

seek (sometimes by questionable means) to "free" their countrymen from their national prejudices in favour of Protestantism, and so free the Pope's Mission in England from the load of unpopularity which renders its success impossible. At Norwich and Shoreditch their muscular interference with meetings of Protestants have resulted in riots resembling those at Cork, and caused the formation of a combination—"Protest and Defence Brigade." Action and reaction.

"THERE ARE POPES in the higher criticism as well as in theology," writes Prof. Sayce in his "Verdict of the Monuments," but even the *Röck*, who champions him on most points, remarks, "we fancy there are popes in archæology also!" Still, the Professor has done good work in making the most of recent discoveries—showing that Bible particulars are more in accordance with ascertained actual facts than many people were inclined to believe was the case. Primitive writing and the office of Melchizedek are both ably illustrated by his facts and arguments thereon.

"THE CHURCH IS MAKING TOO RAPID PROGRESS in Wales," says *Church Times*, accounting for the violence of the onslaught involved in the Disestablishment movement. If the Church had remained inert and unpopular—as of yore—little or nothing would have been said on this line: but the moment she shows signs of life and vigour her enemies think it is time to "clip her ambitious wings" as much as possible. The tables may be turned yet ere they succeed!

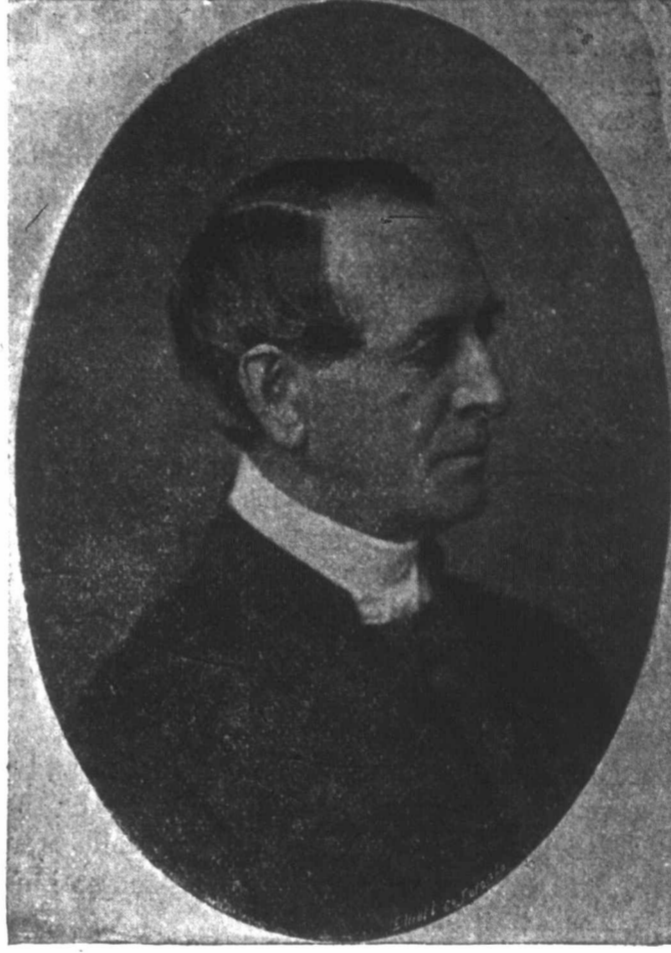
THE "ORIENTAL LECTURES" OF MRS. MOUNTFORD, last week, in the Pavilion, Toronto, were highly entertaining and full of interesting information, such as can only be given by one who has lived amongst the people whose manner of living she depicts. The tableaux presented were said to be absolutely true to Eastern life. These picturesque scenes, amongst a people whose customs and habits are almost changeless, were the means in the hands of the lecturer for throwing light upon and proving the truth of many passages in Holy Scripture. The enjoyment of this great treat was greatly enhanced by Mrs. Mountford's faultless elocution and clear enunciation. Many became so interested that they attended the whole course of lectures.

OBITUARY.

ARCHDEACON McMURRAY.

It is with feelings of very sincere sorrow that we record this week the death of the Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, Rector of Niagara. This event, so sad for those who are bereaved, yet, we doubt not, so full of joy to him who was taken, was not altogether unexpected. For some little time back the weight of increasing years, and the strain of an extraordinarily long service in the Church's work, have made themselves evident to all, and they were many, who were privileged to enjoy the Archdeacon's friendship, and many hearts were moved when the daily papers announced on May 19th that "at 11 o'clock this morning the Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Niagara, passed quietly away, in the 84th year of his age, after an illness of several months, borne with Christian patience." Born at Seagoe, near Portadown, Ireland, in 1810, and brought to this country by his parents in the following year, the Archdeacon was thoroughly Canadian in feeling and sentiment, and the sixty-one years of his ministerial life was devoted to the extension of the Church's influence in this new country, taking a prominent part in all the important events which

during that time have entered into her history. He received his education and his training in theology at the hands of Bp. Strachan. While yet a very young man we find him actively engaged in doing pioneer missionary work throughout the country surrounding Toronto, then a small town. In 1832, while still too young to take orders, he bravely undertook the labour of Christianizing the tribes of heathen Indians on the north shore of Lake Superior, with Sault Ste. Marie as his headquarters. In 1833 he received holy orders from Dr. Stewart, Bishop of Quebec. He travelled 1,800 miles seeking ordination. At this Indian work he remained five years, and at its close could rejoice in the fact that, of those to whom he had brought the message of salvation, he had baptized 160, and that a church had been organized numbering forty devout communicants. Illness in his family compelled him to relinquish this work. From 1840 to the end of 1856 he was rector of Ancaster. In 1857 he was appointed rector of Niagara, and thus became identified with a church—St. Mark's—famous in the annals of Canadian history, and which during 37 years was the object of his tenderest regard. A handsome little



ARCHDEACON McMURRAY.

volume, illustrated and full of the most interesting information concerning this old church and its three rectors, covering a period of over a hundred years, is published by James Bain & Son, Toronto. In this little book we have a memorial to the loving solicitude with which he guarded this historic building, and the improvements which from time to time were made to bear testimony to the chastened piety, the cultivated taste, and the earnest zeal with which he strove for the spiritual welfare of those who were worshippers therein. The aged priest who has just passed to his reward was thus permitted by the Great Head of the Church to give more than sixty years of work in His cause, a long life of priestly work, varied and successful. Few can hope for such a period of labour, or for such opportunities, but we can boast that when such a call was made the Church could give a son who did respond with alacrity to the toil and self-denial of such high enterprise. In addition to the strictly missionary and priestly work which during that sixty years were accomplished, calls of a different kind were made upon the indomitable energy and devotion of Archdeacon McMurray.

Though full of zeal for souls, and filled with an unconquerable passion for the honour and glory of God and His Church, he possessed other qualifications of immense value in the stirring times in which he lived through. The tall figure, the graceful bearing, the refined and educated mind, the genial and ready wit, the gentle disposition, combined to make him a fit instrument to do the Church's work, where men of station and influence were to be approached. Bishop Strachan and his advisers were quick to see this, and holding steadily in view the great ends—the holy ends, as he believed—which were to be gained, the Archdeacon rejoiced in such undertakings. Though somewhat enfeebled in body, to the last his intellect and memory were strong and clear, and the events were as if of yesterday. The wonderful kindness which, when sent in 1853 to ask assistance for Trinity College, he received from American Churchmen, the noble sympathy and help they generously gave, were things he loved to recall. In 1854, in the legislative hall at Quebec, he succeeded admirably in impressing political leaders with the propriety of doing some justice to the Church's claims. In 1864 he visited England on a most important mission, that of interesting English Churchmen in our "infant university." He was received with enthusiasm; men high in Church and State espoused his cause; and he used to recount with kindling eye the efforts of his new made friends to further the object of his coming amongst them. Among the friends were the Bishop of London, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, Gladstone, Pusey, Liddon, Stanley, Keble; and among the places where his voice was heard were the pulpit of St. Paul's and the Lord Mayor's dinner. Such a life could not well pass without obtaining some of this world's honours. Trinity College, Hartford, conferred on him the degree of M.A., Columbia College that of D.D., and Trinity College, Toronto, the degree of D.C.L. In 1867 he was appointed Rural Dean of Lincoln, and upon the establishment of the diocese of Niagara he was made Archdeacon. In closing our notice of this memorable life, we do so with a sense of loss. During many years he took a lively and personal interest in the welfare of the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN; his kindly sympathy was ever shown and useful suggestions ever given in a manner most kind and acceptable. It served to show the large-heartedness, the catholic sympathy, of a man old in years, ever young in heart, and who while a power among the great and influential, felt equally at home with and equally bound to serve interests of a different kind, so long as the Church's prosperity and the salvation of immortal souls, were in his opinion conserved. The Ven. Archdeacon was twice married. His first wife was Charlotte, the daughter of the late John Johnston, a highly educated and gifted lady. His second wife was Miss Amelia Baxter, daughter of the late Capt. James Baxter of the Royal Canadian Rifles. Two children survive him, Mr. James S. McMurray, barrister, Toronto, and Mrs. Killaly of Morrisburg. Any one who has had the privilege of enjoying a visit to the rectory at Niagara will ever look back with pleasure to the kind welcome and generous hospitality extended by the Archdeacon and his wife, and to her and the family we now beg to offer our sincere condolence in this sad hour of their bereavement. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m., and was very largely attended. The services at the church and at the grave were conducted by the Bishop of Niagara, assisted by Rev. Canon Arnold of Niagara; Rev. Canon Bull, Drummondville; Rev. Canon Houston

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