

Church News.

ENGLAND.—In consideration, that so important an event to our Church as the assembling of the General Anglican Council on the 24th of September, "ought not to pass unnoticed outside of the Synod," it is proposed that a special celebration of the Holy Communion "in all, or many of our churches on that day might strengthen the bond of unity and faith which we hope will be more firmly knit together by that august assembly."

Attention is being drawn to the Lottery system, which is much used in Britain by the Roman Catholics, for the purpose of raising funds for building and endowing churches and schools. Tickets are sent everywhere in large quantities for sale to Protestants, as well as Romanists. In these days of expiring shams, this system of gambling under the garb of charity, will likely receive its death blow.

Dr. Pusey lately doubted the Orders and perfect orthodoxy of the Scandinavian Communion. A brisk controversy is the result, in which much light is likely to be thrown on the matter.

The Bill for the increase of the Episcopate has met with much obstruction in Parliament. "Poor children may be destitute of opportunities for Confirmation, flocks may be left to careless pastors, useful diocesan institutions may languish or decay," and whilst the enemies of the Church within and without her pale, are banded together to keep this state of things undisturbed, the true friends of the Church make little or no attempt at organization for the promotion of a better system. But they are waking up, and it begins to be perceived that the wonderfully democratic spirit of the day may, by shutting the Bishops out of Parliament, materially reduce their expenses, so that the episcopal income of the present sees, may provide for a large increase in the number of the Bishops. The present Bishops are likely, however, to see the importance of some equitable plan for an increase in their number, and to assist in its proper development.

S. G. O. and his friends having lately held a meeting at Salisbury for the purpose of condemning the theological views of their Bishop, great sympathy has since been publicly expressed for his lordship by many influential churchmen of the diocese. Among others, some persons had assisted at S. G. O.'s meeting, styling themselves delegates from the parish of Alderbury. The churchwardens of that parish disclaiming those "delegates," say:—"We do not consider ourselves competent to sit in judgment on the Bishop's charge. We are quite satisfied with the way the services are conducted in our own church, and we do not think it is any part of our duty as churchwardens at Alderbury to meddle with what may be done in other parishes."

The Bishop of Peterborough has commenced a most excellent system, which is likely to be extensively imitated. He goes unattended to the houses of the Rural Deans and Incumbents of Parishes, preaching and confirming, and assembling the clergy and parishioners for conference on matters of spiritual and temporal benefit to the Church. Such a system will go far to promote unity, and enlarge the usefulness of Convocations and Diocesan Synods.

The Church Rate Bill has been rejected in the House of Lords by an overwhelming majority.

The Bill for the increase of the Episcopate, has passed in a very mutilated condition, but still so as to make it possible to consecrate three additional Bishops, viz: for Cornwall, Nottingham and Herts. An improvement in the Bill is confidently looked for at another session.