

WINNIPEG.—The Historical and Scientific Society had a Loan Exhibition this week, which turned out an unprecedented success. The promoters and the public generally expected a good collection of North West curiosities, and in this they were not disappointed. Never before has such a gathering of Indian curiosities been seen, and the ornithological exhibit was the finest ever collected in one room. But no one dreamed that such a mass of old world curiosities could be got together in a new city like this. From India, China, Japan, Iceland, England and her dependencies, there poured in a collection of curiosities such as could not be gathered in any city in Canada. Some of these were of great value, and many centuries old. The art display was very fine, especially of Italian statuary. Victoria Hall was thronged day after day for nearly a week, and the financial result for the Society's Library was very satisfactory.

THE Committee on Constitution and Canons are still considering their important work. Some of the changes made will make the legislation in this Ecclesiastical Province very noticeable. As an example, we may mention the Canon on Appointment to Parishes, providing for the appointment in all cases by the Bishops of the Dioceses in the case of parishes assisted by the Mission Boards on nomination by the Board, in the case of self-supporting parishes on the joint nomination of the parish nominators and the Executive Committee of the Diocese.

PERSONAL.—The choir of Christ Church visited the Rectory and presented the Rev. E. S. W. Pentreath with an easy chair. In replying Mr. Pentreath spoke of the great interest he took in the promotion of good Church music, and the value he placed on it as a help in worship. He spoke of the good attendance at the practices, and expressed his readiness to assist the choir in any way.

Letter from London.

LONDON, Jan. 31st, 1884.

Judgment has at length been delivered in the celebrated Miles-Platting case. The Court of Queen's Bench has sustained the action of the Bishop of Manchester in refusing to institute to the benefice, Mr. Cowgill, the clergyman presented by Sir Percival Heywood, the patron of the living. This refusal was given because Mr. Cowgill would grant no pledge that the prohibited usage which he had practised while his vicar Rev. S. F. Green was in prison, would be discontinued.

This judgment of the Court is generally welcomed as agreeable to common sense; though of course some of the clergy are loud in their complaints. It is generally considered that lay patronage in the Church is sufficiently distasteful without exciting public opinion against it by the flagrant abuse of its rights, and that a judicial decree which would have treated as no disqualification for preferment the ostentatious parade of opinions declared by competent legal authority to be inconsistent with the teaching of the Church of England, would have been productive of mischievous results. There would have been another martyr hailed to prison like Mr. Green, more heated feelings, a widening of party spirit in the Church to the undoubted gratification of her enemies and the sorrow of those who have her welfare at heart.

Apropos of this case a writer in the Saturday Review has humorously remarked that the multiplied responsibilities, and the increased exposure to fierce attacks of the modern Bishops are "in the way of discipline, efficient substitutes for the hair, shirt and knotted scourge."

Much attention has of late been drawn to the deplorable condition of the poorer classes in the great cities. Misery seems to increase in the same ratio as luxury; and great wealth goes hand in hand with extreme poverty. In all ages of the world no problem has been more difficult to solve

than to ameliorate this state of things. History shows us that sometimes with violence and bloodshed a terrible solution has been sought. It is to be hoped that England may be saved from such a destiny by the wisdom of her rulers and the benevolence of the favored classes.

It is generally conceded that the frequent attempts at legislation relative to the housing of the very poor have not been productive of satisfactory results. While some decent mechanics have been enabled to procure improved lodgings and snatch their families from the contamination of disease and the corruption of a depraved neighbourhood, there seems to be an inert mass of viciousness that cannot be elevated because it can be quickened with no aspirations for better things. Satisfied with the slums, such a degraded population is indifferent to improvement and would bring back to a new dwelling evil spirits worse than those cast out of the old. The near future will see earnest efforts made on a grand scale to provide respectable lodgings for those who desire them and to effect the more difficult task of reclaiming the thieves and vagabonds that prowl through the filthy courts making night hideous with blasphemy.

The precarious tenure of human life has seldom been more sadly illustrated than by the untimely death of two men conspicuous from their high station. Such a slight cause as a chill contracted by driving in a dog cart without an overcoat brought on an illness fatal to Lord Grosvenor eldest son of the Duke of Westminster, and therefore heir to one of the greatest properties and most influential positions in the kingdom. A fall in the hunting field and a kick from a vicious horse, deprived the realm of an esteemed nobleman, and Her Majesty of an intimate friend, in the person of Lord Hertford. The deep sympathy given voice to by the press proves that the democratic tendencies of the age have not yet produced indifference to rank, or extinguished a becoming veneration for illustrious birth.

It is suggested in many quarters that Churches should be kept open all day, or at all events for several hours of each day for the purpose of private prayer. It is alleged that this would prove a great blessing to many of the poor, and to those who are so situated that privacy and quietness are not at their command.

An influential society has been lately formed, with the two Archbishops as presidents, called the Church of England Funeral and Mourning Reform Association. A circular thus states the objects aimed at:—

1 "The long established funeral and mourning observances prevalent in this country have helped to create a mistaken view of death which in its turn has created an imperfect and impoverished estimate of this life. This Society aims at giving prominence to the Christian idea of death as a transition from one state of existence to a higher.

2 The bereaved are not always so situated as to be able to resist the tyranny of custom or fashion, but a Society such as this gives moral support to those who wish to follow their better judgment.

3. It is true that many persons of influence have adopted plain unpretentious funeral arrangements and that no better method can be adopted of spreading the desired reform; but the people at large still cling to the old pompous and costly so-called 'handsome funeral,' with much feasting and treating, entailing often absolute want and conducing to permanent pauperism. We therefore submit that this movement which is in the direction of temperance and thrift deserves universal support."

The Bishop of Algoma last week addressed a large gathering at the West End on behalf of his diocese. He placed before them the peculiar difficulties of missionary work in such a wild and sparsely peopled territory, and earnestly appealed for aid for an endowment fund, a missionary boat, and the support of the Indian schools for young men and women. The Marquis of Lorne occupied the chair.

A. P. S.

OUR AMERICAN BUDGET.

AN English Church Review with characteristic infallibility, says the *Pacific Churchman* is a South America paper.

IN Philadelphia, seven Churches are open for daily worship; seven have daily morning and evening prayers, and ten or twelve have surpliced choirs.

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL, New York, has, since the beginning, taken care of 5,324 Roman Catholic patients, but has not received one dollar from the Roman Church.

IN the last five years only one murderer has been hung for his offence in Chicago. Last year 43 murders were committed in that city, only two less than the number committed in New York city, which has twice the population of Chicago. Of the 43 murderers, 22 are walking about entirely free men, and ten more are out on bail.

A MAN in Pennsylvania, worth \$14,000,000, offers to build a court house and public buildings, if a new county is formed and called by his name.

GOV. SHERMAN, of Iowa, in his message, recommends radical prohibitory legislation.

A NEW religious sect in Boston holds that disease is caused by the absence of God from the body, and that it can be cured by the passage of the divine affluence from the well to the sick.

TRINITY COLLEGE, North Carolina, has nineteen Cherokee Indians as students, this year the State paying for their education.

THE U. S. Attorney General has publicly stated, that in two years there had been *stolen* from the Treasury more than *four million* of dollars. He further declares that not a dollar of this has been returned or recovered.

THE Rev. Dr. Nevin, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Rome, is now on his way to Andover to deliver to the advanced class a series of lectures on "The Claims of Rome."

THE Bishop-elect of East Carolina was born in New York State, and is aged about 63 years. Reared a Presbyterian, he came to prefer the tenets of the Church, studied for Holy Orders, and was ordained in New York in 1844.

IN the parish of Trinity Episcopal Church, N. Y. City, there were 1,202 baptisms last year, of which only 61 were adults.

THE *Medical Record* of New York says concerning the collections on Hospital Sunday:—"As before, the Episcopal Church gives more than all the other Churches put together."

ON the 7th inst., a memorable service at the Italian Mission, "Gesù Immanuelo," Philadelphia, marked one of the eras of advance. For the first time in this city a class of Italians, in a Church of their own, under the ministrations of a minister of their own nationality, received the rite of confirmation at the hands of a Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The class was a large one—thirty-five in all, thirty-one men and four females, and every one had been born and baptized in the Roman communion. The minister who presented them, the Rev. Michele Tara, is also an Italian, and for seven years was a Roman priest. The movement has been a great success in New York, and is also extending to Cuba. Bishop Lee, of Delaware, is soon going to Havana to hold service and confirm a class who are desirous of renouncing papal corruptions.

REV. DR. ORRICK, of Reading, Pa., has a second time declined the election to a professorship in the Divinity School, Philadelphia.

FIVE LOTS, in as many towns along the Northern Pacific Railroad, have been offered, it is said, as a gift to the Church to secure the residence of the new Missionary Bishop of Dakota. Bishop Walker is a bachelor, and we imagine will have his residence in the saddle, in the stage coaches, and on railroad cars about as much as in an episcopal palace wherever provided for him.