

Dominion Churchman.

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Frank Weston, Editor, Proprietor, & Publisher,
Address: P. O. Box 2640.
Office, No. 11 York Chambers, Toronto St., Toronto.
FRANKLIN B. BELL, Advertising Manager.

LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

Oct. 1. SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.—
Morning...Jeremiah 5. Ephesians 2.
Evening...Jeremiah 99; or 35 Luke 5, to 17.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1882.

THE Duke of Westminster is about to build, at a cost of £6,000, new schools for the parish of St. John, Chester.

Divine service, according to the rites of the Greek church, has been again celebrated at St. Raphael's, Bristol.

The Southwell Bishopric Fund has reached £85,296; of which Nottinghamshire has contributed £5,215; Staffordshire, £4,729; Shropshire, £4,865; Derbyshire, £3,280; Lincolnshire, £3,707.

On Tuesday, August 29th, the chief stone of the mission church of St. James, Marden Ash, High Ongar, Essex, was laid by Sir H. J. Selwin-Ibbetson. Several choirs from neighbouring parishes joined in the musical portions of the service.

In a recent discussion the Bishop of Manchester remarked that every one is now expected to declare himself a converted man. He thought it would be safer, and wiser, and more modest, if people would wait for others, seeing their lives would declare this for them.

The parish church of Longwood, near Huddersfield, has received the addition of a chancel, which was opened by Bishop Ryan for the Bishop of Ripon. The cost has been something more than £1,000. The reredos was originally the pulpit of Huddersfield parish church.

The church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, was reopened on Sunday the 8th inst., as the parish church of the united parishes, which were formerly served by the churches of St. Matthew, shortly to be demolished, and St. Vedast. The church dates from 1679, and has been restored in its integrity.

The first dedication festival of St. Augustine's Wisbech, was held on the 28th ult., the festival of St. Augustine, of Hippo, this church being perhaps the only one in England with that dedication. On the previous evening the vicar, the Rev. E. H.

Littlewood, preached, explaining the significance of the services that were to be held.

St. Paul's church, Preston, was reopened on the last Sunday in August, after extensive alterations. A spacious chancel has been built, with a vestry on one side large enough for clergy and choir, and on the other side an organ chamber. A font of white marble, placed in the baptistry, is the gift of Mr. John Huntingdon, of Cleveland, Ohio.

On the 1st inst, the Bishop of St. David's reopened the parish church of Llandawcke, near Langharne, which for a number of years has been in a ruinous condition. The parish is only 620 acres in extent, and is owned by a Nonconformist, the population being only twenty-one persons. The building is a Norman one, and has many objects of antiquarian interest.

A successful Musical Festival was held on the 31st ult., at Dunster Church, Somerset. The orchestra was composed of fifty instrumentalists. The pieces performed were Handel's overture to *Samson*, Mendelssohn's *Lauda Sion*, Beethoven's second Symphony, and a portion of the *Mount of Olives*. The Rev. Walter Hook conducted, and Mr. Rice, of Torquay, was the leader.

The Admiralty has willingly permitted the Thames Church Mission Society to distribute Bibles and religious tracts among the soldiers on their departure for Egypt. Up to August 12th ten thousand New Testaments were distributed by the society, twenty thousand tracts and two hundred and twenty seaman's rolls. The latter are publications on which are printed in bold, readable type, texts of Scripture, easily read some yards off.

On the last Friday in August, Bishop Frazer addressed a large assembly of police constables at the Albert Street police station, Manchester. He remarked at the outset that it was the anniversary of his birthday, he did not think he could spend it better than by engaging in such a service as that which had brought them together. Recognizing the peculiar position in which police constables were placed as regards the observance of the Lord's Day, he appealed to the men to avail themselves of the opportunity of attending church whenever they could.

On the 2nd inst., there was shipped to Zanzibar from London, a peal of twenty-five bells to be hung in the tower of Christ Church cathedral in that city. It is believed to be the first peal of two octaves chromatic, C to C, ever executed in England. Bishop Steere was much pleased with them when he saw and heard them on the occasion of his recent visit to England. The bell with "All Saints" engraved on it, and the text, "The Spirit and the Bride say, Come," was finished on the last day of August, and the Bishop died on the following Sunday, September 3rd.

A letter has been recently published, which was written by Mr. Gladstone some five years ago, to a gentleman in Manchester who had charge of a

Sunday afternoon Bible-class for men. He said:—"I will not dwell on the need of light from above, or the duty of seeking it, of being vigilant against the excuses of the private spirit, of cultivating humility, of bearing in mind that God has through all these long ages had a people whom He has led, that we are not the first who come to the wells of salvation opened by Christ and His Apostles. I will also assume that you are strict adherents of method in this great study, so as to make your results comprehensive. In this view, if you are Churchmen, or indeed, if you are not, I recommend you to consider whether the Table of Lessons, old or new, may not be of much use. Two things, however, especially I will commend to your thoughts. The first is this, Christianity is Christ, and nearness to Him and to His image is the end of all your efforts. Thus the Gospels, which continually present to us one pattern, have a kind of precedence among the books of Holy Scripture. I advise your remembering that the Scriptures have two purposes—one to feed the people of God in green pastures, the other to serve for proof of doctrine. These are not divided by a sharp line from one another, yet they are provinces on the whole distinct, and in some ways different. We are variously called to various works. But we all require to feed at the pastures and to drink at the wells. For this purpose the Scriptures are incomparably simple to all those willing to be fed. The same cannot be said in regard to the proof or construction of doctrine. This is a desirable work, but not for us all. It requires more external helps, more learning and good guides, more knowledge of historical development of our religion, which development is one of the most wonderful parts of all human history, and, in my opinion, affords also one of the strangest demonstrations of its truth, and of the power and goodness of God."

At the age of eighty, the Rev. Pascoe Grenfell Hill, B.A., rector of the united parishes of St. Edmund the king and martyr, Lombard street, and St. Nicholas Acons, recently departed this life. He was chaplain in the Navy from 1836 to 1845, and obtained medals for his services at the bombardment of Acre in 1840. A most interesting book written by him, "Fifty days on board a Slave-ship," gives his experience on board a captured slave-ship. In 1833 he was appointed to the rectory in Lombard street. There, as a "High Churchman," he set himself to solve the question how a church in the midst of a busy city, and with few resident parishioners, could be filled. Within his parish were firms and merchants wealthier than in any other parish in the kingdom. He could command millionaires as his churchwardens, but when the usual hour of divine service came they were far away in their west end mansions or country seats. The first thing Mr. Hill set himself to do was to repair the interior of the church, so as to make it fit for divine worship. The door in Lombard street was always left open in the day time, and many passers by were induced to take refuge in this quiet sanctuary for a few minutes of prayer in the midst of their toil and worry. Services, short and bright, were held at midday, when city men have a little spare time. These mid-day services formed the most successful feature of the work of the parish.