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TORONTO, THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 1890.

REV. PROF. WM. CLARK, LL.D. Editor.

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AGENT.—The Rev. W. H. Wadleigh is the only gentleman trav-
elling authorized to collect subscriptions for the CANADIAN
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Address all communications,
FRANK WOOTTEN,
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Lessons for Sundays and Holy Days.

June 22.—3 SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
Morning.—1 Sam. 2 to v. 27. Acts 5. 17.
Evening.—1 Sam. 3; or 4 to v. 19. 2 Peter 2.

THE TORONTO SYNOD.—The Synod of the Diocese
of Toronto has been presided over by the Lord
Bishop with his wonted ability and fairness. The
Bishop has been tried at least as much as in former
years by the loquacity of some of the members of
the synod; but he has held the balances with per-
fect judiciousness. It is becoming a serious question
whether this kind of assembly is the best for pro-
moting the interests of the Church; but at least
no one can question the conduct of the President.

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.—Many readers of the
CANADIAN CHURCHMAN, may have heard that the
Church of England Woman's Auxiliary to Missions
are desirous of sending two of their members, (Mrs.
Cummings, Diocesan Secretary, and Miss Pater-
son, Dorcas Secretary), to visit a number of the
Indian Schools and Reserves from Algoma to the
Pacific Coast. The Hon. Mr. Dewdney has
written to offer all assistance in his power, by
letters to the Indian agents, etc., to further what
he "considers a most excellent idea, and one
which will no doubt bear good fruit." The Bishop
has given his cordial approval of the scheme, which
we feel will prove of incalculable benefit to Mission
work. The description given from personal ob-
servation of the needs of the people, of the work
of our missionaries, and the difficulties they have
to contend with, cannot fail to arouse the interest
of people who now stand aloof, in the welfare of
their fellow-men, and stimulate to greater zeal
those already interested. All monies raised by the
Woman's Auxiliary are already designated by the
donors. The yearly membership fee (10 cts.) of each
member just suffices for postage, printing, etc., we
have, therefore, no fund from which to draw for
travelling expenses. One-half the amount needed
has already been given by one of the ladies; we
therefore ask all Churchmen and Churchwomen
interested in the great cause of Missions, to send
donations towards this fund, to our Diocesan
Treasurer, Miss Holland, 346 Spadina Avenue.

OUR FUNERAL CUSTOMS.—Sir James Whitehead,
Bart., has addressed the following letter to the
Hon. Secretary of the Church of England Funeral
Reform Association:—"In my opinion the present
system of burying the dead and ostentatiously
making a display—a profession—of grief is hideous,
unduly expensive, and unchristianlike. I do not
know anything more repulsive to me than a sign-
board with the words 'Funerals performed,' and I
can conceive nothing more shocking than the
levity frequently shown by the men who do the
'performance'—a levity which may frequently
be seen at the graveside, and also after the inter-
ment, when the 'performers' repair to the public-
house to drink. The present custom also entails
a serious cost to many who can ill afford it. The
artisan classes pay a small sum weekly into a
burial club, and thus prepare for an expense which
is to a great extent unnecessary, while the money
would be more usefully employed by providing
necessaries for the bereaved families. There are
also numerous genteel, but poor people, who, to
keep up appearances, are constrained to incur
debts from which they do not free themselves for
years." If such words can be written of the state
of things in England, what would the writer say
of our ways in Canada? There are many things
which are described as blots upon our Christian
civilization; but there are few indeed which are
so disgraceful as our funeral customs. The osten-
tation and wasteful extravagance displayed in
connexion with them are perfectly scandalous.
Poor people are almost forced to incur heavy debts
in the burial of their dead lest they should seem to
show less respect than their neighbours to the
friends who are taken from them. The Reform
must begin with the richer classes. They need
not be under the suspicion of meanness, nor of that
something worse, poverty. Let there be a stern
repression of all needless show and a cutting down
of the numbers present at a funeral. Let men and
women be followed to the grave by members of
their own families, or at least by intimate friends,
and not by multitudes of comparative strangers,
who are often there because they cannot help it.
Can the Churches do nothing in this sore need?

WAYS AND MEANS.—The discussion which took
place in the Toronto Synod on the assessment of
the parishes for the purposes for the Synod, was
a very good (or bad) illustration of the manner in
which the time of Synods is wasted. The case,
to ordinary human beings, was a very simple one.
The Executive Committee, aided by the Synod
itself, had gone on increasing the working ex-
penses, year after year, until they had run up a
very considerable debt. Year after year, the Com-
mittee whose business it is to fix the amount of
assessment required to meet the liabilities of the
Synod, had remonstrated with the majority who
were spending so lavishly money which they did
not possess. If, however, the money was borrow-
ed and spent, it was clearly necessary that it should
be repaid. Finding remonstrances in vain, the
Committee proceeded to impose an assessment of
2½ per cent. upon the parishes instead of 1 per
cent., as before. In accordance with universal
experience, those who had not hesitated to spend
the money declared themselves to be justly aggr-
rieved at being expected to pay it. Such an assess-
ment, they declared, was not at all necessary, in
order to meet the needs of the Synod. That might

be perfectly true; but it was necessary in order to
pay the debts of the Synod. It is very much as
though a householder should run up his weekly
bills to twenty-five dollars, and on looking them
over should gravely declare that five dollars had
been wasted on things totally unnecessary, and
that therefore the amount of five dollars should be
deducted from the sum to be paid! Of course, all
this became evident after a weary debate; but this
did not bring back the two hours wasted, nor quite
make the amends for the tried patience of the long-
suffering silent members of the Synod.

OCCUPATIONS OF WOMEN.—It is a little curious,
says a correspondent of the *Spectator* (London),
that the occupations for which educated women
are most suited, physically and mentally are
exactly those which they are only able to obtain
with the utmost difficulty. Whilst a good many
legitimate objections might be raised against the
employment of ladies as reporters, surely nothing
can be urged against their fitness and capability
for being competent librarians; and yet not a
single free library in London (with the exception
of that at the People's Palace) is managed by
ladies. The essentials for the successful manage-
ment of a large library being clearheadedness, at-
tention to detail, orderly arrangement, and meth-
odical discipline, are exactly those which are re-
quired in the management of a large household,
in the organization of which women are admittedly
superior to men. So much for the business capa-
cities. As regards the intellectual requirements
—knowledge of modern languages and the classics,
an intimate acquaintance with current literature,
and a fair amount of general culture, scholarship,
and education—surely women can hold their own
in these respects. Moreover, as women are con-
tent to accept lower salaries than men, a far higher
class of librarians could be obtained at exactly the
same rate of wages.

ST. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—The meetings and
services held in connexion with St. Andrew's
brotherhood, a report of which will be found in
another column, were most successful and inter-
esting. Remembering that we have heard of
the religious condition of young men in the United
States, we cannot but rejoice that this Society
should have originated among the Churchmen of
that country. The object of the brotherhood is
the spread of Christ's Kingdom among young men,
the rule being that every member should offer
prayer every day for God's blessing on the brother-
hood, and that each one should endeavour every
week to bring one person under the influence of
the Gospel. We sincerely wish all prosperity to
this excellent Society, and trust that its members
may be greatly increased in Toronto, and through-
out the Dominion at large.

THE NEW BISHOP OF ST. ALBAN'S.—The *London
Spectator* is not quite satisfied with the appointment
of Mr. Festing to St. Alban's, believing that it has
been brought about by aristocratic influence. The
Guardian, on the contrary, believes that the appoint-
ment is one that does honour to the Prime Minister,
and will be of service to the Church. He is less
known than men commonly are when they are raised
to the Episcopate, but in the order of ecclesiastical
promotion it is neither for nor against a man that
he already holds a conspicuous position, so long as