

in public devotion for all who have been educated to its reverent use, our stereotyped Morning and Evening offices, with the narrow, and ofttime injudicious selections from Holy Scripture, are not effective aids, but are oftener practical hindrances, in our efforts to evangelize the rule uneducated multitudes round us. These men are children often in their religious perceptions and feelings, and you demand that they shall submit to the discipline of perfect men. While even for your own children in the Faith, from among the toiling million, your three services welded into one by the stubborn force of ecclesiastical authority, are a wearisome penance, often, to flesh and blood. Having gone thus far, let me go further, and say, that if we hope ever to make the word Catholic anything but a misnomer in the designation of our Church, then must we labor to evoke, and be thankful to welcome, a more manifold, and shall I say tumultuous, religious life among the masses of the people, than ever we can hope to see with the old traditional restraints around us. We must grow into a blessed familiarity with short, hearty services; with prayer meetings, and experience meetings, and services of sacred song, upon which those who delight in the good old ways, must learn not to look with the slightest trace of orthodox suspicion. You may say, perhaps, that you do not like such services. No one asks you to accept them then. But do not make your taste or partiality the measure of your neighbor's need. But go down to the level where he stands, and lead him by a "more excellent way," into an intelligent appreciation of things which he possibly despises now. Or what if God's methods of educating souls, are wider and more devout than your inherited notions? Why, then a discreet prudence would say adjust your ecclesiastical apparatus to the manifold needs of those whom you seek to save. But in answer to all this I shall hear the endless iteration of those long-suffering words, "Let all things be done decently and in order." Yes, my brother, even so. You and I accept those words with equal reverence, let us say. But in your interpretation and application of them, we must leave legitimate room for the tumult which ensued on the day of Pentecost.

The figures which stand at the top of this page of my MS. tell me that my limit of time is drawing near. Let me add to what I have said, however, (if that remorseless little bell will allow) that we must bring the words of St. Peter out of the seclusion into which we Churchmen have seemed so willing to consign them, in which he speaks of *all* Christ's servants as "a royal priesthood." We must teach our laymen that they are in the Church for something else than to repeat creeds, and to be pampered with little homiletic confections. We are told most imploringly that we have not clergy enough. If my correspondence and my study could testify, they would protest we have enough. But granting the dearth; then I say, send your laymen to tell the story of Christ's love, in "the highways and hedges," and the Holy Ghost may speak through lips unanointed with the grace of "orders." We use our laymen now, mainly to give, or collect, or disburse money. Make them almoners to the common people of the "unsearchable riches," and they shall have souls for their hire in the day of rejoicing. The old prophets were not invariably of the order of Aaron. Renew the succession of prophets, and you may find another Elijah among your laymen, to rebuke the licentiousness and Baal-worship of this nineteenth century. But priest or layman must do some-

thing else than rattle an ecclesiastical skeleton in men's ears, if he would gain any considerable hearing in our busy and distracted world. Let the teachers of all schools and creeds know this, and let them shape their plans and activities accordingly, that the great mass of American working men are beyond the reach of the mild respectabilities upon which this Church has so long relied. Let us show, at least, that we have read history to some purpose, and not confound the social order and relations of the nineteenth century with those which prevailed very generally down to 1789. Men are no longer serfs to either priest or civil ruler. The difficulties which confront us to-day in our mission to the "common people" are new, and the Christian Church very generally shows herself shy of them. The growing separation and alienation of classes; the chronic strife between labor and capital, the prevalence of a species of infidelity among those who can see difficulties, but who lack the culture and trained discrimination to see through them. If our modern Christianity is to prove herself a trustworthy guide through these perplexities, she must speedily rouse herself from her elegant ease, and betake herself very strenuously to the practical solution of the question we are discussing to-night—The Ministrations of the Church to the Working Classes.

LORD AMBERLEY, the eldest son of Earl Russell is dead.

THE London, Huron, and Bruce Railway was opened Jan. 11.

THE Queen is expected to open the coming session of Parliament in person.

BERLIN, Prussia, is visited every Saturday night with extensive incendiary fires.

THE late Mr. Grote has left a paper giving his opinion of Aristotle. It will be published in a few days.

THE squirrel is expected soon to be as destructive in California as the grasshopper has been in Manitoba.

HEAVY snow storms have occurred in the south of France. The Town of Mende was blocked up for three days.

THE Vendome Column has been restored. The statue of Napoleon is to crown the summit.

PORT ROYAL, S.C., is made the headquarters of the American navy, North Atlantic station.

THE soil of the British islands is owned by about six hundred thousand proprietors. Mr. Mill and Mr. Bright used to say, thirty thousand.

A TERRIBLE railroad accident has occurred at Odessa, Russia. A train with recruits ran off the track and caught fire, killing sixty-four, and wounding fifty-four.

THE Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts has appointed a committee to confer with the Bishops and the Secretary of State for India, as to the best means of extending the episcopate there.

MR. KIRK, British Consul at Zanzibar was obstructed on seeking an explanation for the occupation of Brava by Egyptian troops. He ordered up the British man-of-war, *Thetis*, to bombard the town, and compelled the commandant to give a public apology.

At the nomination of councillors for Uxbridge, some women were present, who presented a petition of more than 300 names against the increase of tavern licenses, and opposing shop licenses. Every candidate except one pledged himself to support their views.

CALENDAR.

- Jan. 30th.—4th Sunday after the Epiphany.
Job. xxvii; St. Matt. xvi. 24 to xvii. 14.
" xxviii; Acts xviii. to v. 24.
" xxix; Acts xviii. to v. 24.
" 31st.—Gen. xlv. to v. 25; St. Matt. xvii. 14.
" xlv. 25 to xlv. 8; Acts xviii. 24 to xix. 21.
- Feb. 1st.—Fast.
Gen. xlv. 26-xlvii. 13; St. Matt. xviii. 1-21.
" xlvii. 13; Acts xix. 21.
" 2nd.—Purification of B. V. M.
Exod. xiii. 1-17; St. Matt. xviii. 21-xix. 3.
Hag. ii. 1-10; Acts xx. 1-17.
" 3rd.—Blasius, Bishop, and Mar.
Gen. xlviii; St. Matt. xix. 3-27.
" xlix; Acts xx. 17.
" 4th.—" 1; St. Matt. xix. 27-xx. 17.
Exod. i; Acts xxi. 1-17.
" 5th.—Agatha, Vir. and Mar.
Exod. ii. St. Matt. xx. 17.
" iii; Acts xxi. 17-37.

NIAGARA.

SACRED CONCERT.—A sacred concert will be held in St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton, on Tuesday, Feb. 8th. Several leading amateurs have promised their assistance, and the choirs of other churches in the city will aid the choir of the church in the choruses. Favorite selections from Mendelssohn, Mozart, Handel, Hadyn, Rossini, and Weber will be given. The fine organ lately placed in the church will be used on the occasion.

THE Hamilton Times says "Wentworth School—the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Niagara, President—has been established to meet a want long felt by many who do not wish to send their sons to the Central or public schools—not from any lack of proficiency in them, but because they prefer schools where youths are educated on the system of the great English public schools. Hamilton should now most certainly be proud of her educational institutions. The Collegiate Institute is second to none in the country."

RURAL DEANERY MEETING.—ST. THOMAS' CHURCH.—THE CATHEDRAL.—WENTWORTH SCHOOL.—The first meeting under the new regime, of the Hamilton Rural Deanery, took place on the Feast of the Epiphany. Divine service, at which all the city and two of the country clergy were present, was held in the cathedral school room. An interesting address was delivered by the Rural Dean, the Rev. Geo. Bull, M.A., at the close of which the Holy Communion was celebrated. In the afternoon the members met at the Rectory of the Church of the Ascension, and proceeded to business. The Rev. Mr. Whitcombe was appointed Secretary-Treasurer, and it was resolved that future meetings should be held quarterly at the Ember seasons, the next to be on Wednesday, March, 8, in St. Thomas' Church, city. The Very Rev. Dr. Geddes kindly consented to be preacher on that occasion. The Church of St. Thomas is evidently prospering under the energetic pastorate of the Rev. J. B. Richardson. The Y.M.A. of this congregation are about to commence a series of 'Fortnightly Penny Readings,' the proceeds to be devoted to the relief of the city poor. It is to be hoped that their charitable efforts will be crowned with the success they deserve.—The work upon our cathedral is slowly drawing to completion. Already the scaffolding has been taken down, and the magnificent proportions of the interior