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TORONTO, THURSDAY, DEC. 20, 1894.

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Lessons for Sundays and HolyDays. December 23-4 SUNDAY IN ADVENT. Morning-Isaiah 30, to v. 27. Rev. 11. Evening-Isaiah 32, or 33 v. 2 to 23. Rev. 12.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT :

Holy Communion : 182, 309, 312. Processional: 50, 47, 463. Offertory: 49, 203, 362, 898. Children's Hymns: 53, 217, 342. General Hymns: 51, 268, 474, 479.

CHRISTMAS DAY. Holy Communion : 59, 555, 58. Processional: 60, 62, 464. Offertory : 57, 61, 56. Children's Hymns: 62, 329, 330. General Hymns: 180, 175, 482, 483.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

Holy Communion: 464, 316, 557, 558. Processional: 59, 60, 175. Offertory: 55, 56, 61, 288. Children's Hymns : 58, 59, 565, 571. General Hymns: 58, 62, 484, 63, 289.

pressing doubts or difficulties. It would be especially helpful to those who are in business during the week, to whom the visit of the clergyman is an unknown thing, save by hearsay, as during his visits these sheep of his flock are at their places of business, and have seldom an opportunity of meeting their pastor." Very true; but in all this we see no "new departure." "Church-door receptions " have been long in vogue in live Church of England congregations after Evensong. Informal, but useful !

IRISH "HIGH CHURCHISM " seems almost a contradiction in terms; but those who do not like a "dead level " of Churchmanship would find much food for satisfactory reflection in certain letters from Irish correspondents (in Low Church papers) which we have been lately readings. They write about "High Church dioceses" and "High Church newspapers" in quite a natural way, as if such things had become matters of course ; yet a few years ago Irish " High Churchmen" were very few and far between, even as individuals-High Church Bishops, dioceses and newspapers were not heard of then ! Is this a result of Disestablishment?

"REDUCED IN CIRCUMSTANCES" is a legend too familiar now on both sides of the Atlantic. On the other side, at least, people have the manliness not to be ashamed of it ! A Yorkshire squire driving a London omnibus, titled ladies as governesses, a large land-owner canvassing for stoves, a county swell in the uniform of a railway porter, even a baronet in workhouse dress, are not very strange spectacles nowadays. The Church Review well says : "Bravely have people faced their positions, and instead of doing that which a century back would have been considered the only thing possible, viz., 'sponge' on rich relations, they accept nobly the inevitable."

NATIONAL MONUMENTS-we are pleased to seeare beginning to attract something like their proper amount of public attention in Canada. They have an immense amount of educational value for our "rising generations." We are glad to see that Canon Bull and his "Lundy Laners" are well to the fore in regard to this matterindeed, we are inclined to think that it is to the Canon's quiet persistence that we chiefly owe the recent public recognition and practical endorsement of the idea by our Canadian Government. People may laugh and yawn at So-and-So's "hobby" or "craze"; but, after all, in these days, such men are on the surest highrcads to success. We need hobby-riders !

A VERY INSECURE SEAT has Lord Rosebery. Every few days one reads, "majority reduced to 14," or some such register of a downward tendency. At this distance it looks as if a little more steadiness and consistency of policy would find more favour in the eyes of English people, even those who would label themselves "Liberal" as a matter of preference. The public have not yet got accustomed to the change created by Mr. Gladstone's retirement. There was-to use an Irishism-a certain amount of uncertainty in the latter's policy which could be always reckoned on; but we do not know how to "place" Lord Rosebery at all.

JAPAN V. CHINA.—This national struggle affords, at present, a very big " object lesson " on the positive disadvantages of large numbers and large territory, if not thoroughly well organized and regulated-a very difficult matter to accomplish in all such contests and trials of strength. Britain's "tight little island "has long demonstrated the superior value of a small and thoroughly drilled force for any purpose; now Japan displays the same lesson in the far East. The unwieldy and unmanageable bulk of the Chinese Empire, with its necessarily weak and loose administration, made prophecies as to their failure in this struggle tolerably safe.

EDISON'S KINETOSCOPE .- The wonders in the artistic appliance of science accomplished by this modern "king of inventors" make one cease to wonder at anything he may do. The fact that 40 or 50 photographs can be presented to view so rapidly in succession that they appear like a "live picture," so that one becomes dazed under the impression that a boxing match, for instance, is going on before his eyes-this is surely a marvel of the age. Then he promises so to combine phonograph and kinetoscope that one can (sitting in his own parlour) see and hear, at the same time, some great singer or orator far beyond his natural range of vision or bearing. All this seems to draw together, almost alarmingly, the borders between the actual and the fancied.

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"THERE IS ONE PALM whose bud-sheath opens suddenly with a report which sounds through the forest; but most buds open very gently, and silently unfold their petals to the sun. Even so it is with human souls. The conversion of one is a very violent and sudden process ; that of others takes place slowly and gently, as the opening of a rosebud to the sun. Cæsar Malan likens his own conversion to a child being awakened by its mother's kiss. So it is with many. They wake up to a new life under the gentle kiss of Divine love." We thank brother Rock for this really beautiful illustration of the subject of "gradual conversion." The God of nature and of grace are the same.

SUNDAY EVENING "AT HOMES."-This is described as a "new departure" made by the minister of a Dublin Methodist congregation. He holds a kind of " reception " after evening service for such as may wish to avail themselves of it. An English Church paper thus comments upon it : " It is a good idea, and might be most useful to those who may wish to ask questions on

HONESTY V. "BOODLE."-Very disheartening and discouraging as the recent disclosures and revelations of civic and political corruption in Canada have been, there is also much in the very investigations to make Canadians thankful that our judiciary, police machinery and public opinion are so strong on the side of right that quick disposal without quarter must be the fate in store for those who are "found out" at last. As was proved in the recent Quebec investigations, so in Ontario now, the poisonous infection can be easily traced-it has not spread far, nor done much damage. The great lesson, so far, is the need of careful watch-above all, guard the fountains of national thought in our schools.

Armenian Outrages are of the same type, apparently, as the "Bulgarian atrocities" of which we used to read so frequently, as to force upon the public the propriety of coining a new compound -"Bugocities." Yet, there must be a "kernel," at least, of truth in the maze of exaggerated reports which have been poured forth on the world. And this "kernel" should be unwrapped from its deceptive "husk," as soon as possible, in order that people may see what kind of remedy should be applied. One suspects that the "unspeakable Turk " is a nuisance that the world could well do without; one that has been too long tolerated-a sore in the midst of civilization. What a blessing a great " National Arbitration Commission " might be to the world !- the next best thing is the "Independent British Commission " now promised.

" Too PROUD NOT TO WORK" is the characteristic which we saw attributed recently to the inhabitants of the British Colonies. It is no trouble to them to throw off the conventional restrictions of Old-Country fashions and habits, and "buckle to" at any employment that comes along. The man most respected is the man who works hardest. That is the ideal; we wish it were more fully