

picture of English clerical life. There is a great anxiety just now among a certain class of weak-minded people to induce Parliament to appoint a commission for the examination of convents; but it might seem that there was a more crying necessity for the examination of rectories. The Rev. John Jackson is a man advanced beyond the middle stage of life; he has been married twenty-five years; he has been in holy orders thirty years; and he has held the valuable living at Ludbury for ten years. In January, 1868, his family consisted of the cook, the housemaid, two other servants, himself and wife, their son, and his tutor, a gentleman preparing for holy orders. Familiarities took place between the cook and the clergyman, and on four or five occasions he committed adultery with her. Some time afterward, however, she left the rectory, Mr. Jackson giving her a certificate of good character, and obtained service elsewhere, but in September she went to the rectory again, and was there delivered of a child. Mr. Jackson gave her a small sum of money, and sent her away after her confinement; but in October, Elizabeth appeared one fine Sunday morning in the church with the baby, while Mr. Jackson was performing service, held up the child, and said, in a loud voice, "Look at your daddy!" This produced a sad commotion; and a few days afterward the magistrates made an order that Mr. Jackson should pay to Parry 2s. 6d. a week for the support of the child. The Dean of the Court held that there could be no doubt whatever as to the guilt of Mr. Jackson in regard to any of the charges against him, and in delivering his judgment he made some very scathing remarks concerning him. "It is disgraceful," said the learned Dean, "when the master of an ordinary household avails himself of his authority and position to corrupt his female servants; but when that master is also a clergyman, the disgrace is greater and the consequences far more mischievous. The scandal which the defendant has inflicted upon the parish committed to his care, appears to have taken deep root, and will not be easily eradicated. The defendant has done much to injure the cause of religion, and to weaken the influence of the Church, of which he is a priest." But, as the original offense had been committed more than two years ago, it was barred by the statute of limitations, and it was only within the power of the Dean to pronounce a sentence of suspension *ab officio et beneficio* for five years. At the expiration of this period Mr. Jackson may return to his holy office, and again devote himself to the work of increasing the population of the parish.

An English clergyman, the Rev. V. H. Moyle, has been charged before the magistrate at Middlesborough, with having forged documents to the value of £22,000, in connection with an iron company in which he was a shareholder.

The clergy of England seem to have a bottomless capacity for getting themselves into scrapes. A Rev. Dr. Hodgins has been summoned by his clerk, "for spitting in his face on Sunday evening just outside the church door." Mr. Stewart, a Liverpool rector, is at odds with his vestry for putting up an obnoxious cross, and at the vestry meeting there was almost a riot. The Vicar of Lundulph, owing to disagreements, finds his congregation reduced to three, and has been publicly told by one of his recalcitrant flock that "he talked nonsense," which wasn't a handsome thing for a sheep to say to his shepherd. When this congregation of Lundulph met on Easter