

Atwood, also being present in the evening. The services were heartily rendered throughout. The choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. H. Stuart, choir master, and assisted by Miss Boulton, furnished excellent music. A reception was given by the ladies in the parish room on Monday afternoon, at which a goodly number of the congregation were present and met Bishop Baldwin and the visiting clergy, among whom were Rev. Deacon, of Stratford, Rural Dean, of Perth, Rev. Mr. Gardiner, of Palmerston, Rev. Mr. Wright, of Millbank, Rev. Mr. Asbury and Rev. Mr. Parke. In the evening the church was again filled to the doors, when a confirmation service was held, 34 candidates presenting themselves and receiving the apostolic rite of "laying on of hands." The bishop's address to the candidates was very impressive. Altogether the opening services were highly successful, and the rector and congregation are to be congratulated upon having a church in which to meet for worship, which is a credit to them, and which, with the divine blessing, will tend to increased prosperity.—*The Standard.*

BRIEF MENTION.

The London markets have been flooded with pearls since the outbreak of the plague at Bombay.

In Asia the average number of inhabitants per square mile is 48; in Africa, 15; in America, 8; in Australia, 1.

A French chemist has invented a blue soap which renders unnecessary the use of bluing in laundry work.

The famous great organ that was built for the Boston Music Hall 34 years ago was sold this week for \$1,500. Its original cost was \$60,000.

The contract for the building of the new rectory for St. Paul's congregation, Rantfrew, has been awarded to George Thacker for \$1,825.

A woman in San Francisco asked for the privilege of caring for the lepers in the city pest house. She offered to serve without compensation.

While ploughing at Hemsby, Mr. Woolston turned up a celt or stone axe head. It was submitted to Sir John Evans, an eminent authority, who dates it at 1,000 B. C.

General Wallop is the name of the secretary of the British National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

In the days of Queen Elizabeth it was customary to strew green rushes on the uncarpeted floor of the actors' retiring-room in the theatres, hence the term "green-room."

The world's agriculture occupies the attention of 280,000,000 men, represents a capital of \$24,000,000,000, and has an annual product of \$20,000,000,000.

Rev. Archibald E. Liott, Carleton Place, has been elected to the office of Rural Dean in place of Mr. Nesbitt, in ill-health.

The Duchess of Teck spends more than \$5,000 a year in religious and philanthropic works. This sum is just one fifth the annual amount granted her by Parliament.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of Ontario Diocese will be held in Kingston, June 9th, 10th and 11th. Hospitality is being arranged for; a special offering is to be presented for the mission fund of the diocese.

Last year 582,086 persons visited the National Gallery in London, a daily average of 2,843, a daily increase of 93 over the year before; 29,607 persons saw the pictures on the 20 Sundays during which the gallery was kept open.

Nearly 70 round towers, from 30 to 135 feet high, are found in various parts of Ireland. They are believed to have been used in the ceremonies of fire worship.

Rev. E. H. M. Baker, Bath, is taking two months holidays, owing to ill health. Revs. W. Lewin and F. D. Woodstock have been officiating for him. Mrs. Baker, on her removal to Guelph with her son, was presented with a gold badge and \$25 for woman's auxiliary life membership.

The Tower of Babel at Babylon was composed of eight square towers, one upon the other, the pile being 660 feet high. Babylon was a square, 15 miles on each side, the walls being 87 feet thick and 370 feet high.

St. Paul's, Halifax, under the Rev. Dyson Hague, M.A., continues to hold a foremost place in the Canadian Church in regard to its contributions to missionary and charitable objects. The total revenue last year was \$13,484.07. Of this sum \$8,308.08 went for church expenses and renovation, and of the remainder, \$3,494.05 to missions, and \$1,681.94 to charitable objects.

The Bishop of Natal (Dr. Hamilton Baynes) is still seriously ill, and for a time at least his life was in great danger. He is now, however, making favourable progress towards recovery.

British and Foreign.

Mr. W. T. Best, the well-known organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool, is dead.

A reredos is about to be erected in Bristol Cathedral in memory of Dr. Ellicott's long episcopate.

The Very Rev. Dean Farrar has just published a new book entitled "The Bible, its Meaning and Supremacy."

Macclesfield parish church is to be restored at an estimated cost of £13,630. The work will be done by Sir Arthur Blomfield.

The Rev. Canon Tristram has returned home from Jerusalem and is making favourable progress towards complete recovery.

Dr. A. H. Mann has been appointed organist to the University of Cambridge in the place of Dr. Garrett, who recently deceased.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales re opened the Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral, which has recently been restored, on the 29th ult.

Canon Taylor Smith was consecrated Bishop of Sierra Leone in St. Paul's Cathedral on Ascension Day, by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lord Tollemache has undertaken to defray the whole cost of restoring the chancel of Acton church, Nantwich. The cost of this work will be £1,500.

The Rev. F. J. Charasse, M.A., principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, has been appointed Lecturer in Pastoral Theology at Cambridge for the year 1897-98.

Prebendary H. M. Villiers has been elected a Proctor in Convocation for the diocese of London, having secured a majority of votes in both the archdeaconsries.

Sir Henry Irving read Lord Tennyson's "Becket" in the restored Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral on the 31st ult., for the benefit of the Thirtieth Centenary Fund.

A church, dedicated to St. Martin, is about to be erected in Roath, S. Wales, as a memorial to the late Bishop Smythies. It will cost £10,000 and will be built to accommodate 1,000 people.

The Rev. R. J. Wilson, Warden of Keble College, died at Oxford recently, after an illness of very short duration. The Lord Bishop of Rochester officiated at the funeral, which was largely attended.

The Rev. W. Hay Aitken has been holding a seventeen days mission at Lurgan, Ireland. The parish church at that place, which is the largest parish church in Ireland, was packed nightly to its utmost capacity.

The Lord Bishop of Liverpool (Dr. Ryle) entered upon his 82nd year on the 10th ult. He is still vigorous in health and able to perform all the duties appertaining to his office. He is the oldest bishop on the bench.

The Rev. A. Bromley Crane, a Roman Catholic priest, was recently received, by the direction of the Bishop of Worcester, into the Anglican Communion in the church of St. John, Kidderminster, by the Rev. L. H. Postgate.

The Rev. H. B. Hodgson, Vicar of Thorubury, Gloucestershire, has been appointed to the vicarage of Berwick-upon-Tweed by the Bishop of Newcastle. He took a first-class at Oxford and has earned for himself a great reputation as a successful parish priest.

The death is announced of the Ven. Archdeacon H. H. Dobinson, who was the secretary of the Niger Mission (C.M.S.). He was for some time after he left Oxford curate of St. James', Hartlepool, and volunteered for missionary work in 1889. He died at the early age of 33.

Lord Amherst, who is the Grand Master of the Freemasons of Kent, has presented an east window, on behalf of the Freemasons of the county, to the restored Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral. It is truly noble in its proportions and is a very fine specimen of high art.

Nonconformist congregations throughout the Empire will be represented by thirty ministers of religion belonging to different denominations, on

June 22nd next. They will have places assigned to them on the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral, and will therefore be present at the special service to be held thereon on Jubilee day.

The Rt. Rev. J. F. Peacocke, Bishop of Meath, has been elected to the vacant archbishopric of Dublin. The election has been confirmed by the Irish Bench of Bishops. The Ven. Archdeacon Scott, Vicar of Bray, secured a large number of votes in the contest, but was finally defeated after several votes had been taken.

The magnificent service of gold Communion plate, which Mr. E. T. Horley is about to present to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral, in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, consists of ten pieces, viz., four chalices, two flagons and four patens, and represents 300 ounces of the purest gold. The quality of the gold is 18 carat.

The Archbishop of York recently consecrated the new portion of a church which has been erected, at a cost of nearly £3,000, at Wales, a village between Sheffield and Worksop. In the course of their work the builders discovered a Saxon font and other evidences that the church is a very ancient one. It is intended, as soon as possible, to erect a chancel and tower.

The "Sons of the Clergy" festival, which is an annual event, took place in St. Paul's Cathedral on the 12th ult. The Primate and many of the bishops and clergy were present, as well as the Lord Mayor and sheriffs of London, who attended in their robes of office. The great building was thronged on this occasion from end to end, and the musical part of the service was exceedingly fine. The Dean of Worcester preached the sermon.

Jersey City, May 25.—Boy Choir for Methodists.—At the Simpson Methodist Episcopal church, Jersey City Heights, the new pastor, Rev. Robert M. Aylesworth, has introduced a number of innovations in conducting the religious service which have startled the old-fashioned Methodists, who comprise a large portion of the congregation. The pastor is supported by the larger and younger element in the congregation, and he says the innovations have come to stay. The new services are in marked contrast to the old, and include responses, chanting by a boy choir and other features resembling the Episcopal ritual.

Correspondence.

All Letters containing personal allusions will appear over the signature of the writer.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

N. B.—If any one has a good thought, or a Christian sentiment, or has facts, or deductions from facts, useful to the Church, and to Churchmen, we would solicit their statement in brief and concise letters in this department.

A Visible Head of the Church on Earth.

In his inquiry for a Visible Head of the Church on Earth, Mr. Ffrench surely forgets the commission to the continuous Apostolate, whom our Lord sent as His Father had sent Him, with the promise of His constant presence and guidance all the days to the end of the world. So St. Ignatius says that the bishop stands in the place of Christ. St. Cyprian, I think, puts the case best, when (*De unitate Ecclesiae*) he speaks of the Visible Head of the Church on Earth, the Vicar of Christ, being the Episcopate, whose members, though many, hold their office in undivided co-partnership (*in solidum*)—so the Oriental Church also explains the point. I write parted from my books, which must be my apology for want of exact references and haziness in quotation.

Guelph.

W. DOUGLAS.

They Have no Business There.

SIR.—As the time for the annual meeting of the Synod of Toronto is now approaching, might I through your paper draw the attention of our people to what I consider a mistake, both on the part of him who permits it and of them who through inconsiderate rivalry perpetrate and perpetuate it? In the above generalities I allude to the foolish and unornamental crowding of the bishop's platform during the sittings. I ask who has a right to a seat there? First, the bishop of the diocese, as speaker of the house, who, if I had my way, would be seated on a dais, "Primus super omnes," first over all. On