

Reflection on Clergy Reflection on Laity.

That any prejudicial reflection on the character, capacity, and efficiency of the Clergy must be regarded as reflection upon the Laity, from whose ranks the Clergy have individually sprung.

What Episcopal Ordination cannot do.

That it must be borne in mind that the mere imposition of Episcopal hands at the ordination cannot supply the newly ordained Deacon with the learning of which he may have been lacking as a Layman, or the intellectual ability, capacity for work, moral characteristics, and enthusiastic devotion of which he may as a Layman have been previously deficient.

Laymen have their Office and Work in the Church as well as the Clergy.

That the whole of the baptized Laity are, by the terms of their reception into the Communion of the Church, as solemnly pledged to the confession of Christ's "Faith," the doing of Christ's work, and the defending of Christ's cause as are the Clergy, by their vows at ordination, pledged to serve in the sacred ministry of Christ's Church.

Services of the Laity rendered to our Lord, His Apostles, and His Church.

That from the days of our Lord's ministry, all through the times of the Apostles, and the centuries of the Primitive Church, the Laity, Christian men and women have constituted the great body of the faithful. They attended our Lord's ministry, ministered to His wants, and no doubt tried to interest others in His character, preaching, and miracles. Eminent men and women of the Christian Laity rendered great services to the Apostles, to their fellow-members of the Church, and were no doubt largely instrumental in bringing the heathen under the influence of the Gospel.

The Ministry of the Laity.

That although the Laity have not committed to them the distinctive ministry in and for the Church which is the peculiar work of the Clergy, they have committed to them a very varied and comprehensive "ministry of the saints," an outlined description of which ministry is given by St. Paul in the twelfth and thirteenth chapters of his Epistle to the Romans, while the names of some of the eminent Laity, and the works for which they were distinguished, are recorded in the sixteenth chapter of the same Epistle.

Particular Ministrations of the Laity.

That in the Early Church and in the Church in later ages the Laity rendered services of inestimable value in teaching the rudiments of the Christian Faith to the heathen, bringing them to baptism, and watching over them when baptized; maintaining order amongst those who attended the public services, visiting the sick, distributing alms, and reading, in public, portions of the Holy Scriptures.

Services of English Laity in the External Work of the Church.

That in the external work of the Church the Laity of the Church of England, from the days of her foundation until now, have rendered to her the most distinguished services in the work of her organization and extension throughout the land. They gave sites for Cathedrals, Parish Churches, and Parsonage Houses, contributed by their money and labour to their erection, and gave liberally of their lands, and tithes chargeable on their lands, for their endowment.

Services of Laity in Founding and Maintaining Church Organizations.

That Laymen have taken the principal part in founding, organizing, managing, and maintaining our great Church societies, amongst which we may mention the S.P.C.K., the S.P.G., the C.M.S., and important societies of more recent date.

Ministry of all Ranks of the Laity Essential to the Church's Work.

That devoted Christian men and women of all ranks of the Laity now constitute the great body of Churchworkers throughout the some fourteen thousand parishes in England and Wales, and are engaged in every kind of charitable and religious effort, without whose labours Church organization and work would be at a standstill.

THE CHOICE OF FOWLS FOR PROFITABLE POULTRY-KEEPING.

BY W. M. FREEMAN, M.P.S.



ONLY those who are acquainted with the doings of the Poultry Club and with the various associations under its patronage all over the country, can form any idea of the varied opinions which exist among the class known as "fanciers" upon the merits and demerits of the numerous breeds of

poultry which are to be seen at any large exhibition. If the novice appeals to any one of the enthusiasts whose birds appear on the show benches, as to the value of his particular variety in comparison with other varieties, it is pretty certain that the answer will comprise a list of many virtues not all so prominent under experience as they are apparent beforehand. The fact is that there are good qualities in most breeds of poultry, but their extent varies very considerably;