

Indian braves, West Point Cadets can tell us that. But it is that Christian self-denial marches right along and after the footsteps of the Master. This is the denial which the higher spiritual self makes to the imperious demands of the lower sensual self. And the denial that generous helpfulness to others makes to sordid selfishness. It does not disdain to practice itself in little things, and out of the way things, that it may be vigorous of muscle and have its restraining powers well in hand. Forty days of self-denial, even though practised in little things may furnish wholesome exercise of self-restraint, and splendid vigor of self-control. So you may the better grasp and and the stronger hold the real good in "the things which are seen which are temporal," while witnessing your faith and deepening that faith in "the things which are not seen which are eternal."

Young men, dear friends to me, all, rejoice in your youth. That is natural and right. No harm there. But count and ponder, I pray you, your responsibility. Hail Lent heartily as a time for honest thought upon the realities of substance lying under and in front of the flitting shadows of daily existence. Welcome the Church's set season for getting more of grace from prayer and sacrament, for nourishing the spiritual life. Fast some way. Some lovers of butter may go without that. Some, fond of desert, may omit that. Some smokers may give up their cigars. Some novel readers may give their favorites the go-by for six weeks. Go to church as often as you can. Attend the downtown business men's Lenten services. Go to the Holy Communion, if it is offered, every Sunday in Lent. Think of some one person, sick or poor, or both, and visit him. Save up from your self-denials, pennies and dimes and dollars, and give them in a free and faithful gladness on Easter for missions. Discourage, and by your example rather than you talk, mark to your elders the heinousness of, the dreadful habit of saving up money by self-denial in Lent and then selfishly appropriating it in Easter offerings to meet parochial deficiencies. Your little things habitually heeded for forty days may be spiritual things well gained. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." Our grateful hearts respond,—even so, Lord Jesus, draw us also. Nay, we feel Thee drawing; and, blessed be Thy Holy Name for ever, it is with the mighty cords of LOVE.

THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE.—From the *Living Church Quarterly* the following statistics in regard to the Church in the United States are obtained: Clergy, 4,203; Candidates for Holy Orders, 375; Postulants, 202; Lay Readers, 1,228; parishes and missions, 5,605; baptisms during past year, 60,821; communicants, 535,573; Sunday School leaders, 41,418; scholars, 388,060; contributions, \$13,129,928.85. "*Public Opinion*," in commenting on this, says: "The general growth of the Church far exceeds proportionately that of the population at large, or any other religious section of it in particular. It looks like the Church of the future."

It most certainly does look that way. The Anglican Church is the Catholic Church for English speaking people. And moreover she is showing her adaptability to persons of all nationalities. Her Prayer Book is translated into almost every known modern language. Her historic character, her freedom from modern novelties, her tenacious hold of the ancient and Catholic faith, her unmutated Sacraments, her open Bible, her unbroken traditions, her dignified and holy ways—these are a few of the things which are drawing individuals and nations unto her.

We earnestly desire and ask the co-operation of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of England in Canada in increasing the circulation of the "Church Guardian." We will send sample copies to the address of any possible subscriber furnished us. Address Editor, P.O. box 504, Montreal.

ECOLESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Rev. E. A. Knox's parish—Aston-by-Birmingham, Eng.—has a population of 40,000.

IT is said that the Bishop of Liverpool will not consent to the further prosecution of Rev. J. Bell-Cox.

THE Communicants in the diocese of Western Michigan increased from 2970 in 1881 to 4232 in '91—and 1091 of these were in the last 5 years.

THE Ember Day Collect is a witness before God and man of the interest which the whole body of the Church has in the ordination of the Clergy.

THE Board of Missions of the P. E. Church of the United States expects \$50,000 for Domestic and Foreign Missions for the children's offerings during Lent.

FIFTY-FOUR graduates and undergraduates of Cambridge have sent in their names to the Church Missionary Society, signifying their intention to offer themselves for work in the mission field.

NO FEWER than 80 special preachers took part in the daily services in 45 churches at Leeds, Eng., during the general mission held there in February. Canons Scott, Holland and Mason were the principal missionaries.

THE *English Churchman* says, that it is rumoured that the Bishop of Liverpool, (Dr. Ryle) is to be asked to accept the gift of a pastoral staff, at which the *Churchman* waxes very wrathful.

THE Diocese is the unit, and the Bishop the expression and center of unity. We value the Episcopate not because of the individual occupant of the office, but because of the office itself.—*Bishop Whitehead*.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE.—The following figures were given two years ago, and they express the relative size of the various bodies of English-speaking Christians: Catholics or Anglicans, 21,450,000; Methodists, all kinds, 16,100,000; Roman Catholics, 14,750,000; Presbyterians, all kinds, 10,700,000; Baptists, all kinds, 8,210,000; Congregationalists, 5,650,000. We would not be understood to argue that numbers decide anything whatever. But these figures may serve to open the eyes of some within as well as without the communion of our part of the Catholic Church, to the fact that her 225 Bishops, 30,000 other Clergy and 21,450,000 laity gives her by far the best title, so far as numbers go, to be called *the Church of all who use the English language*. But she has better claims to our allegiance than that.—*Selected*.

"ALL EQUAL ARE WITHIN THE CHURCH'S GATE."—The highest and the lowest in earthly state have alike their sins to confess, their petitions to prefer, their praises to present to Almighty God. The same Father over all is worshipped; the merits of the same Saviour are pleaded; the help of the same Sanctifier is sought, before the one altar, by low and high, rich and poor together.—*Sermon by the Rev. W. Allan Whitworth, Vicar of All Saints', Margaret St., London.*

DISESTABLISHMENT NOT YET.—Mr. Samuel Smith's motion in the British House of Commons in favour of the disestablishment of the Church in Wales was rejected after an animated debate by a majority considerably larger than that of last year. The numbers were 267 for and 220 against the resolution, 32 votes being recorded against and 17 for the motion more than those given in 1891. The majority consisted of 245 Conservatives and 22 Liberal Unionists. The minority was composed of about 154 Gladstonians, 60 Irish members of both sections, and 6 Liberal Unionists.

AS TO the Clergy, Heygate, in that most excellent book, "Ember Hours," gives this advice:

"None of these seasons should pass without our reading through the Ordination Service in solemn examination of self. It were best to do this on our knees, and as though arraigned before the Seat of the Judge, confessing and bewailing our sins as we see them, and though it be grievous to see our sins and our failures, yet happy are we in comparison with those who shall perceive their neglects for the first time by the consuming brightness of Christ's coming, when tears cannot quench the thirst, nor cool the flames of the lost."

The following is from a recent pastoral of Bishop Cox:

A neglect of family prayers is the underlying source of innumerable evils in many households. Where a blessing is never invoked upon a family by all its members kneeling before God, what wonder if blessings are withheld? When we reflect that a reverent use even of the Lord's Prayer only would preserve a family from the curse which rests on a prayerless household, surely there can be no excuse for neglecting because of the proverbial pressure and hurry of the world's affairs.

The neglect of private reading of the Scriptures is rather to be censured because the Prayer Book divides a daily portion for every Christian, out of which something should be selected in the busiest life for the daily food of the immortal spirit.

THE KEEPING CHURCHES OPEN ALL DAY, and permitting those who are disposed to enter is, I think, a very salutary measure; for it maintains the habit of prayer, and the reverence for religion, which must surely act as a check, if not a preventative to the indulgence of evil passions. I have seldom entered a church in France or Belgium without having observed a number of persons passing and repassing, all of whom devoted at least some minutes to prayer. The "modeste" with her "carton" or the "cuisinière" returning with her basket of provisions from the market, would esteem it sinful to pass the ever open doors of the church without entering to beg a pardon or a blessing; nay, the "marmiteuse," with her apron on, and the artisan, who is taking to his employer the produce of his labours, will step in, and lowly bending, utter a few short but fervent prayers.—*Lady Blessington's Italy, 1822.*