

our chaste and solemn services of little account indeed, if His spiritual kingdom is not administered and strengthened there where alone it can have a real existence.

Are we guilty of no sin against the Holy Ghost? How is it as regards the duties which the Church lays upon us. Do we go to church? It is not a matter of indifference whether we go or not. Every one knows that attendance upon the service of God is to put ourselves in the way of getting good; is seeking a spiritual benefit by worship, by word and Sacrament. What can we expect if we absent ourselves—nobler lives, larger thoughts, divine suggestions, higher aspirations? Are these gained by the usual substitutes for church going, idle talk, secular reading, or slothful self-indulgence? In absenting ourselves from church, is it not a truth which must be admitted that we are sinning against the Holy Ghost? And what does that involve? The withdrawal of the Spirit, the loss to us of that heavenly aid and power essential to any genuine success as a living Church? What a fatal loss is that which we in our forgetfulness and neglect of duty may bring upon the Church we love, and with whose destinies we are closely allied! The Spirit does not descend upon empty pews. He seeks you; your hearts and lives. You are the Church. By your absence you rob it of the life that God would give it.

#### ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

BISHOP PINKHAM was one of the speakers at the St. James' meeting of the C.M.S. last month.

FIFTY-ONE clergymen of the Church of Ireland died during 1891, eleven over the number of the previous year.

THE aggregate collections at the three C.M.S. meetings in May amounted to £350, besides a promise of £1000.

THE G.F.S. of Pennsylvania, held its sixth annual meeting on Friday May 13th. Eighteen branches being represented.

ON May 1st, temperance Sunday sermons were preached in 208 churches in the Diocese of London in behalf of the C.E.T.S.

THE Bishop of Ripon, has been compelled to abandon all engagements in his diocese. His medical adviser has insisted upon absolute rest.

THE Rev. Caleb Lord, who last year seceded from Wesleyanism to join the Church of England, has been appointed to the curacy of St. Paul's Church, Bradford.

THE *Churchman* (New York) says "the boy choir has come to represent in this country the highest type of distinctly Church music, and is no longer anywhere looked upon as an indication of extreme views or Ritualistic extravagances."

JUDGING from the numbers reported from time to time as confirmed by the Bishops of the P. E. Church in the United States, there must be enormous growth. In one number of the New York *Churchman*, that for May 21st, no less than 1851 persons are reported as confirmed.

THE Lenten offerings received by the Board of Missions and P. E. Church up to noon of Saturday, May 14th, (four weeks after Easter) were from 1,893 Sunday schools and amounted to \$52,110. The sum received for the same period last year was less than half the amount which has come to the date mentioned.

THE C.M.S. will probably soon be making it compulsory for their missionaries to include amongst the appurtenances and chattels they take abroad with them the ubiquitous machine called a bicycle. Its actual use for missionary purposes has been fully demonstrated. The Rev. R. Ashe writes from distant Uganda in loud praise of it.

A SPEAKER at the Church Club meeting in Chicago on May 5th, in giving a summary of the work of the Sunday Schools, said, that the per centage of children confirmed in the Church as a direct result of Sunday school work is much larger than the admittance to membership in the denominations from the ranks of their Sunday schools.

THE Rev. James M. Williams P.L.D. and his wife were confirmed by Bishop Brooks at the Church of the Ascension, Fall River, Mass., on April 30th. Dr. Williams has been in charge of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, Fall River, for the last 3 years. He will remain in Fall River for the present; and do missionary work in connection with the Church of the Ascension.

G.F.S.—The annual gathering of the Girl's Friendly Society of Massachusetts, held in Boston, May 8th, was a great success, there being as many as 1000 girls present. Tea was served at Winslow's Rink at 6.30 p.m., and at half past seven these 1000 girls filed into Trinity Church singing as they marched; and took their seats under banners of satin bearing the names of the Parochial Societies represented by them. The Bishop (Brooks), preached. There are now 1549 of the Society in Massachusetts alone.

THE Rev. Canon Taylor Smith of Sierra Leone, speaking at the C.M.S. meeting in London, Eng., last month, said there was in Sierra Leone a flourishing self-supporting church, which had its own missionary society. It was no uncommon thing to see from 1,000 to 1,400 English-speaking Africans in the Cathedral, and in another church in Free Town he had counted over 1,000 worshippers on a week-day morning in Holy Week at seven o'clock in the morning. In addition to a Grammar School, with 160 scholars of the better class, there were schools attached to twenty churches.

"THE Bishop of Durham," say the *Church of England Sunday School Teachers' Magazine*, "whenever he holds a Confirmation, makes at the same time a thorough inspection of the parish where it is held. He lately held a Confirmation at All Saints', Harton Colliery, South Shields, and in the afternoon he walked round the parish with the Vicar (the Rev. J. Robson), entered the National Schools, watched for a few moments the work of each class with great interest, addressed the children of each school collectively,

visited the workhouse, saying a few kind words to many of the officials and inmates individually, and finally addressed all the Church workers of the parish, and shook hands with them just before the Confirmation service, which was at 7.30 p.m.

THE will of the late William Astor leaves bequests to these institutions: To the Home for Respectable, Aged and Indigent Females of the City of New York, \$15,000; to Trinity Church, for charitable purposes, \$10,000; to the Woman's Hospital, \$10,000; to St. Luke's Hospital, Jacksonville, Fla., \$15,000. Astor Library receives \$50,000.

IT is said that when the so-called Relic of St. Anna, (the mother of the Virgin Mary) which the Church of Rome is now presenting to its people was proposed for veneration in the Church of St. Jean Baptiste in New York, Mgr. O'Reilly said to the crowds present "Think of it; we have here a part of the body of the grandmother of God! flesh of his flesh and bone of his bone! \*\*\* I will bless you with this relic! It is wonderful how reasonable men and women can be imposed upon and can submit to such blasphemous statements.

WHAT WE GO TO CHURCH FOR.—One of the clergy of this diocese, Mr. Reith, of East Greenwich, in announcing his departure, aptly quoted the valedictory words of his predecessor, 'The workmen change but the Master remains.' This has a true Church ring. The type of Churchmanship which allows people to talk such absurdities and impieties as, 'I attend M. So-and-So's church,' or to describe the fulfilment of the duty of public worship as, 'Sitting under Mr. So-and-So,' is an intensely individualistic religion, which, at its best, never rises above the level of Congregationalism. 'I don't suppose I shall attend the church after Mr. Blank leaves,' said one of these people the other day. 'Why not?' was the reply, 'Surely you don't go to worship Mr. Blank?'—*Rochester Diocesan Chronicle* (adapted).

AN appeal to *Evangelical Churchmen* in England for assistance for Wycliffe College, Toronto, appears in the *English Churchman* and *St. James' Chronicle* London, England, one of the organs of the ultra evangelical school. The appeal states the following reason for the existence of the College: "The origin of the College may be traced to the fact that there was no provision in many of the Canadian Dioceses for the training of candidates for Holy Orders in accordance with Evangelical principles. The growth of High Churchism was leading fast to the alienation of the clergy from the great majority of the laity. Wycliffe College was the first of the prayerful deliberations of those clergy and laity who saw that, if the Church of England was to grow in Canada, it was necessary to make systematic and efficient provision for theological education in harmony with Evangelical and Protestant convictions."

NEW YORK.—The Church in this city has grown not only by the addition of converts, but far more perceptibly by the extension of its field and the increase of separate parishes. This is noticeably the case in that portion of the city north of Central Park and south of the Harlem