

Canadian Churchman.

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LESSONS FOR SUNDAYS AND HOLY DAYS.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT.

Morning—Gen. xxii. 1, to 41; Mark x., to 32.
Evening—Gen. xxviii. or xxxii.; 1 Cor. iv., to 18.

Appropriate Hymns for second and third Sundays in Lent, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., organist and director of the choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto. The numbers are taken from Hymns Ancient and Modern, many of which may be found in other hymnals.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT.

Holy Communion: 310, 312, 317, 324.
Processional: 242, 248, 281, 291.
Offertory: 256, 267, 491, 528.
Children's Hymns: 112, 345, 346, 574.
General Hymns: 261, 269, 492, 638.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.

Holy Communion: 107, 111, 317, 319.
Processional: 189, 236, 273, 305.
Offertory: 183, 518, 520, 538.
Children's Hymns: 177, 240, 342, 373.
General Hymns: 198, 249, 490, 523.

The War.

While we write, the clouds seem to be breaking in South Africa. Nothing has occurred there to bring anything like disgrace on the British arms; but we have undoubtedly had disappointments; and for these we must be slow to blame the eminent men in command. They may have done their best. It may even turn out that others could not have done better in the same circumstances. However this may be, it is a circumstance full of hope that the face of things seemed to change when Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener took their work in hand. Before now, we have had much good fighting—sometimes even victorious fighting, but not much fruit of any value. Now, it looks as if the fruits of victory were coming to us without any fighting at all. As regards the final out-

come of the successes at the Modder River, at Kimberley, at Colenso, and at Ladysmith, we shall know more soon. But at least the turn in the tide of the war is tremendous. Cronje with his army of the Modder in flight, Joubert with his army of the Tugela in full retreat, Kimberley and Ladysmith relieved—these are events all but incredible, considering the position of affairs only a few days ago. We cannot be sure that we are near the end as yet. That is in the hands of God. But at least these cruel and unjust men are, by this time, taught to know the greatness of the power which they have defied.

Further Testimonies.

It is still of importance to ascertain the judgments on the war of calm thinking men, who have knowledge of South Africa, and opportunities of estimating the claims of both sides in the contest. A valuable witness of this kind is Bishop Macrorie, who was made orthodox Anglican Bishop of Natal during the incumbency of Bishop Colenso. Dr. Macrorie, addressing a missionary meeting at Torquay, said men were insane who talked of conciliation while the burglar had his hand on their throats. The natives preferred the English to the Boers, but they would side with the winners. The intense racial hatred on the part of the Boers was due to their religion being of the narrowest possible type. All missionaries were agreed that if the Boer supremacy were established the result on mission work would be deadening. Not less valuable is the testimony of the Natal Congregational Union, which has addressed its denomination in England and Wales, urging that it is of vital and transcendent importance to civilization that government on British lines should be established in every State in South Africa. They declare the war to have been premeditated and prepared for by the Boers, whose military preparations began years before the Jameson raid, and whose Government is a military oligarchy from which humane and just treatment of the native races cannot be expected. Towards Reunion.

We view with interest and hope every evidence of longings for reunion in other denominations than our own. We cannot doubt that the union of the various Methodist and Presbyterian bodies in the Dominion has not only been immediately beneficial, but will exert an influence on other bodies. It would appear that a similar movement is going on in Scotland. Not only the three great Presbyterian bodies, but the Scottish Episcopalians as well, are joining in prayer for this end. A full official statement of the result of negotiations between the Established, Free, United Presbyterian, and Episcopal Churches of Scotland is made by The Scotsman. It was resolved that a Sunday in 1900 should be set apart for common intercession for the

guidance of the Holy Spirit to a completer unity, and that a committee should report to a future meeting "as to the most effectual means of bringing the terms of the resolution before the Churches in Scotland." Among the Presbyterian bodies there are no doctrinal or ritual differences worth speaking of; and the governmental differences are, for various reasons, falling into the background. With the Episcopalians it is, of course, different. Yet here also a basis may be found for a Formula of Concord.

European Combinations.

It is tolerably certain that France would have tried to embarrass Great Britain during the South African war, if other powers had not been better disposed towards us. It has even been asserted that Great Britain actually sought an alliance with the United States and Germany. It is, therefore, interesting to know how the matter is viewed by the statesmen and politicians at Washington; and we are indebted to the New York Churchman for the following statement on the subject: What really took place last summer is that the gathering at The Hague found Great Britain anxious to detach Germany from the European concert in order that, if war came with the Boers of a serious character, it would be impossible to embarrass Great Britain by presenting a request agreed upon by all the other great powers, a situation which would be an awkward one for any power under the general consensus which has grown up in Europe, which gives the action of all the great powers a special sanction. Germany was anxious to balance the acquisition of the United States in the Philippines by additional territory in the Pacific. The United States stood between the two powers, and was the only one which could furnish the compensation which Germany desired at Samoa. On its side the United States was anxious to secure a permanent tribunal for international arbitration mainly according to its plan, and freedom to build the Panama Canal. This situation enabled the United States to offer its friendly offices between Germany and Great Britain. Germany received Samoa. England received a visit from the Kaiser at the opening of the Boer war. The United States received the consent of Great Britain to any reasonable modification of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty in regard to the Panama Canal. All three united in urging the same plan at The Hague with the result which is familiar.

The Convocation of Canterbury.

At the recent opening of the Convocation of Canterbury, the interesting ceremony was performed of presenting the new prolocutor of the Lower House to the Archbishop. The choice of the House has fallen upon the Archdeacon of Oakham, the Ven. R. P. Lightfoot, and his sponsor, Canon Overton, in a Latin speech, vouched for him as a person