's "Hand book."
ETTA.

HOSPITALS UNDER SISTERHOODS.

49.—I wish to compile a list of Hospitals, &c., nursed by Sisters of the Anglican Church. Would any of your readers help me? The same will be eventually sent to you for publication when completed.

HENRY SAMUEL PURDON, M.D.

In answer to question 49 of the PENNY Post, I beg to say that there is a hospital at Middlesborough, nursed by Anglican Sisters of the Order of the Holy Rood. The same Sisterhood has also a home for incurables at Leeds, and a convalescent home for sick children at Coatham, Yorkshire.

ASSOCIATE.