

ber of the *North American Review*, "I believe in the Congregational Church myself, because it comes the nearest to being *no Church at all*"; \* \* \* "and most resembles the Church which Christ founded." Consistency is so rare a thing in human nature that it may well be called a "jewel." No matter how weak or absurd the arguments and positions of a person may be, if that person is only consistent, whatever else we may think or feel, we cannot but regard such an one as a source of perennial refreshment. The contemplation of such an one is ever a source of joy, if not of downright delight. The Church, then, which Christ built upon a Rock, against which the gates of hell should not prevail, was no church at all, and in giving Himself for it, He gave Himself for that which is not.

Now this is really too bad; but it is what Congregationalism has made of it, and, therefore, in stating the case so fairly, and we must say dispassionately (for a Church which is no Church at all, is surely not worth contending for). Gail Hamilton is at least consistent with the theory with which the Separatists started out in forming their "ism"—not, indeed, of making a Church, new or old, but having no Church at all.

#### AMERICAN BUDGET.

The Rev. Geo. Williamson Smith, D.D., President of Trinity College, Hartford, has been elected Bishop of Easton, Md.

We grieve to announce the sudden and unexpected death of the Right Rev. Dr. John Freeman Young, Bishop of Florida, which sad event occurred in New York, on Sunday, the 15th ult.

The Rev. Frank L. Norton, D.D., has resigned his position as Dean of Albany, and has accepted the rectorship of St. Stephen's Church, Lynn, Mass.

John P. Howard, of Burlington, one of Vermont's most liberal Churchmen, died in London, England, on Saturday, Oct. 10. He was born in Burlington in 1814, and his gifts to his native city, during the last ten years, for educational, charitable and religious purposes, aggregate some \$275,000.

#### BRITISH BUDGET.

By the deaths of the Bishops of Manchester and Ely the Bishops of Chester and Southwell become entitled to seats in the House of Lords.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has held his primary visitation.

In consequence of the state of his health, the Dean of Chester contemplates spending the ensuing winter months at Bournemouth, in the south of England.

The British Government has decided to appoint a commission to inquire into the working of the Education Act and the position of voluntary schools.

The Church Missionary Society is organizing a set of extraordinary meetings to be held at home in at least fifty centres for the purpose of rousing the Church to greater energy in the evangelizing of the world.

Canon Wilberforce has returned to the deanery, Southampton, but the hoped-for improvement in his health has not taken place, and his medical advisers recommend further surgical treatment.

A movement has been started for presenting the Bishop of Dover with his portrait, as a testimonial from the clergy of the Diocese of Canterbury, in recognition of the faithful and

energetic manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of Bishop Suffragan since his appointment in 1870. In the previous year Dr. Parry had been collated by the Archbishop to the archdeaconry of Canterbury.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will shortly publish, under the title of "The Seven Gifts of the Spirit," the Archbishop of Canterbury's Primary Charge. The volume will include also a special address on Missions.

At a public meeting, attended by prominent Dissenters as well as Churchmen, in Manchester, it was resolved to erect a suitable memorial statue of Dr. Fraser in some conspicuous position in the city, any surplus funds to be applied as determined at a future meeting.

Dr. Westcott's name is mentioned in Cambridge University in connection with the vacant Bishopric of Ely, while the Bishop of Bedford is spoken of in Manchester circles.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

A truly royal figure has passed away in Alphonso, King of Spain. Brought up under influences the reverse of ennobling, he has displayed, since his accession to the throne, qualities of the loftiest heroism, which justly endeared him to his subjects, and won the admiration of the world. Modern history has furnished no nobler incident than that of the youthful monarch, himself enfeebled by disease, visiting his cholera-stricken people, and with his own hands ministering to their necessities. The purity of his private life was no less conspicuous than his courage and wisdom in the affairs of State. A devoted husband, a loving father, a brave soldier, a just ruler, and a true patriot, he merited the title of Alphonso the Good.

THE sudden and unexpected death of the Vice-President of the United States has awakened very general regret and sympathy. The late Mr. Hendricks had long been a prominent actor in American politics, and on two occasions he narrowly missed a nomination to the Presidency. He was universally respected for his great abilities, and for the consistency of his public career. In private life, he was a courteous, Christian gentleman, and a loyal Churchman. For many years he was Churchwarden of the largest parish in Indianapolis, and we believe that he held that office up to the time of his lamented death.

THE returns which have reached us of the British elections indicate a strong probability that the Conservative party will have a good working majority in the new Parliament. If this should be the case, it will be undoubtedly due, in a great measure, to the profound distrust of the Liberal leaders felt by many Churchmen who have hitherto voted with the Liberal party. The triumph of Lord Salisbury will be the triumph of the Church over her would-be spoliators, and we shall heartily rejoice in it as such.

THE manly, outspoken utterance of the venerable Father Dowd on the Riel agitation forms a refreshing contrast to the silence of his brethren in the priesthood, on which we animadverted in our last issue. The good father, who is universally respected in Montreal, shows a clear grasp of the situation,

and we earnestly hope that his weighty words of advice and warning will not be without effect in stemming the tide of hysterical and seditious talk which is degrading the Province of Quebec in the eyes of the world.

MR. RUSKIN, at the meeting of the Metaphysical Society, with an audacity of thought at which a man of science would be aghast, avowed his disbelief in the uniformity of nature, and affirmed that if he were told that the sun stood still, his natural reply would be: "A miracle that the sun stands still? Not at all. I always expected it would." Nothing can better illustrate the altered attitude which the Church now assumes towards science than the Bishop of Carlisle's comment on this statement:—"The standing still of the sun, of which Mr. Ruskin speaks so pleasantly, means the stopping of the revolution of the earth, for the motion of the sun is only the earth's revolution; consequently, what is called the standing still of the sun involves tremendous dynamical consequences, an utter disruption of everything upon the earth's surface, a return of chaos, or I know not what. \* \* \* If the sun did stand still, even for a moment, no one would be left to tell the tale." Contrast this with the action of the Inquisition, 250 years ago, and we may say of the Church, as Galileo then said of the earth,—"Yet it moves."

#### THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.

We note with pleasure and thankfulness to God the rapid decrease in the number of new cases of, and in the deaths from, this disease, which has so injuriously afflicted Montreal. Even amongst the French population, where it had its stronghold, it is rapidly disappearing, and we hope that very soon the secular newspapers, (which we think over did the work of reporting cases and arousing public attention), will be without this particular sensation-creating item. We regret, however, to find that the disease is spreading in some portions of the Lower Provinces. Some foolish persons would appear from the following item in the *Daily Witness* of Montreal to have tried to affix responsibility for the spread of this contagious disease upon the Montreal papers, and to such we commend the challenge of the *Witness*; if these stories are true now is the time to make \$1,000 easily, but we fancy that particular thousand will remain undisturbed in the coffers of the *Witness*: "One of the meanest of small-pox tricks is that adopted by certain Ontario newspapers, jealous of the great circulation of Montreal journals, getting up stories that people have caught the small-pox from Montreal newspapers. We shall give a prize of a thousand dollars to anyone who shall prove a case of small-pox to have been caught from any Montreal English newspaper, sent direct from the office of publication, and shall quadruple it if the paper is the *Witness*. We request those papers in Ontario which are above such tactics, and we presume they are the great majority, to circulate this offer. It will surely bring out any case there is." Out of a subscription list of 5,000 only, perhaps half a dozen of the *GUARDIAN*'s friends have ordered their papers discontinued on this account.