

character of the performance has been sustained. It must be about 50 years ago that the Play was discovered by two Oxford students one of whom was the late Dean Lake, of Durham. Ten years later Stanley, afterwards Dean of Westminster, visited the place and wrote of the play. Thirty years ago, Canon Malcolm MacColl saw it and published his observations in the Times newspaper—just before the outbreak of the great war; and since that time all the world has gone. So far is history, we do not venture on prophecy.

#### The Boxers in China.

The Boxers in China are said to be very much the same as the Chauvins in France, or the Jingoos in England; but with differences such as might be expected in Chinese. There is no doubt that the movement is productive of a very real danger in the Chinese Empire. This anti-foreign and anti-Christian agitation has reached such an extent in the neighbourhood of Peking, that marines have been landed from American, Russian, British, German, French, Japanese, and Italian warships. There were obstacles raised by the Chinese Government to the progress of these troops to Peking, but the powers remained firm, and on June 1st the opposition was withdrawn, and the foreign forces proceeded to the several consulates at Peking. On the same day a strong edict was issued by the Chinese Government requiring the suppression of the Boxers. This is the result of firmness on the part of the Powers, for it has been apparent that hitherto the Chinese Government has been at least half-hearted in the measures adopted against the movement, and it has even been asserted that the reactionary Empress Dowager is at the head of the Boxers. The immediate danger is by no means past. Lately it seemed as though the missions in the vicinity of Peking, including the work of the American Board of Foreign Missions, and American Methodists, and Presbyterians, as well as the Church of England, were destined to severe treatment. It is also reported that four Belgian engineers have been killed and that injury may have been done to English missionaries. Next comes the rumour of the assassination of the Japanese and German ministers; and this, it is said, at the instigation of the Dowager Empress. Intervention cannot long be delayed.

#### Literary Reminiscences.

As far as we know, there is not any branch of literature which has extended so much in recent times as that which gives us the reminiscences of eminent contemporaries by literary men. Thus the Greville Memoirs, Crabb Robinson's Diary, J. C. Young's Journal, Mr. Russell's Collections and Recollections belong to this class. And quite recently another volume of a peculiarly interesting nature, belonging to the same class, has been published by Mr. John Hollingshead, one of the two survivors of a very illustrious band of men. Of all the brilliant band of young writers, who were drawn to the standard of

Charles Dickens, when he founded Household Words fifty years ago, Mr. Moy Thomas and Mr. John Hollingshead are the only ones who are still with us. Mr. Hollingshead has written a most interesting sketch of his old friends and early days of the magazine, while he has selected half-a-dozen stories and articles as the best and most characteristic works done for the magazine by some of the men whose names he mentions. The proprietors of Household Words gave this away with their issue on May 26th, as a memento of the completion of fifty years of life. With the supplement, Household Words will give away a portrait of Charles Dickens, surrounded by the characters in his books.

#### How Others See Us.

The English, as a people, are little addicted to boasting or even to self-examination; and it is well that sometimes they should know how they are regarded by their neighbours. Some time ago when the tide was only turning, a French newspaper took occasion to sum up the staying powers and virtues of the English; and, at the present moment it is most interesting to refer to its judgment: England has surprised us by the imperturbable constancy with which it has endured its first reverses, and the happy tenacity with which it has managed to repair them. We do not speak of the origin of this painful war. But setting aside this purely political aspect of the situation, it is but just not to refuse our consideration and praise to the qualities and virtues in the English nation revealed to everyone by this war. It is because of these qualities and virtues that they will have deserved the final victory, if, as becomes daily more and more probable, they succeed in obtaining it. The nation, it may be said, has repaired the faults of its Government. What must be the material resources of a people which has been able to organize an army of 200,000 men which only three months ago did not exist, and transport it with such good order, such rapidity, and almost without accident, to a point situated at more than 2,000 leagues from the metropolis? Nothing like this was ever beheld. But there is something greater still, and more worthy of our attention—namely, the conduct, or rather the political attitude of the English people itself during the months of trial which it has just passed through, and supported unflinchingly and without recrimination either against a Government without foresight or against generals fatally unfortunate. In France, every one of the rebuffs on the Modder or the Tugela would have brought about a Ministerial crisis and the dismissal, to say the least, of the generals involved. The English prudently postponed to a later day the inevitable inquiry and settlement of accounts. They recalled the American adage, "Never swop horses while crossing a stream." They did not suspect the good faith either of their Ministers or of their army chiefs. By choosing Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener to conduct a campaign more difficult and dangerous than it has been thought, they did

just what was necessary without calling their predecessors to account for the accidents of war. This quite Roman constancy of the English people has had the happiest influence on the moral temper of its armies and its chiefs.

#### THE ARCHDEACON OF YORK.

It was a well-merited tribute of respect that was paid in the Toronto Synod to the Venerable Archdeacon Boddy. Only two years ago, the Archdeacon of Peterborough reached the jubilee of his ordination, and received a vote of congratulation from the Synod of Toronto, together with an earnest prayer for his future prosperity and usefulness. This year, the Archdeacon of York—as the title goes—better known as Archdeacon Boddy, of St. Peter's, Toronto, reaches the same period of his ministerial history, and the whole Synod rose to their feet to do honour to the man who had lived among them a life of unfeigned piety, of quiet and steady devotion to duty; but a life also marked by great ability as a preacher and an administrator. We doubt whether there could be found in the roll of the Archdeacons of the English Church two men more representative of the peculiar characteristics and excellences of the English clergy. This great order has certain well-marked distinctions of a positive and negative character. In the first place, they are seldom what might be called showy, differing in this respect alike from the French abbe, and the Nonconformist preacher. By this remark, we are far from denying that our own clergy may learn something from those others. Yet we appreciate the quiet, undemonstrative fashion in which our own clergy go about their work. And our two Archdeacons are peculiarly men of this admirable type. They do not stand forth as prominent figures in the eyes of the public, but they are always at their posts, always on duty; and for every duty they are well equipped, whether they preach the Word in the pulpit, or pay visits to the sick, the needy, or the dying, or direct the efforts of district visitors and Sunday school teachers, or preside over meetings in their parishes. Everyone felt that the few words spoken by Professor Clark in moving in the Synod the vote of congratulation and sympathy with Archdeacon Boddy reflected the general sentiment entertained towards the venerable gentleman by clergy and laity alike. It was truly remarked that the Archdeacon, by his Christian spirit, by his tone and deportment as a gentleman, as well as by his great ability, had gained the respect and affection of the whole community. If, as the Professor remarked, all clergy and laity belonging to the same school of thought as the Archdeacon imitated his spirit, no persons and no parties would find fault with their strong and clear enunciation of their principles.

—When you have learned to say yes, to the will of God, you have learned the secret of blessing.