

THE HISTORY OF CHURCH PEWS.

—In the early days of the Anglo-Saxon and of some of the Norman churches, a stone bench running around the interior of the church except the east side, was the only sitting accommodation for its members and visitors. In 1019, the people are represented as sitting on the ground or standing. A little later the people introduced low, three-legged stools promiscuously over the church. Soon after the Norman conquest, wooden seats were introduced. In 1387, a decree was issued in regard to the wrangling for seats, so common, that none should call any seat in church his own except noblemen and patrons, each entering and holding the one he first found. From 1530 to 1540, seats were more appropriate, a cross-bar guarding the entrance bearing the initial letters of the owner. In 1608, galleries were introduced. And as early as 1640, pews were arranged to afford comfort by being raised or cushioned, while the sides around were so high as to hide the occupants—a device of the Puritans to avoid being seen by the officers, who reported those who did not stand when the name of Jesus was mentioned.

MAINE.—The late Mrs. Bradbury, of Augusta, gave by her will to St. Mark's Home in that city, the interest of \$3,000 for ten years, and the principal when such an endowment is secured as will make the home a permanence. She also left \$50 annually for ten years to St. Mark's Guild, and to the Howard Benevolent Society, and with \$5,000 endowed a free bed in the Maine General Hospital.

GERMAN MISSION.—Church work among the Germans in New York has received a substantial impetus from the gift by Mrs. Lispenard Stewart, of that city, of \$5,000 toward the foundation of a fund, to be known as the Wm. C. Rhineland Foundation, to be held in trust by the rector, wardens, and vestry of Grace Church, and from which the annual income is to be applied to mission work among the German population. This gift is a memorial of the person whose name it bears, and is made by his daughter.

MR. D. C. LATHBURY writes to the *Pall-Mall Gazette*—"As I find that some of my friends are under the impression that I have become a Roman Catholic, will you kindly allow me to say that it is not the fact. It is true that my name has been printed in a pamphlet entitled *Rome's Recruits*, but between this and being a member of the Roman Catholic Church there is, if I may judge by my own experience, no necessary connection."

On the 9th of March two Europeans and fourteen natives were ordained at Edeyengoody, Tinnevely, by Bishop Caldwell. One European and two natives were connected with the Church Missionary Society, and one European and twelve natives with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Of these, nine natives connected with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and one native connected with the Church Missionary Society, were ordained deacons, thereby increasing the number of the native clergy in Tinnevely by ten. Bishop Sargent preached the ordination sermon. The whole of