

Dominion Churchman.

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LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

July 31...SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:—
Morning...1 Chronicles 21. Romans 1.
Evening...1 Chronicles 22; or 28 to v 21.
St. Matthew 16 to verse 24.

THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1881.

ON the 7th instant the central council of Diocesan Conferences met at the rooms of the National Society, Westminster.

The Ecclesiastical Courts Commission have held their sixth and seventh meetings. The Hon. C. L. Wood, President of the English Church Union, and Dr. Phillimore, Chancellor of the Diocese of Lincoln, have been examined as witnesses.

A conference of ritualistic clergymen is to take place in London during the present month, at which, among other matters, the advisability of adopting a uniform standard of ritual will be discussed. The number is steadily increasing of those who contend that the revisers of the Prayer Book in 1662 contemplated a continuance of the Use of Sarum rather than the modern Use of the Western Church, where they themselves did not provide special rubrics. It is hoped by a full discussion of the matter to secure general uniformity by the adoption of what may be called a purely Anglican ritual.

The Rochester Diocesan Conference was held June 30th and July 1st. This was its first session, and the spiritual destitution of South London was a leading topic of discussion—as might be expected, when we remember that on the formation of the diocese of St. Alban's in 1877, from the diocese of Rochester, all London south of the Thames was transferred from the Winchester to the Rochester diocese. The members of the conference are about 330, the proportion of clergy to laity being as two to three. Only twenty-eight members were absent. During the two days' session more than fifty members ventilated their opinions and "views." The Bishop in his address, as president, said that, with regard to South London, if the income of the Diocesan Society, about £8,000 a year, was deliberately thought by Churchmen to be sufficient for a work of as truly a missionary character as if it were in China and Japan, even then he would not despair; but his heart would burn with shame. He warned the conference not to be too much disturbed should a little honest heat show itself in the discussion on the rubrics. "Give me *heat* ten times over rather than *cold*, for heat is at least *force*, and implies *life*."

The parish church of All Saints, Fulham, has been rebuilt at a cost of £9,000.

On St. Peter's day, the annual commemoration of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was observed by special celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's, and nearly a hundred and forty other churches in London, as well as in many places in the country.

The Rev. Dr. Newland Maynard, F.R.H.S., Rector of St. Paul's, Brooklyn, U.S., and chaplain to the 47th regiment, left for Europe on Wednesday by the "Amerique," intending to visit Constantinople and Athens, for the purpose of preparing lectures for the coming winter.

Soberton church, one of the most interesting in Hampshire, has been restored and was re-opened on St. Peter's day by the Bishop of Winchester. It had been found necessary to rebuild the piers on which the tower stood. The circumnavigator, Anson, lived in this parish. His descendants, the Earls of Lichfield, are also Barons Soberton.

More than two hundred clergy of the Diocese of York have petitioned Mr. Gladstone for the release of Mr. Green from prison, urging especially Mr. Green's earnestness and devotion, with the respect and confidence of his people; the approval of his proceedings by many eminent in Church and State, as well as Mr. Gladstone's strenuous opposition to the Public Worship Regulation Act in 1874, and the fact that it has effected all the mischief its opponents feared, and done none of the good its advocates anticipated. Mr. Gladstone has replied that he fears he has no power to act in the matter.

The Bishop of Quincy (Rt. Rev. Alex. Burgess, S. T. D.), at the fourth annual convention of his diocese, held May 17th, 1881, says,—“I listen to complaints: ‘We have such uninteresting preachers, such uninteresting pastors;’—‘We do not keep our ministers longer than a year or so: they are off to new places.’ ‘We find it so hard to secure a clergyman, when the frequent vacancy exists;’ nay, with deeper thought, ‘We have so few revivals of religion, our children are so little given to lead a holy life, our own interest so often fails, infidelity is so on the increase.’ Not the lowest or feeblest answer is, *Your stinted offerings for the Church and the clergy.*”

The real amount of tithes in England is four million pounds, but of this only £2,412,404 goes to the clergy. The rest is applied thus:—Lay impropricators £766,233; clerical impropricators, £678,969; schools and colleges, £196,056. The impropricators and appropriators simply own tithes as private property, and do nothing in return for it. In case of disestablishment such property will be respected, while the clergy may just get what they can—that is as little as possible, in return for an expensive education, hard work, and in many cases the purchase of the living. The clergy in towns are not, as a rule, supported by tithes. The number of the country clergy is 12,000; so that on an average they get about £200 a year.

The painted window erected by subscription in memory of the late Prebendary Auriol, has been placed in St. Dunstan's church, Fleet street.

The tenth annual meeting in support of the Church of Ireland Sustentation Fund was held in the library of Lambeth Palace. The Archbishop of Canterbury had received a letter from the Bishop of Tuam, who reminded his grace that the three ancient sees comprised in the present diocese of Tuam covered the counties of Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, and Sligo, the acreage of the whole being 2,990,000, or 900,000 acres more than any other Irish diocese. The average of the parishes was 42,000 acres, and there were four or five whose area exceeded 100,000 acres. Except in two or three large towns, the stipend of the clergyman did not exceed £200. It was stated that the total receipts of the fund from all sources, during the year ending December 31st had amounted, to £2,813 as against £2,090 in the year preceding. The total sum received since the formation of the fund was £64,087.

The "Ladies Home Mission Association" has been set on foot in aid of the "Additional Curates' Society." The manager is Mrs. Mitford Cust, wife of the Vicar of Ripley, Derbyshire. The Archbishop of Canterbury having been requested to grant permission to form a branch of the association in his diocese, has replied that he is glad to welcome to his diocese any effort likely to help forward the work of the Additional Curates' Society, and that he wishes every success in the work. Branches have been established in the Dioceses of Durham, Exeter, Oxford, Gloucester and Bristol, Turo, and Worcester, with the approval of their respective bishops. The dioceses of York, Lichfield, and Ripon are also forming branches; and Liverpool and other dioceses are preparing to take the same step. In the diocese of Durham where the work commenced, the ladies raised last year more than £1,000.

The death of Dr. Rolleston, the first Linacre Professor of anatomy and physiology has been an immense loss to the scientific world. To the public generally he is best known by his work on "The Forms of Animal Life." As a teacher, he will long be remembered in Oxford. He taught his pupils to work with great and comprehensive aims, even while engaged in small and comprehensive details. He took an active part in all the meetings of the British Association. He was an orator and debator of no mean power; his wide culture and keen sense of humor enveloped the driest subjects in a hale of brilliant illustration and flashing epigram; and whenever he appeared he was sure to command eager attention. For a number of years his mind was turned without ceasing to the contemplation, the practical study, and the illustration of man, as man, by every possible method; his descent, his development, his relation to other beings, their relation to each other, and to the organic world. Every department of anatomy however minute, of physiology however abstruse, and ethnology however complex, yielded vast stores of material to his vigorous mind.