

Dominion Churchman.

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LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

May 8. THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER:
Morning. Numbers 22. St. Luke 24, v. 13.
Evening. Numbers 22, or 25. I Thessalonians 5.
15. FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER:
Morning. Deuteronomy 4, to v. 23. St. John 4, 31.
Evening. Deut. 4, v. 23 to 31, or 5. I Timothy 4.
22. FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER:
Morning. Deuteronomy 5. St. John 7, v. 25.
Evening. Deuteronomy 9, or 10. Titus 1.
26. THE ASCENSION DAY:
Morning. Daniel 7, v. 9 to 15. St. Luke 24, v. 44.
Proper Psalms: 8, 15, 21. Athanasian Creed.
Evening. 2 Kings 2, to v. 16. Hebrews 4.
Proper Psalms: 24, 47, 108.
29. SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION:
Morning. Deuteronomy 30. St. John 11, v. 17 to 47.
Evening. Deut. 34, or Joshua 1. Heb. 4, v. 14 & 5.

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1881.

THE Ely Diocesan Conference has been fixed for the 21st and 22nd of June.

The Dean of St. Paul's address had received on the 7th ultimo 4,155 names. Signatures were still being sent.

The Rev. W. Ismay, of Eckington, Pershore, desires to form in his parish some kind of an association, which may help the newly confirmed to become communicants at once, and asks for the rules of similar societies.

The Church in the United States during the past year has grown at the rate of six per cent. The Baptists, Methodists, and Congregationalists in that country have increased during the same period only one and a-half per cent., the Presbyterians less than three-quarters per cent.

The suggestion made by the Lord Chancellor that the bailiffs in possession of Mr. Green's furniture at the Miles Platting rectory should be withdrawn by mutual arrangement, has been carried out. The sheriff's officer discharged his men from possession, took the keys of the house to Mrs. Green, and gave her full possession of the rectory and its contents.

In the circular issued by the Bishop of Toronto to his clergy previous to his departure, his lordship calls attention to the observance of Holy Thursday, May 26th, throughout the Anglican communion, as a Day of Intercession on behalf of the great cause of missions. He trusts that its observance this year will be marked by an earnest and general interest and a larger liberality in the contribution of alms which should accompany prayer. The offertories on this occasion will, as usual, be devoted to the Algoma Diocesan Fund.

Lord Dufferin has been appointed ambassador at Constantinople.

We quote from a contemporary:—"The Bishop of Liverpool wants to have the choir of the pro-Cathedral wear violet cassocks. One of the canons threatens to resign if the choir wear cassocks of any colour."—Truly, the leading "Evangelicals" in England are becoming pretty well "advanced" in ritual.

The following is from a letter sent from Dallas, Texas, U. S., dated April 16th, 1881. "Summer weather is here, and I assure you it is hot. Our church is beautifully decorated for Easter. The services here are quite as good as in Holy Trinity, Toronto. Our rector is a thorough Churchman. Everything is in bloom, roses, &c."

The Times says that Mr. Gladstone's speech, when he brought forward his Land Bill, deserves to be numbered among the greatest of his oratorical achievements. The landlords find fault with a scheme which commits the functions of valuers and purchasers to the same body. The tenants and their sympathizers commend the bill and the government that introduces it.

A clerical and lay council in the diocese of Worcester having memorialized Bishop Philpott to call together his clergy and laity for mutual counsel and co-operation, his lordship has replied, that the matter had received his close and anxious attention, but that he failed to see the advantages of such meetings, adding:—"One fatal objection at once presenting itself to my mind is the difficulty of devising any method of inviting and securing the attendance of the laity, which would invest resolutions passed by the conference with the respect and confidence due to the united expression of the opinion of the laity of the diocese." He says that if ecclesiastical synods were revived, satisfactory rules might be made and satisfactory means provided for giving effect to the resolutions passed by them.

In a long and able article in the Guardian on "Wesley and Wesleyanism," the writer says—"Dr. Rigg is emphatic in his exhortations to Churchmen that they should cease to urge on Wesleyans a reunion with the Church which they have left. 'Such a return is,' he says, 'quite hopeless.' We would urge him and Wesleyan champions to abandon the no less hopeless attempt to vindicate Wesleyanism on the principles of Wesley. The principles of their founder were always from first to last uniformly and energetically 'Church;' he vowed so himself and we must believe him. His departures from those principles were not so many or so wide as Wesleyans try to persuade us, and they were due partly to an overweening sense of the importance of his own work—to an opinion or conviction that every thing must give place to its permanence and progress; and partly to a weak yielding in his latter days to the importunities and flatteries of friends." The celebrated sermon on Hebrews v. 4 was omitted for a number of years in the expurgated, official editions of his sermons and works.

A French archaeologist, M. Tarry, who has been carrying on work in connection with the proposed trans-Sahara railway, has discovered a town as completely buried in the sand as was Pompeii in the ashes of Vesuvius.

The worst accounts of the earthquake at Chios were in no respect exaggerated. It turns out that the island has been overtaken by a calamity which has few parallels in ancient or modern times. A call for help to the sufferers has been made, and will no doubt be extensively responded to.

The church of St. Cawrdaf, Abererch, near Pwllheli, North Wales, has been restored at considerable expense by Mr. Owen Evans, of Broom Hall. Sermons were preached by the Bishop of Bangor in English, and in Welsh by Archdeacon Evans and by the Rev. D. Howell, Vicar of Wrexham.

Canon Miles is making an attempt to get St. Raphael's church, Bristol, reopened. He offers an endowment of £100 a year, and a site for a parsonage house, on condition that the island on which the church stands be made a separate ecclesiastical district. The Bishop, as might be expected, objects to the arrangement.

According to the latest advices the contest for the chaplaincy of St. Saviour's, Southwark, continues unabated. Churchmen, Radicals, Jews, and Liberationists take part in the struggle. The candidates have been the Rev. Dr. Wainwright, the Rev. Mr. Thompson, and the Rev. R. L. T. Cloquet; all of whom claim to be "ardent Protestants and Evangelicals." A fourth candidate has recently come forward, the Rev. Charles Chapman, who refuses to canvass the parish, or influence the parishioners in any way; and states his belief that "the election should rest upon the distinctive merits of the candidate alone, for that the sacred office is much too sacred for any such extraneous measures."

On the Feast of the Annunciation, Mrs. Olivier laid the foundation stone of the new church of St. Thomas, Derby, which is to be a memorial of her father Archdeacon Hill. It will accommodate six hundred persons, and will be erected at the sole cost of the Rev. Alfred and Mrs. Olivier; and is intended to accommodate a district in the parish of St. James, which was founded by Mr. Olivier, and in which the sum of twenty thousand pounds has been raised already, for the church, schools, and parsonage. The schools are the largest in the county, the average attendance last year in the day schools being about a thousand, and in the Sunday schools about eleven hundred. Ten full services (nine with sermons) are held every Sunday in the district of St. James's, where they are conducted by four clergymen, and four licensed lay readers. The benefice is only worth £200 a year. Three other new churches are in contemplation in the town of Derby.—Canadian churchmen must bear in mind that all this is in connection with a church which some of her internal foes would have us believe is on the decline!