

Churchfolk here are greatly exercised about S. P. G. In 1872 the Society reduced their grant of £2000., given in 1868, to £1200. In 1882 all help was withdrawn. The consequence was, that the Indian mission at Victoria has been suspended. The mission to the Tah Kahts on the West Coast, an extensive field of usefulness untouched by any other religious body, was also suspended; and the Romans came in and have carried it on ever since. The mission at Carriboo, a mining district, was also suspended. In the year when help to the Island was finally withdrawn, an additional grant of £500 was made to the Madagascar mission. No doubt the action of the Committee was carefully weighed, and the claim of the heathen in the Indian Ocean seemed more pressing than those of the heathen on the Pacific. Their case is not before me, and I pass no judgment on it. But, beyond dispute, S. P. G. is a Colonial even before it is a missionary Society. At any rate the Church has always been apt so to regard it, and this is constantly urged as a plea for its claim to exceptional support.

There is an important Cathedral in Victoria, magnificently commanding the city and harbour; two other Churches well served and attended; there is also a flourishing Church at Esquimalt. Comox and Nanaimo have both of them Churches. I myself visited a pretty Church and parsonage and schools at Cedar Hill; and for a total population of 22,000, widely scattered, there are twelve clergymen. Certainly Victoria would open her eyes if she were described as pauperised; and it is possible that she ought to do more than she is prepared to do for her local needs, out of such resources as she possesses. She has a great future, and if God is to prosper her, let her honour Him with her substance in the way He loves best. Be this as it may, the Gospel Propagation Society, in its well-intentioned zeal to be a missionary society to the heathen, must not forget the less romantic, but more paramount, duty of ministering to her own English heathen and the tribes dependent on them, if any. 'This ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.'—A. W. R.—*Church Bells.*

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.

SALE OF WORK.—On Wednesday Nov. 16th the Bishops-close Ladies' working party had a sale of useful articles for the benefit of the Mission Fund. The proceeds handed to the Diocese Treasurer were \$225. The following Ladies presided at the tables. Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Hills, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. R. Ward, Mrs. Blaiklock, Mrs. E. Johnson, Mrs. Scriven, Miss Drake and Miss Rose. Jenms.