

Mission Field.

[From our English Correspondent.]

JAPAN.

Bishop Smyth spent Advent Sunday in Durban, preaching at St. Cyprian's in the morning, and at St. Stephen's in the evening. On his return in November from Inhambane he succumbed to a severe attack of fever, and was suffering from it when visited by Bishop Carter, whose ship touched at Delagoa Bay, on the way to Mashonaland. The illness of Mr. Dyer, and the departure of Mr. Bovill to England, has somewhat retarded the work of the Lebombo Mission.

The Bishop of St. John's, Kaffra, gives the following description of Port St. John's, which is likely to become an important station: 'It is at the mouth of the river Umzimvubu, or St. John's, as the river was called by the old Portuguese navigators, who sighted it on St. John's day. It was taken over by the Imperial troops for the Cape Colony in 1878, and a magistrate placed there. In 1882 Bishop Callaway went to live there, and during his residence a scheme was started for building a church. Buildings were then in progress, in the hope that the government would make the magnificent harbor available by improving the entrance, but this has not yet been done, though for Pondoland the harbor would be more convenient for importing goods than East London. Since 1885 the number of residents has dwindled, and besides sixty of the Cape mounted Rifles and the civil servants there are not more than half a dozen European families. Monthly services have been supplied by Mr. Sutton, of St. Barnabas, and the Church fabric has been well kept up.'

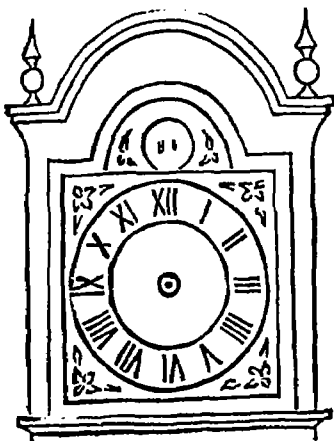
The resolution of the South African Bishops in the Synod of last September on the lack of candidates for Ordination from the province and the proposed Theological College has provoked some comments from correspondents of the Southern Cross, who complain (1) that the Bishops deter candidates by their literary requirements, and (2) that the clergy of South Africa are discouraged by the filling up of important posts by newly imported clergy from England. It is said in other quarters that the advanced views and the ritual of the churches have tended to check the offerings of the laity for diocesan purposes; also the fact that the majority of the congregations have little or no voice in the appointments, which are left in the hands of the Bishops. Race estrangements and antipathies have also deprived the Missions and the Native work of much local support. It is said that in the Diocese of Grahamstown there are sixteen parishes, which in 1892 contributed nothing to any diocesan fund. The subject of appointment to parishes and the administration of diocesan funds was to be discussed at the Diocesan Synod of Grahamstown

on January 11th, and notice was given of various resolutions to alter the rules of the Synod relating to these questions.

The Bishop of Bloemfontein has decided that the memorial to Father Douglas is to take the form of the endowment of a stall in the Cathedral for the support of a Canon to be engaged in itinerating pastoral work, such being a most fitting commemoration of the special devotion with which Father Douglas gave himself to the work of seeking for the spiritual well being of the scattered members of the Church, not only of those immediately within his own cure, but far and wide beyond it.

THREE clever women, Margaret Deland, Sarah Orne Jewett and Mrs. Burton Harrison, will try and settle in the next number of *The Ladies' Home Journal* when it is proper to use the word 'woman' and when the term 'lady' should be employed.

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