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LESSONS for SUNDAYS and HOLY-DAYS.

OCTOBER 10th-16th SUNDAY AFFER TRINITY. Morning—9 Chronicles xxxvi. Poilippians iv. Evening—Nehemiah i. & ii. to 9; or Luke ix 28 to 51.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1886.

The Rev. W H. Wadleigh is the only gentleman travelling authorized to collect subscrip tions for the "Dominion Churchman."

A NOTE ON EPISCOPACY.—The great stumblingblock which with held French Protestant writers from admitting the genuineness of the Epistles of St. Ignatius, was the definiteness with which in Rev. A. Jones said they would have to face this which young blood craves. these letters the Episcopal order was distinguished from that of Presbyters. Whether the language of Ignatius really counteracted the sacerdotal theories of more modern theologians was a question to be debated on its merits; but, instead of making any attempts to determine this, they chose rather to deny the epistles as spurious. The letters pointed to an organization which they supposed to be far in advance of the Ignatian age; the only course cpen to them, as they thought was to reject the whole Ignatian literature. "Apparently it did not occur to them," Dr. Lightfoot quietly remarks, "to ask whether Ussher's discovery did not require them to reconsider their fundamental position as regards Episcopacy."—Edinburgh Review for July, or four years there will be an alarmingly limited 1886.—Ext. on Bishop Lightfoot's Apostolic supply of trained men for the Wesleyan ministry

conformist observes :-

aisles and soaring nave. Here Dissent no longer protests and struggles against a Puritan coldness shows that by sheer force of æsthetic growth, it has retired from 560 villages. calmly burst its narrower shell, and become as reverent to real beauty as it has ever been to holiness. The old fear that religion cannot coexist with material loveliness is gone. The barn has disappeared, while the religion and principles of the barn still survive.

From the Methodist Recorder we learn that a welve page foolscap pamphlet has been issued by the Rev. J. E. Clapham, assistant secretary of the Wesleyan Conference, entitled The London Wesleyan Methodist Mission. It present, says the Recorder an appalling picture of religious destitution and indifference. A population in inner London of the Church of England in Canada, and is an 96,410; a large proportion of this accommodation excellent medium for advertising-being a family not used especially in the central districts where and some not a sixth." There are a few of the facts and figures flaming out upon us from this ecument.

> the year 12, at a cost of 10,804l., towards which just published by the Rev. Thomas Cross, without the year 69, at a cost of 7,405l., towards which wrought by the ruthless three years' limit. 4,019l. had been raised; schools built or enlarged * said he gave these returns with a sad heart. half-formed, scarcely question. He believed if they did not it would imperil the very existence of the denomination. extent. It came just to this, that a large number institutions, instead of being, what they ought to be, soul saving institutions. This must in some way be remedied. The home districts showed a decrease of 326 members. There was a decrease of forty-four local preachers, and of 270 Sundayschools; an increase of five chapels, twenty two preaching-rooms, and 1,490 Sunday scholars.

The Methodist Times states that for the next three

Apart altogether from the request of circuits for additional ministers, the ordinary vacancies in the THE DECAY OF NONCONFORMITY.—The striking home work caused by deaths, superannuations, and tendency of Nonconformity to turn its back on the resignations have been, on an average, thirty-seven old Puritan traditions, is nowhere more distinctly a year. Then about twenty per cent. of the evident than in the new buildings it is raising for accepted candidates fail through ill-health, unfitits worship. In reporting the opening of the new ness for the work, and other causes, to pass Congregational chapel at West Croydon, the Non-through the long ordeal of college life and circuit probation, and are never ordained. When we turn The beauty of the whole is found to be made up to the missionary candidates the state of things is of the separate beauty of a multitude of parts, each frightful. The demand has been of later o urgent perfect in itself; of a wondrous western window and so greatly in excess of the supply, that not one where the light of heaven daily rekindles the fires of third year's mission-student is now in the instituan artist's inspiration; of bells that sweetly peal, tion, nor has been for some years past! Our four and tower-clock that chimes, and organ of two colleges will accommodate between them 240 men, thousand sounding ripes, of marble pulpit, that so that if each student had a three years' course Dr. Parker did well to describe as dreamed rather (which is of the very greatest importance), the than built; of sculptured wheat and vine and holly, colleges can supply only eighty men annually for of glorious apsed and tiled chancel floor, of pillared both home an foreign service.

From a report that has been presented on village Methodism in Great Britian, it appears that during which, in spite of itself, still dominates it; but the last twenty five years the Wesleyans have

> Mr. Fuller, of Wolverhampton, a Baptist, has calculated the amount raised by his denomination yearly for all purposes at 610,000l. The Rev. Andrew Mearns, in his little book England for Christ, estimates the amount raised yearly by Congregationalists "for the support of their own ordinances and for religious and philanthropic purposes of a local and general character (excluding the preaching stations) " at 1,095,198t. In a leader on "The Hardships of Wesleyan Circuit Ministers," the Methodist Times remarks :-

The rank and file of our ministers in this country are just now feeling a great strain. In these days The "Domestion Churchman" is the organ of 4 019,861: provivision in Wesleyan chapels for of commercial and agricultural depression, not one of our great funds exhibits any buoyancy. It is only by some vigorouus twists of the screw that the population is densest; "probable not half a the necessary income is secured. Then many of score caapels that are well filled in all inner our large chapels in the great cities are badly London, many not half full, some not a quarter, attended, and many of our small village chapels are in the same plight. In these circumstances of difficulty and discouragement, we are in great danger of laying the blame on the wrong shoulders, and of overlooking the true remedy. The main At the conference of the United Methodist Free cause of their hardships is the rigid three years' Churches just held in Sheffield, the Rev. E. Boaden system, That is where the shoe really pinches. No presented the statistics relating to chapel building, one can read the thoughtful and convincing etc. They were as follows: - Chapels built during pamphlet on The Migrations of a Wesleyan Minister, 4,314l. had been raised; chapels enlarged during feeling what injury to the work of God is often

> There is nothing that our people 17, at a cost of 8,1881., towards which 4,0621. had need so much at this moment as morale, a robust been raised. Two minister's houses had been confidence in the future of Methodism. The revived erected, towards which nothing had been raised. life of the Church of England, and the prodigious The entire amount spent upon erections was 26,523/., activity of the Salvation Army, have awakened in towards which 12,395l. had been raised. Mr. Boaden the hearts of multitudes of our young people a admitted It was the first time in the history of the denomina- that Methodism is played out, is incapable of tion when less than half the entire cost of erec- adaptation to the necessities of a stirring demotions had been raised, and the entire amount raised craticage. There has been such an extravagant worfor all purposes mentioned on the schedule was ship of the "old lines," and such a tenacious nearly 10,000% less than last year. He thought a attachment to deep ruts, that the younger generastone or brick never ought to be laid till at least tion is beginning to be tempted to look elsewhere half the amount of the cost had been raised. The for the opportunities of novel and daring service

> The above items are taken from the London Guardian. The first paragraph shows us that Debts accumulated on the chapels to a fearful nonconformity is conforming more and more to the orinciples of the Church. The statements touching of their churches were simply money-raising the utter failure of Methodism to do its special work are deeply interesting, they attest that this work was not given them to do by the Lord of the harvest. The failure of the Wesleyans to secure trained men for their ministry simply fulfils a prophecy of one of their old preachers that learning and Methodism would never pull together. When the Church at home is bounding with energy and new life it is very significant to hear from a Wesleyan minister that the young people consider that "Methodism is played out!"

> > -The path to heaven is just at the same angle with this path as ever it was, and the same tolls are levied upon those who would tread the path, and the same conditions enforced. They may be superior in point of civilisation to earlier wayfarers: there may be all difference between the first and the nineteenth centuries that there is between the leafless tree of winter and the fruit-laden tree of autumn, but, notwithstanding this difference, life comes to all the ages from the same source, as the tree derives life by the same roots all the year round.

> > -A man's happiness and success in life will depend not so much upon what he has or upon what position he occupies, as upon what he is, and the heart he carries into his position.