

NEWS AND NOTABILLIA.

The British and Foreign Bible Society sends out every day five tons weight of Bibles, Testaments, and portions of Scripture.

The Rev. George Parsons, of Fort Plains, New York, was married for the third time recently. He is eighty-three years old, and his bride is seventy-one.

Pere Charvatant, founder of the order of the White Fathers, who was born in France in 1841, has been appointed to succeed the late Cardinal Lavergne as Primate of Africa.

Pope Leo's family is very long lived. With the exception of his brother, the cardinal, who died a few years ago at the age of 82, all his immediate relatives have lived to be more than 90 years old.

The biggest idol in the world is Diablen, the Japanese god, which is over 60ft. high. The image is made of copper, tin, mercury, and gold, and has been worshipped for more than twelve centuries.

John Brown's Bible, used by him while he was in jail at Harper's Ferry, and having many passages bearing on the abolition of slavery marked by his own hand, has recently been sold to F. G. Logan of Chicago.

The total income of all missionary societies of all denominations in the United States is \$14,888,354. Total number of missionaries, male, 4,717; female, 3,755. Total number of native workers, 44,532. Total communicants, 893,315.

In the Nazareth mission district, Tinnely, three hundred converts were recently baptized in the presence of the bishop by eight clergymen in the brook running close to the village, the spot having been previously used for sacrificing to demons.

It may not be generally known that immigrants who desire to get married in New York, are provided at a certain church with a plain gold wedding ring free of cost and during the last two years no fewer than 185 brides have been supplied with rings.

Mr. Allan Beaumont, now playing one of the characters in "Becket" at the London Lyceum, commenced life as a Roman Catholic priest, after a youth spent in a Jesuit seminary. Since then he has donned the monk's sacerdotal robes of the stage time after time.

A Jewish book recently printed in Chicago, and praised by Hebrew critics, is "The 613 Laws of the Mosaic Teaching." The laws are given in Hebrew, with Midrashal and Talmudical commentaries in German. The editor of the work is Rabbi Grossman of Chicago.

A railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem has recently been opened. Owing to the Czar's persecution of the Jews, and to the Sultan's encouragement of settlement, the population of Jerusalem has risen in six years from 30,000 to 80,000. Six hundred houses are being built outside the city walls.

The Rev. Dr. Cuyler, of Brooklyn congregational church, who recently retired, has in the course of nearly half a century preached 3,750 different sermons and made 25,000 pastoral visits. Besides this, he has united in matrimony 1,267 couples and christened some 3,000 members of the church.

Boston has simply beaten the record in raising \$50,000 for the Phillips Brooks monument in the brief time since its beloved preacher's death. Boston churches alone laid upon the contribution plates \$26,584.50. Trinity, Brooks' own church before his elevation to the bishopric, putting down \$13,515.67.

Dr. Dudley Rhodes said at the Briggs-Smith banquet in Cincinnati: "It is a reflection on any church or institution for those in control to place it in opposition to the spirit of the times." According to this preachers must wait for the Sunday morning papers, before entering their pulpits, to catch the spirit of the times.

The Council of the English Church Union have issued a tabular statement showing that there has been a net increase of members in 25 counties in England. The largest increase has been in Lancashire, while Yorkshire comes third. Increases are also shown in Cheshire, Cumberland, Salop, and Westmorland. The Rev. T. Outram Marshall reports that during the past year there has been a net increase in the associates of the Union of 559, the total number enrolled up to date being 9,225.

An interesting summary of the condition of the episcopal church in America has been issued by the census bureau. In all the states and territories there are 5,019 church organizations, with a like number of edifices. The total seating capacity of these buildings is 1,336,952. Besides these there are 312 halls, which will seat 28,007 people. The total value of this church property is \$81,066,317, while the total number of communicants or members is 532,054.

American presbyterians insist that their church government is thoroughly democratic and American. The minister is chosen by vote of the congregation, and the lowest court for the trial of persons charged with violations of ecclesiastical law or with moral transgression is the session of the individual church, a body made up of the minister and the elders. Appeal lies thence to the presbytery, a body composed of clerical and lay delegates, representing all the churches in a given district. The next higher court is the Synod, composed of several presbyteries, and the final court is the General Assembly, made up of delegates, lay and clerical, chosen usually in rotation by all the presbyteries.

The Rev. William Proctor Swaby, D.D., for the last nine years Vicar of St. Mark's, Millfield, Bishopwearmouth, in the diocese of Durham, has been appointed Bishop of Guiana, in succession to the late Bishop Austin. Dr. Swaby, who will be the second Bishop of the diocese since its constitution in 1842, is a late Barry scholar and Divinity Exhibitioner of Hatfield Hall, Durham, from whence he graduated in 1873. He was ordained in 1871, his first curacy being for some three years at Ryhope, Bishopwearmouth. In 1875 he was presented to the vicarage of St. Margaret's, Castletown, Monk Wearmouth, in which parish he worked for ten years. In 1884, he was presented by Bishop Lightfoot to the very populous parish of Millfield. Dr. Swaby's ministry of twenty-two years in Durham diocese, all spent in the neighborhood of Sunderland, is said to have proved him a very able and energetic man.

Messages of Help For the Week.

SUNDAY: "A day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness, v. 7. For the Lord God is a sun and shield. The Lord will give grace and glory. No good thing will be withheld from them that walk uprightly."—Psalm 84: 10.

MONDAY: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thine soul, and with all thine might: v. 6; and these words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart."—Deuteronomy 6: 5.

TUESDAY: "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down and when thou risest up."—v. 7.

WEDNESDAY: "And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes, and thou shalt write them upon the posts of thine house, and upon thy gates."—v. 8 and 9.

THURSDAY: "Then beware, lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of bondage."—v. 12.

FRIDAY: "And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, what were the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord our God commanded you?"—v. 20.

SATURDAY: "Then thou shalt say unto thy son. We were bondmen, and the Lord brought us out with a mighty hand. And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day."—v. 21: and 24.

For Ye Hasten the Matter.

Whenever we know a thing to be duty, do not let us delay a second in the performance of it. One of the old Psalms says, "I made haste and delayed not, but made haste to keep Thy commandments." That is the language of all true obedience. When I was a boy, in the days when parental discipline was rather more of a reality than it is now, my father used to say, "My boy, no obedience only, but prompt obedience." Most of us, have, no doubt, found out by this time that when a disagreeable duty has to be performed it is better to get over it at once. The more nauseous the draught; the more need there is to gulp it down quickly. No unwelcome tasks become any the less welcome by putting them off till tomorrow. It is only when they are behind us and done, that we begin to find there is a sweetness to be tasted afterwards and that the remembrance of unwellcome duties unhesitatingly done is welcome and pleasant. Accomplished, they are full of blessing; and there is a smile on their faces as they leave us. Undone, they stand threatening and disturbing our tranquility, and hindering our communion with God. If there be lying before you, my brothers, any bit of work from which you shrink, go right straight up to it and do it at once. The only way to get rid of it is to do it. In the quaint dialect of the early Quakers, "to be clear of my burden," meant to fulfil some hard task which God was left to have enjoined; and there is no other escape from the pressure of disagreeable duties than this, "See that ye hasten the matter."—Dr. A. Maclaren.

CURED

"About seven or eight months ago I was attacked by a cough, and at once began to take a medicine much advertised as an expectorant, and continued using it until I had taken about six bottles. Instead of giving me relief, it only made me worse. I tried several other remedies, but all in vain, and I don't think I had three whole nights' rest during my illness. I began to think that

Consumption

had laid hold of me, and my hopes of recovery were all gone. I was a mere skeleton, but a friend of mine, who had been some time away, called to see me. He recommended me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and kindly sending me a bottle, I took it, but with little hopes of recovery. I am thankful, however, to say that it cured me, and I am to-day enjoying the best of health."—J. Wilmot Payne, Monrovia, Liberia.

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**SUNDAY READING**

**BRADWARDINE THE PROFOUND.**

The Famous Christian and Scholar who Co-founded the Pilgrimage.

Thomas Bradwardine was born towards the close of the 13th century, about the middle of the reign of Edward I. He was educated at Oxford, and excelled in mathematics. His mind had a strong philosophic bent, and he became distinguished for his solid and accurate investigations in theology. He was a man of unquestioned piety, simple in his habits, modest and retiring in manners, a great lover of his study, and a diligent and accomplished writer. His thorough mastery of every subject he treated, his close and forcible reasoning, earned for him among his contemporaries the title of "the profound." He was a great favourite of Edward III., who appointed him his chaplain and confessor. He attended that monarch in his French wars, and often preached before the army. Some of the writers of the time attributed the signal victories of Edward to the virtues and holy character of his confessor than to the bravery and prudence of the King. Bradwardine made it his business to calm and mitigate the fierceness of his master's temper when he saw him either immediately fired with warlike rage, or improperly flushed with the advantages of victory, and his sermons to the army were delivered with so much meekness and persuasive discretion, as to restrain them from the insolent excesses of military success. This faithful and gifted divine was twice elected Archbishop of Canterbury,—in the first instance Edward appreciated his service to highly to part with him, but on the second occasion the King yielded to the desire of the monks, who clamoured for his appointment. Bradwardine was out of his element amid the gaieties of the royal court, and his plain unassuming manners and retiring habits were the object of derision among the courtiers. When he was consecrated at Avignon, a nephew of the Pope ridiculed the new prelate by introducing into the hall a person habited as a peasant riding on an ass, petitioning the Pope to make him Archbishop of Canterbury; and such was the estimation in which Bradwardine was held, both for his learning and piety, that both Pope and cardinals expressed their strong disapproval of this insulting buffoonery.

The archbishop had no opportunity of exercising the duties of his high and important office. A few days after his arrival in England, he died in the Archiepiscopal palace at Lambeth, in about the 60th year of his age. His gentle spirit was not suited for the harassing cares of the chief British ecclesiastic in those boisterous times. He was more the preacher, the student, and the literature than the man of affairs.

The great literary labours of his life was a work "Concerning the cause of God against Pelagius," which was regarded as a marvel of accurate knowledge, profound thinking, and irresistible logic. The spirit of intense devotion and eloquent diction in which this *magnum opus* was written, may be judged by the following extract:—"O great and wonderful Lord, our God, Thou only light of the eyes; open, I implore Thee, the eyes of my heart, and of others my fellow-creatures, that we may truly understand and contemplate Thy wondrous works! And the more thoroughly we comprehend them, the more may our minds be affected in the contemplation, with pious reverence and profound devotion. How intense and how unbounded is Thy love to me, O Lord! Whereas, my love, how feeble and remiss; my gratitude, how cold and inconstant! Far be it from Thee that Thy love should resemble mine, for in every kind of excellence Thou art consummate. O Thou fillest heaven and earth, who fillest thou not this human heart? O, human soul, low, abject and miserable, whoever thou art, it thou be not fully replenished with the love of so great a good, why dost thou not open all thy capacity, that by the sweetness of love so great, thou mayest be wholly occupied, satiated, and ravished, especially since, little as thou art, thou canst not be satisfied with the love of any good inferior to the "One Supreme?"

**Ministers Who Succeed.**

It is a happy thing for a young minister to begin his ministry in a small congregation. He has more time for study; he has a better chance to become intimately acquainted with individual characters and also a smaller audience to face. The first congregation that I was called to serve contained about forty families; three or four of these were wealthy and cultured and the rest were plain mechanics with a few gardeners and coachmen. I aimed my sermons at the comprehension of the gardeners and coachmen at the rear of the house, leaving my cultured parishioners to gather what they could from the sermon on its way. One of these rich folks was a very distinguished lawyer. After I had delivered a very earnest sermon on the worth of the soul, I went home and said to myself, Lawyer C. must have thought that was a camp meeting exhortation. He met me during the week, and to my astonishment he said to me, "Young man, I thank you for that sermon last Sunday; it had the two best qualities of preaching—simplicity and earnestness. If I had a student in my office who was not in more earnest to win his first ten dollar suit before a justice of the peace than some ministers seem to be in trying to save souls, I would kick such a student out of my office."—Dr. Cuyler.

**Father Ignatius at Oxford.**

The famous Father Ignatius, of Llanthony Abbey, Abergavenny, Wales, has been preaching in Oxford, England, recently. The London Church Times, of 17th, says: "Probably not in the memory of living man has such a congregation filled