

exquisite Madonnas of Raphael, translated into their equivalents of light and shade. The etcher's art is only inferior to this when it steps beyond its legitimate sphere, and enters on a mistaken rivalry with another art in its own true domain.

The same criticism is applicable to another type of the etcher's art, very well illustrated in No. 102, a large, bold and free etching by F. Seymour Haden, after Turner's picture of "Calais Pier." We observe that it is marked in the catalogue as "scarce," and the price set on a copy of it is \$275. The timbers of the old wooden pier, and the boats in the offing, are bitten by the acid into bold lines that catch the eye, and claim the admiration even of artist-critics, by the free, strong handling of the etching needle. The same bold, free sweep of line marks, though less pleasingly, the swell of the sea. But we say frankly that we look on this large etching as a mistake. It reproduces on a large scale one of the plates, of the "Liber Studiorum" in the roughest of the varying styles which mark that epitome of the Turner gallery; but what has a charm of its own as a small memento of one of the artist's glorious canvases—without challenging any ambitious comparison with the original, becomes at once a competitor, and as such a failure, when produced on this grand scale. It is not an etching from Turner's own hand; neither is it a translation from one of his marvellous pictures. It is an utterly false taste, a mere temporary freak of fashion, that would prefer this to one of the fine-line engravings on an equally large scale, such as Pye Smith's "Temple of Jupiter," Miller's "Grand Canal, Venice," or Willmore's "Mercury and Argus." Turner valued his "Liber Studiorum" as a comprehensive record of his life-work as a painter; but he never dreamt of appealing to it as a true translation of the wondrous effects of storm and sunshine, which Ruskin delighted to elucidate in his "Modern Painters." "The faults of etching," as Hammerton says, when describing Turner's own share in the "Liber Studiorum," "considered as a representation of nature, are too much hardness of line, and too little delicacy of distinction in shades." To overcome this defect, and attain the desired chiaroscuro, he supplemented his etching with mezzotint, and it is the rough, bold combination of the two which is imitated on a large scale in the "Calais Pier" of Haden. But if we had no original painting of Turner to appeal to, we could never guess from this the marvellous atmospheric power on which the great English landscape painter's fame depends. The engravings of Miller, Goodall, Pye Smith and others, do on the contrary preserve with surprising success some of his most charming atmospheric effects; and in works of his latest style, when his colouring became more and more extravagant, some of the carefully finished engravings preserve all the charm of his dreamy golden haze, and the far-receding vistas of his noon-day panoramas, without the sulphurous excesses of "golden dirt," for which "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" has satirised him.

But, while the Gallery of Etchings has various examples of ambitious art open to the same censure as we have ventured to give expression to, it abounds with exquisite examples of the legitimate etcher's art; and among these are some surprisingly excellent productions of our own native artists and amateurs, among which Mr. Henry S. Howland's "Camp Scene, Georgian Bay," No. 114; his "Old Block House," and "Old Fort at Mackinac," No. 116, 117, and his "Worn Out," No. 115, cannot fail to attract the favourable notice of appreciative Canadian critics. Among the more ambitious works of the same genuine class we may select "Glen Harem, N.Y.," No. 13, and the "Mill Stream," No. 8, from among various fine specimens of the late B. F. Fellows' work. Wilfred Bell, an English artist, contributes only one specimen, but it is a gem, realizing for us in another form the beautiful word-painting of England's greatest poet:

Light thickens, and the crow
Makes wing for the rocky wood.

Mr. J. B. S. Monks, a well-known American etcher, is here represented by six specimens of varying excellence. His delight is in the landscape dotted over with sheep; but he diversifies the living group by their setting in characteristic effects of nature, at all hours, and in diverse scenes, "At Dusk," No. 165, "Returning from the Pasture," No. 168, and "The Hillside," and "The Mountain Top," Nos. 166, 167, all charming. Benjamin Lauder, another American artist, has his "Sheep Pasture," No. 127, and other more ambitious, but also successful productions of the needle; such as his "Among the Daisies," No. 122. No. 143, "A Summer Afternoon," by Peter Moran, a group of cattle well set in the landscape, is etched with great freedom; slight, yet effective; indeed one of the best examples of the true etcher's art in the gallery. "Up for Repairs," No. 214, an old boat, well nigh past repair, by E. L. Pierce, of Philadelphia, is very good; and No. 103, "The Breaking up of the Agamemnon," is admirably bold and free. But we have not space to note, as we would wish, all the choice works of this most pleasing branch of art. No. 13, "Rouen," is all that one could wish of its kind. Nos. 262 and 268, both excellent; so also Nos. 196 and 200, capital specimens of boating; effective, with true ease and lightness of handling. Nor must we omit our own etchers. Mr. Martin's No. 160 gives us his favourite fallen trees and mossy stumps, in the new art; and Nos. 155, 156 are pleasing examples of Canadian landscape. It would be easy to select from the works of this class of etchers' studies of nature many works for commendation. We shall be gratified indeed to find that they receive due appreciation; for the recognition of true Art as it is presented here, devoid of the meretricious illusions of colour, and in many cases rather indicating the artist's idea, than working it out with laborious finish, is one of the best tests of a true feeling for Art. A collection such as this is far more instructive, and includes a much larger display of genuine Art than can possibly be marshalled on the wall of an annual exhibition of paintings: too frequently with its few modern Vandykes and its many modern Vandaubs.

D. W.

[The foregoing article from a respected contributor unfortunately came to hand too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

THE CHURCHES.

DURING the penitential season there has been more than the formal cessation of fashionable gaieties. The ardent votaries of social festivity have no doubt enjoyed the respite from the exacting tyranny of fashion, and, with recouped forces, are preparing for the relaxation that succeeds Lent. Special Lenten services, this season, have been more numerous and, in many instances, have been better attended than formerly. There is a growing desire to make religion more pervasive and practical. The Church is realizing more fully the obligation to bring the doctrines and consolations of the Gospel within the reach of the people. In the great cities and towns and in rural parishes the same healthful efforts are made to evangelize the masses.

STEPS have been taken to organize a cathedral on a commensurate scale in Toronto. The movement is yet in its initiatory stages. Success will, no doubt, crown the effort, but it can hardly be looked for immediately.

THIS is the age for special movements for the attainment of specific social reforms. The evils of intemperance are now all but universally admitted; but there is another gigantic pestilence no less destructive and appalling in its ravages: it is less obtrusive and, from the nature of the case, not so susceptible of public discussion as the sin of drunkenness, but its ruinous results are no less terrible. A practical effort has been made to stem the torrent of licentiousness by the formation of what has been designated the White Cross Army. It is remarkable that the movement commended itself at once to general favour. It has only been about two years in existence, but it has made rapid progress. It took its rise in Bishop Auckland in 1883, and many branches now exist all over England, with several on the European Continent, and in Canada and the United States. The movement has the earnest support of the Church of England. The principal obligations members of the association undertake are: To treat all women with respect, and endeavour to protect them from wrong and degradation; to endeavour to put down all indecent language and coarse jests; to maintain the law of purity as equally binding on men and women; to endeavour to spread these principles among my companions and to help my younger brothers; to use every possible means to fulfil the command, "Keep thyself pure."

WHEN he enters on his episcopal functions in the Diocese of Niagara the Rev. Charles Hamilton will not only have the cordial congratulations of all Churchmen, but of all others who are at all acquainted with the previous career of this most promising young Canadian clergyman. His father was the late Colonel George Hamilton, of Hawkesbury, in the Province of Quebec. His early training was received in Canada, but he graduated at University College, Oxford. Mr. Hamilton was ordained deacon in 1876, and priest in the following year, by the Bishop of Quebec. After serving as incumbent of St. Peter's, he received the appointment of rector of St. Matthew's in the ancient capital where, by his enlightened zeal and fervent charity, he has endeared himself to all classes of the community. His formal consecration to the episcopate is to take place, it is said, in Fredericton, N.B., on 1st May.

THE Rev. Dr. Lobley has intimated his resignation of the principalship of Bishop's College, Lennox, to accept the charge of an English parish. He was appointed to his present office in 1877. Declining health, it is intimated, has induced him to make the contemplated change. He was offered the rectory of St. George's, Kingston, but this charge he has declined. The name of Rev. Canon Norman has been mentioned in connection with the office in Bishop's College about to be vacated.

THE various presbyteries to whom the matter was remitted by the last General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church have been discussing the long pending question of marriage with a deceased wife's sister. From the decisions reached by these bodies it is almost certain that the more liberal view will prevail.

THE population of Chicago is, in round numbers, 600,000. The numbers of Protestant churches, members, Sabbath school pupils and missions are as follow: Methodist—churches, thirty-three; members, 6,830; Sabbath school scholars, 12,424. Baptist—churches, seventeen; members, 5,836; Sabbath school scholars, 8,455; missions, ten. Presbyterian—churches, fifteen; members, 6,520; Sabbath school scholars, 10,376; missions, eight. Congregational—churches, fourteen; members, 5,129; Sabbath school scholars, 9,973; missions, eleven. Episcopal—churches, thirteen; members, 4,241; Sabbath school scholars, 4,836; missions, two. Reformed Episcopal—churches, five; members, 1,159; Sabbath school scholars, 3,057; missions, two.

IN Russia the Lutheran Church has thirty-one provosts, 525 pastors, 1,140 churches, 2,100 parochial schools, 3,051 teachers, 11,009 scholars 43,420 confirmations, and 1,922,777 parishioners.

THE Rev. Dr. William M. Taylor, of Broadway Tabernacle, New York, has been appointed Lyman Beecher lecturer for next term. The subject he proposes to discuss is "The Scottish Pulpit from the Reformation until the Present Day."

THE authorities of Harvard University have declined to comply with the request of the students to make attendance at morning prayers voluntary.

RUMOURS as to the appointment to the archbishopric of Dublin, rendered vacant by the death of Cardinal McCabe, are purely conjectural. Several names have been mentioned, and it is amusing to note how the political leanings of the parties named as the successor of the late archbishop are canvassed.

FATHER CURCI, who submissively retracted his opinions in obedience to the decision of Leo XIII., has retired to Florence, where, it is stated, he is busily engaged in the preparation of a work on Socialism.