

ant a man's parishioners are, the more is the need of quickness and education on his part, because they will be needed to pierce through the dense crust of their minds. No doubt, the immediate loss of influence to himself and to the Church which he professes to represent will be greater and more evident where the ignorant pastor ministers in a place where there are many people competent to criticise his short comings; but then the hearers themselves will not suffer so much, since they will know where to find that mental food which their pastor has failed to provide for them. But in the country parish, the hearers will either be quite untaught, or will betake themselves to the Methodist or Baptist meeting, in search of what they have missed at church.

The Bishop of Lichfield, much to his credit, has been taking up this matter of clerical ignorance steadily, recognizing its enormous powers for mischief, and endeavoring to abate it by counsel and encouragement to the clergy in the prosecution of professional studies. But no corporate action has been yet taken by the Bench in general. Even those Bishops who are themselves men of learning do not appear to pay much attention to the low standard of qualifications which the candidates present. There is much need of a uniform minimum of acquirement, below which no candidate could find access to any diocese, and also of some means to insure that study will not be given over immediately upon ordination. And in view of the cost of books, and the depressed condition of clerical finance, some arrangement for establishing a lending-library in each archdeaconry, if not in each rural deanery, is much to be desired. We are not going to propound a cut-and-dried plan for effecting all these objects; but we are content to force them on public attention.—*Church Times*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE *Saturday Review*, in a criticism of the Revised Old Testament, says:—"The whole version was completed in the study of the Germans before it was commenced in Jerusalem Church." We owe an immense debt of gratitude to German scholarship, and not the least for its latest gift to us. Herr Damaun has turned to English history for lessons against papal aggression; and, after raking up hitherto unsuspected documents concerning the British Church in the British Museum, confidently assumes that it was founded by St. Paul, and was earlier than the Roman Church which was certainly not founded by St. Peter. All papal dealings were aggressions on the freedom of this ancient British Church, and the English Reformation was (as we have always contended) merely an assertion of its long-dormant rights.

DEATH OF BISHOP LAY.—It is with very deep regret that we announce the death of the Rt. Rev. Henry C. Lay, D.D., Bishop of Easton, Md. The deceased prelate was one of the foremost men in the House of Bishops of the American Church, of whom he was the tenth in respect to time of consecration. His beauty of character, felicity of expression, evangelical fervor, consecration to his work, and devotion to his Divine Master, endeared him to the whole church which mourns his loss.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR.—The enthusiastic welcome given to this distinguished representative of the Mother Church in the cities of Quebec and Montreal is as gratifying to us as it must have been to the Archdeacon himself. The

leading men of all creeds (not excepting the Church of Rome) have vied with each other in doing him honor. As Canadians and as Churchmen we are proud of the homage that has thus been rendered to high character and distinguished literary abilities. We are sure that Dr. Farrar will carry back with him to England the most pleasant memories of his visit, and his intelligent appreciation of this Canada and its resources cannot fail to produce a favorable impression on the English public.

THE "HODGSON LECTURESHIP."—We observe with pleasure the proposal referred to in our correspondence from Halifax, to found a lectureship in theology in King's College, Windsor, N.S., in memory of the late Rev. G. W. Hodgson. Many friends of the movement will feel it both a pleasure and a privilege to contribute to this noble object, especially as the memorial has assumed a central and general aspect, rather than a local one. To have added a wing to the Charlottetown Church would have been commendable, but to keep alive the memory of his unselfish work in the Master's service and his saintly example before the rising generations of clergy is a boon to the Church of far more incalculable value. The training of the clergy was an object very near and dear to his heart, and there is no doubt that the seeds of the disease which carried him to an early grave were sown in his laborious efforts to spread the cause of religious education. The parochial work, together with the school work, completely wore him away. Hitherto Canada has not been over-generous to the memory of her noblest souls, but now doubtless many—as well from feelings of friendship and esteem for the departed as from a desire to secure more thorough training of candidates for the ministry—will gather around this effort and send at once subscriptions for founding the Hodgson Chair in Theology.

A new Mahdi has appeared in South Africa. A Kaffir prophet has arisen in Cape Colony, who sees wondrous visions of departed heroes, and visits the kraals to narrate the revelations he receives from the spirits. So far, his doctrines are eminently practical. His chief prophecy (everybody will be glad to hear) warns the Kaffis that unless they abstain from brandy drinking, and adopt Christian customs, they will gradually die out, and one chief was so impressed by the prophet that he immediately knocked in the head of his brandy-cask and poured the contents on the ground. We hope that this Mahdi will not be "smashed."

SELF-CONCEIT.—Self-conceit is the very daughter of self-will and of that loud crying out about *I* and *me* and *mine*, which is the very bird-call for devils and the broad road which leads to death.—*Kingsley*.

DESPAIR.—HOPE.—Does the age seem to you dark? Do you feel, as I do at times, the awful sadness of that text, "The time shall come when you shall desire to see one of the days of the Lord, and shall not see it?" Then remember that

The night is never so long,
But at last it ringeth the matin song.

Even now the dawn is gilding the highest souls, and we are in the night only because we crawl below.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The name of Correspondent must in all cases be enclosed with letter, but will not be published unless desired. The Editor will not hold himself responsible, however, for any opinions expressed by Correspondents.]

To the Editor of THE CHURCH GUARDIAN:

DEAR SIR,—I have thought a good deal about the small-pox in your city. Having had some experience, both at the Quarantine Station, as well as isolated cases in town and country, have come to the conclusion the disease is not nearly so infectious as imagined.

Judging from what I have seen and heard it appears to me the reports in the papers are rather that of the sick man, who always make the worst of the case, than of the friend that hopes for the best. I should say the danger is now reduced to a minimum, and doubt if there has been a period within the last few years when it was not equally great. From the number of residents and the tide of European emigration passing through the city cases will likely occur at any time. It would have been better to have put a fair side of the case before the world. When it is made out so bad it is no wonder people abroad think it a great deal worse.

Faithfully yours,

VISITOR.

FREDERICTON MISSION.

To the Editor of THE CHURCH GUARDIAN:

SIR,—I have just noticed in your issue of August 19th the following sentence, in reference to the Parish of Ludlow, Diocese of Fredericton, "The Rev. R. Symonds has been engaged by the Board of Home Missions to visit this Mission, and give three services once a fortnight."

Now, this information is largely inaccurate. First, it is Mr. Simonds who is doing duty at Ludlow; second, he was not engaged by the Board of Home Missions, and third, no stipulation was made with any one about three services once a fortnight. It is important that this last inaccuracy should be corrected; because when the Ludlow people, or others, read, in the Church paper of the diocese that Mr. Simonds was engaged to give three services, and when they find that he gives only two, (as he does), they must think him simply unfaithful.

The correct account is, Mr. Simonds offered to the Bishop Coadjutor his services for Ludlow during the summer, without any reference whatever to the Board of Home Missions, which services would have been given even if the Board had made no grant. The Bishop, however, kindly applied for a sum to cover travelling expenses, and, in consequence, sixty dollars were voted, not for Mr. Simonds, as I understood, but to pay actual expenses; fortnightly services were suggested by the Bishop, no mention being made of the number of services each Sunday.

Yours truly,

R. SIMONDS.

Fredericton, N.B., Sept. 15th 1885.

[We regret that our correspondent should have fallen into error, and are thankful to Mr. Simonds for the corrected statement.—Ed.]

IN THE VALLEY.—The disciples had to come down from the Mount and do Christ's work, and so have we. Believe me, one word of warning spoken to keep a little child out of sin—one crust of bread given to a beggar-man because he is your brother, for whom Christ died—one angry word checked on your lips for the sake of Him who was meek and lowly of heart—any, the smallest, endeavor to lessen the amount of evil which is in yourselves and those around you—is worth all the speculations and raptures and visions and frames and feelings in the world, for these are the good fruits of faith whereby alone the tree shall be known, whether it be good or evil.—*Kingsley's Daily Thoughts*.