

**Paraphratic.**

The Bishop of Liverpool stated at the Congress that there were more skeptics in proportion to population in the West End of London than in the East.

Those who defer their gifts to their death-bed, says Bishop Hall, do as good as say, "Lord, I will give Thee something when I can keep it no longer." Happy is the man who is his own executor.

A Bombay telegram of Saturday says all the members of the Salvation Army, having persisted, contrary to the orders of the police, in marching in procession through the native town, have been arrested and imprisoned.

The Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral this year was attended by one of the largest congregations ever seen within the walls of the building, the vast assemblage being almost wholly composed of working men and their families.

M. Renan's only child is about to be married to M. Psichari, a young man of Greek parentage, resident in Paris. Middle Renan made her first communion several years ago in the French Reformed Church. The bridegroom's religion is not stated.

Mr. Herbert Spencer remarks upon the easy-going ways of Americans and their cheerfulness in enduring petty annoyances without grumbling. It is something unaccountable to the Englishman. He stands up for his rights much more strenuously than does his American cousin.

The Hon. C. L. Wood suggested at the recent Congress at Derby the permission of the alternative use of Edward VI.'s First Liturgy (singularly enough the same suggestion occurs in "Wilson's *Sacra Privata*). The *Guardian* is non-committal, but not absolutely unwilling.

Christ Church, Boston, possesses a "Vinegar Bible," given to it one hundred and sixty-nine years ago, by George II. The aims basons, as well as the communion service, are solid silver, and were also gifts of the same king. The church preserves its high pews and pulpits, and has about it an air of antiquity.

A writer in the *North American Review*, states that "one and one-fourth more money is expended annually in funerals in the United States than the Government expends for public school purposes. Funerals cost annually more money than the combined gold and silver yield of the country in the year 1880." These figures do not include the investments in cemeteries.

A new sect is gaining ground in Finland, having for its fundamental principle the reversal of all ordinary ideas of government, and establishing all or more than the most enthusiastic advocates of "woman's rights" ever pleaded for. With them the woman is the priest of the family, and the husband undertakes to confess to her once a week. A similar sect, called the Purists, exists in Siberia.

It is stated that the Mayor's fund for the extinction of the vicar's rate at Coventry has now reached £3,570; but a circular has been issued by his worship in which he says:—"In response to my appeal replies have been received from only 264 persons now liable to the rate promising contribu-

tions amounting to £2,693. Outside help has been voluntarily offered to the amount of £807. There still remains an absolute necessity to raise about £1,500 more to prevent the scheme from falling through."

The first annual convention of the American Church Temperance Society was held in Chickering Hall, New York, on the evening of the 30th ult., the Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D., presiding. Delegates from nine States were present, and the report of the Executive Committee detailed a large amount of active work. At the afternoon session Bishop Doane, of Albany, presided, and delivered an address on "License Law." Rev. W. R. Huntington, D.D., read a paper on "Prohibition and License," and Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., spoke at length on the "Non-observance of the Liquor Law in New York City," and its effect on the people.

The Home Reunion Society took advantage of the Church Congress to hold a gathering at Dorby. On Wednesday evening, at St. Werburgh's, there was a service principally for dissenters. The service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. T. Berry, and Canon Medd, Rector of North Cerney, near Cirencester, began with the hymn, "O Lord! how joyful 'tis to see." There was no choir, but the organ was played by the Senior Curate, the Rev. J. W. Kewley. Canon Medd then read from the pulpit the seventeenth chapter of St. John. This was followed by another hymn, "O Holy Spirit! Lord of Grace," and some prayers. The Rev. Canon preached a sermon from Ps. cxxxiii. and Eph. iv. 1-6. The service was brought to a close with "The Church's One Foundation," a collect for unity, and the benediction. In the morning a breakfast had been held at the Skating Rink, the Rev. G. Venables presiding in the absence of Earl Nelson.

The following gentlemen have been elected to represent the Oxford Diocesan Conference on the Central Council of Delegates from Diocesan Conferences, viz.:—The Archdeacons of Berks, Oxford, and Buckingham; the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P.; Sir John Conroy, and Mr. A. W. Hall. At the Diocesan Conferences of Gloucester and Bristol, held at Bristol Oct. 10, the following were elected as representatives at the council for 1883:—Sir Michael Hicks Beach, M. P., Mr. J. G. Dorrington, Mr. T. Gambier Parry, Canon Medd, Canon Mather, and the Rev. H. Robeson, with the proviso that the council shall not in any way assume the position of a representative council of the Church of England, but shall confine itself to the province of a central committee of diocesan conferences. At the Conference of the Diocese of Bath and Wells just held it was decided to send representatives, and the following were elected:—The Earl of Cork, Mr. R. H. Paget, M.P., Mr. F. H. Dickinson, Canon Bernard, and Prebendaries Ainslie and Salmon, the last three being also Proctors in Convocation for the diocese. This makes the twenty-third Diocesan Conference which has, after mature consideration, decided in favor of such a council. Among other speakers favorable to the movement was the Mayor of Bath.

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