

"And for this we heartily commend you to the mercy and grace of God, and pray that you may be guided and assisted therein by the Holy Spirit for Jesus Christ's sake.
"Given under our hand and seal this twenty seventh day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

(Signed) "F. MONTREAL, Metropolitan of Canada."

On Christmas morning, in Exeter Cathedral, an interesting scene was witnessed, where the custom is continued of welcoming Christmas with "hymns and spiritual songs." During Christmas Eve the parish choirs perambulated the city, singing anthems with instrumental accompaniments, and the ceremony was protracted through the night. At a quarter past seven o'clock there was a large assemblage of persons in the nave of the Cathedral. There was also a muster of the choir, and the Old Hundredth Psalm was sung in the gallery to a full organ. The scene was strikingly picturesque, and the more so as day light began to stream through the windows. As the last verse of the psalm pealed forth, the crowd began to move, and the spacious edifice was soon left to the more devout few who remained to service in the Lady Chapel.—*Guardian*.

A distinguished clergyman from the United States who has lately been in Scotland gave the following illustration of the working of the lay element in Church matters in the United States. "When I was a young man," he said, "in Philadelphia, there were four Episcopal churches; there are now sixty, served by upwards of one hundred ministers—and I attribute that mainly to the hearty support of the laity, gained to us by our admitting them to our Synods, and to have a vote in the affairs of the Church."

The use of incense has been given up in some of the Ultra Ritualistic churches in London.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.—The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has withdrawn his name from the Bible Society, as one of its Vice Presidents. Such an act can only excite surprise because so many of his Episcopal brethren continue to give that Society their patronage, otherwise *per se*, the withdrawal of Bishop Ellicott *ought* not to be displeasing to any consistent member of the Church of England. Without saying one word disrespectful of the great and good men who like to identify themselves with the Bible Society, we may surely claim the liberty, as clergymen, of standing aloof from it without having our motives pried into and impugned. The "happy family" system of the Society is unseemly, to say the least. The doctrine that the circulation of the Bible without the Church can convert and edify men, is un catholic and unreasonable. And the fact that we have a Society for printing and publishing Bibles should justify us in not giving our support to another one, whose principles are quite opposed to it.—*Clerical Journal*.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

RECEIVED IN JANUARY.—Rev. Canon Harrison, 60 cents; J. D. M. K., Hampton, 60 cents; R. E. J., St. Andrews, per J. W., 62 cents.

We have received copies of the Ceylon *Missionary Gleaner and Ecclesiastical Reporter* for several months up to the number for September and October of last year. The accounts of the meetings of the Synod are very interesting, and seem to show the utility, and, indeed, the necessity, for such an institution in every country where our Church exists.

We cannot account for subscribers in the distant parts of the province not receiving the MAGAZINE for months at a time. It is faithfully mailed to all,—even to those who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the current year.

What kind of consciences those persons have who are content to receive this little periodical and yet never trouble themselves to pay for it we cannot imagine. Is it because the price is so trifling that they think we will not miss a few subscriptions? Can they not see that the smallness of the sum is the very reason why it ought to be paid, and paid *promptly*, too? If any who now get the MAGAZINE do not want it, let them say so at once, and we shall make them a present of the back numbers they have received, and discontinue sending it to them for the future.