

Committed to his Charge

crosses still gathering moss, but who might permit a little livelier service ; one safely weighted with a young wife, and four babies under five years of age. He was an Englishman, much older than his wife, clever, said to have been rather erratic, was tired of a mastership in a school and was ready for a living. Slowford was prosperous in a modest way and offered sixteen hundred a year for a suitable man, and felt it was doing handsomely by him. The church was supposed to be in thorough order, the organ had two manuals and over twenty stops, the choir was unlike most choirs, inasmuch as it had existed with the one membership and without any serious civil wars for many years ; and last, but not least, the Rectory was comparatively new and well appointed after Slowford notions. The Reverend Thomas Huntley was "called" ; the Bishop was interviewed, and persuaded that a man from another diocese was necessary. The Guild adopted the method of "calling," and a wise Bishop knows his own Guild.

The new man came, and dismay followed. He insisted upon alterations and improvements in the house ; he commented upon the unfinished