

age and darkness, returned to its former freedom and light; but it remained the old Church still. The new Church that then found place in the land was in reality the Church of Rome, which, after the Reformation, having adopted the novel creed of Pope Pius IV, introduced its Bishops, some from Spain and some from Italy, and placed them in sees already occupied by Irish prelates." It is permissible, therefore, to hope that one day the Church of Ireland will again be the national Church of Ireland.

ANOTHER TEST.—A census of attendance at London places of worship was taken on a recent Sunday, but so far as the Church of England is concerned it is not very trustworthy. Only two services [morning and evening] were taken, and of course the churches were five or six—in some cases seven or eight services—are held, have been so far grossly misrepresented. Even so, however, the enumeration shows that the attendance at the Church of England preponderated over that of all dissenting bodies put together, by something like 100,000 in the morning and 80,000 in the evening.

DEFINED AT LAST.—To judge by what occurred in Mr. Justice Denman's Court the other day, an Agnostic must now be defined thus:—"One who does not know his own mind, the state of his own conscience, or the disposition of his own will, and who wishes [with the least possible inconvenience to anybody] to be known as an Agnostic."

THAT INSTITUTION.—It now appears that the Archbishop of York never inhibited Canon Body, never took any steps to prevent ritual practices at Middlesborough, and actually withdrew and cancelled his own action in the matter when Canon Body heard of it. What the Archbishop did was to suggest a reason why Canon Body should not be invited to undertake a particular mission in the Diocese of York. That reason is described by Canon Body himself as "a thoroughly valid one," and he "feels its force intensely."

A GOOD WORK.—The Church of England Central Society for Providing Homes for Waifs and Strays is prosecuting a wonderful work in the great metropolis. Although it is less than six years ago since it was established, there are at the present time six hundred and fifty orphan, destitute and outcast children under its care, either in its own homes, boarded out under proper supervision, or placed in affiliated homes. In each year of its existence the society's income has doubled itself.

REVISED VERSION OF THE BIBLE.—Extract from the proceedings of the New Zealand Provincial Synod, held in January and February, 1886:—

Moved by the Bishop of Nelson, seconded by Mr. Hunter Brown, "That a committee be appointed to draw up a memorial to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, expressing the deep interest felt by this portion of the Church in the recently concluded revisions of the Authorized Version of the Old and New Testaments, and the hope that by a revised edition of the same or in some other way, it may be possible for the Church to avail itself of such modifications in the Authorized Version as may be agreed upon by authorities competent to deal with the same. The committee to consist of the Bishops of Dunedin and Waiyane, the Dean of Christ Church, Archdeacon Williams, Judge Seth Smith, Mr. Nelson and the mover." Carried.

COLONIAL CLERGY.—The following statement was made by the President:—

The Archbishop of Canterbury has authorized me to mention that there is no vestige of truth

in the statement, of which rumors have reached His Grace from some of the Australian dioceses, to the effect that His Grace had announced his intention to prohibit Colonial Clergy from officiating in his province. Of sixty-two applications since July last sixty have been granted. Antecedents are carefully examined, and the Bishop's letter is required. Such circumspection is obviously needed in the interests of real and good clergymen, both in the colonies and at home. [Further information on this point is given by Dr. Maclear, Warden of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury in the last number of the *Occasional Papers*.]

BISHOP SELWYN.—The *New Zealand Church News* says:—

Churchmen in New Zealand will be glad to hear that Mrs. Selwyn has made arrangements for the publication of a new life of the Bishop. This is not to be a cheaper edition of Prebendary Tucker's life of the Bishop, but an entirely new book, to which Bishop Abraham will largely contribute materials. It is understood that the price of the book will be low enough to place it within reach of all classes of the community.

The *Church Messenger* (Charlotte, N.C.), referring to the conflict between the world and Christianity, says:—

What then are we to do? Must Christians shut themselves up in their houses and deprive themselves and their families of all the pleasures of social intercourse and refinement, and leave the good things of this life for those who live alone for them?

To this we answer, No. But at the same time the line must be distinctly drawn between the Church and the world, and it must be drawn by each individual of the Church for himself. The Christian's aim must be to "abound in knowledge and judgment; that he may approve things that are excellent; that he may be sincere and without offence until the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Christ Jesus, unto the glory and praise of God."

This is the great business of those who profess and call themselves Christians, and if their hearts are set upon this business, they will find but little time or inclination to follow, or be led, by the things of this world, and there will be far less danger of their being ensnared and taken captive by the devices of Satan. If the people of this world would run wild after pleasure, and fun, and fashion, it is their own affair, and they are but consistent in doing so, for they are but serving their master. But for Christians to be led away by these things is to be disloyal to their Master and unjust to themselves, and to destroy with their own hands the good work which Christ has begun in them. If this good work is to continue until the day of Christ, we must "be sober and vigilant; we must be firm and steadfast, always abounding in the work of the Lord." The fruits of righteousness must abound. We must be filled with them. And where these abound the powers of this world will never prevail against the child of God.

Oh, then, let us keep up and doing while we have time and opportunity. The Church has need of our labors, and the welfare of our souls requires that we should be actively employed in the work of the Lord.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FIELD.

DIocese OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.—The lecture season has set in. The Rev. W. B. King has been lecturing both at St. Luke's and St. Matthias' on "The troubles of a Parson." Rev. Dr. Partridge has been lecturing at New Glasgow, and the Rev.

F. R. Murray delivered a brilliant lecture before the St. Luke's Young Men's Guild on "The helpmeet of man," an extended notice of which appeared in the *Halifax Herald*.

THE LATE J. B. JOHNSTON.—Many will regret to hear of the death of one of the most earnest and enthusiastic churchmen in town. Mr. Johnston will ever be remembered while St. Matthias Mission exists. It was principally to his untiring energy that the work was initiated and sustained, and his counsel and presence at every service were the most powerful sermons preached there. He planned the present mission building and it was his earnest ambition to see it finished and to become, what it ought to have been years and years before, the centre of one of the most promising fields of work in Halifax. Though suffering for some time past with a distressing ailment yet the power of Christian grace was plainly visible in his consistent life and his godly fear in bringing up his household in the love and fear of the Lord. To his bereaved family we extend our sympathy.

AMHERST.—The thriving parish here under the direction of its untiring vicar, Rev. V. E. Harris, will receive fresh life from an arrangement which has been entered into with Rev. J. R. S. Parkinson, whereby the latter gentleman, during the depression at Acadia Mines, will devote a part of his time and talents to the furtherance of the work at Amherst.

SPRING HILL MINES.—The Rev. J. R. S. Parkinson lectured here last Thursday under the auspices of All Saints Church on "Eighteen centuries of work and history in the Church of England." The largest hall in town was engaged for the purpose and the reputation of the learned and fluent lecturer secured an audience which completely packed the building, standing room being at a premium. Over five hundred tickets were sold. For more than two hours the lecturer discussed in chaste language and convincing logic on the historical continuity of our grand old church, and that, too, without note and hesitation, amid the labyrinth of dates and names. The lecture was listened to with marked attention and has stirred up quite an enthusiastic interest in the matter of Church history.

NEW GLASGOW.—Rev. T. Partridge, D.D., generously came from Halifax (104 miles) and lectured on A.D. 3000 for us on Thursday, 25th ult. Rev. F. R. Murray, Rev. W. B. King and others will follow to aid in clearing our congregation of debt. Dr. Partridge was the guest of Mr. Harry Towneend, Brookside farm, one of our chapel wardens.

LUNENBURG.—The Parish of St. John, Lunenburg, is now a vacant, owing to the resignation of the Rev. R. C. Caswall, heretofore its rector.

DIocese OF FREDERICTON.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES.

We take the following extract from an excellent paper by the Rev. L. G. Stevens, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Portland, read at the Sunday-school Teachers' Association of the Deanery of St. John, N.B.:—

Children's services should be held *systematically and frequently* in the Church, if not directly after the Sunday-school morning service, which I most favor, and which might be shortened to three-quarters of an hour, opening with a hymn (afterwards to be sung in Church) and collect, and closing with a hymn, collect and benediction—i.e., I say, not every Sunday, then one a month, also on Christmas Day, Easter Sunday, Whit-Sunday, the anniversary Sunday and Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday.