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THE MONTH.

ON St. Peter's Day, at St. Paul's Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury, with several assistant Bishops, consecrated the Rev. Canon Awdry as Bishop Suffragan of Southampton, Archdeacon Maples as Bishop of Likoma, the Rev. W. M. Richardson as Bishop of Zanzibar, the Rev. John Dart as Bishop of New Westminster, and the Rev. E. A. Anderson as Bishop of Riverina. The sermon was preached by Canon Jacob, Vicar of Portsea.

The Very Rev. Frank Rosebrook Millspaugh has been elected Bishop of Kansas, in succession to the late Bishop Thomas. The Bishop-elect is an American by birth, and has passed his life in the United States. He was educated at first at the Shattuck Military School, but, coming under the influence of Dr. Breck, the pioneer missionary of Minnesota, and of the late Bishop of Kansas, he entered the Seabury Divinity School, and was eventually ordained to a church in the diocese of Minnesota. Afterwards, however, at the suggestion of Bishop Whipple, he took up missionary work in a part of the diocese. He was appointed Dean of Trinity Cathedral, Omaha, in 1876; and during his ten years' tenure of the office the cathedral was erected. He afterwards accepted the charge of St. Paul's, Minneapolis, where he did an important work for many years. In April, 1894, he accepted an invitation from the late Bishop of Kansas and became Dean of Grace Cathedral.

Archdeacon Bardsley, D.D., Vicar of Bradford, has informed his congregation of his intended resignation. He has been Vicar of Bradford for fifteen years, and has been appointed by the Bishop of Ripon to the vacant residential canonry in the cathedral of the diocese.

The recent annual report of the Church Missionary Society shows that the society now occupies 434 stations, of which 47 are in West Africa, 15 in Eastern Equatorial Africa, 2 in Egypt and Arabia, 16 in Palestine, 2 in Persia and Bagdad, 176 in India, 22 in Ceylon, 10 in Mauritius, 28 in China, 14 in Japan, 41 in New Zealand, 52 in North-West America, and 9 in the district of the North Pacific. The total number of workers in connection with the society now amounts to 5,973. The European missionaries consist of 344 clergy, 93 laymen, and 466 females, of whom 274 are the wives of missionaries. There are 20 Eurasian clergy, while the native workers consist of 309 clergy, 3,744 laymen, and 997 females. The native Christian adherents number 210,624, of whom 187,586 have been baptized. The communicants number 56,538. The returns of baptisms during the year are necessarily incomplete, but 12,467 have been recorded—viz., 4,478 adult, and 7,989 infant baptisms. The society has 2,016 schools and seminaries, with a total of 84,725 native scholars. The medical missions of the society provided relief for 4,846 in-patients and 373,355 out-patients.

At their recent meeting, the committee of the Bishop of Liverpool's Clergy Sustentation Fund were enabled to raise the stipends of underpaid incumbents with large populations under their charge to a minimum of £270, or £245 with house. They also sought to level up the incomes of clergy with small rural parishes to £235, or its equivalent. This is an advance of £10 over last year in the former class, and of £5 in the latter class. The Bishop's desire is to raise the minimum of the former to £300, and of the latter to £250. There are livings so small that even the committee's maximum grant (£80 and £60 respectively) do not raise the stipends to the desired minimum.

The annual general meeting of the Corporation of the Church House has been held at the Church House, Dean's Yard, the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding. Those present included the Bishop of London, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Admiral Sir Erasmus Ommanney, Lord Ashcombe, the Hon. Dudley Fortescue, and the Dean of Westminster. The annual report stated that satisfactory progress was being made with the new Church House, and particularly with the great hall block. There was now every probability that the fabric would be completed before the end of the present year. During the year the subscriptions and donations had been greater than those of either of the two previous years. The Bishop of London proposed the adoption of the report, and referred with satisfaction to the progress which was being made with the erection of the real Church House. He could speak from experience as to the utility of the Church House, for meetings of committees of Convocation and of other bodies connected with Church work were now held with facility and convenience. The library was being added to in a generous manner, and it was hoped that further donations in this respect would be made. Lord Ashcombe seconded the motion, and remarked that the Church House was an absolutely necessary adjunct to the Church of England.

The annual meeting of the Curates' Augmentation Fund has been held at Grosvenor House. The Archbishop of York presided, and said he hoped the meeting would result in a large increase of subscriptions and an access of new energy. The report, presented by the Rev. J. R. Humble, showed receipts of £11,499, the year's increase of £1,996 being chiefly due to legacies. The amount distributed in grants was £7,090. While in eighteen years £20,000,000 had been raised for Church work, this had chiefly been spent on bricks and mortar, while the claims of flesh and blood had been strangely neglected. The Earl of Cranbrook, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the money given by this society, at whose birth he had assisted, was not a charity, but a reward for work done. He could not altogether agree that there was a great want of additional benefices. It was better to have a large parish under a clergyman with a staff of curates than to divide it into a number of poor livings. This enormous subdivision was telling much against the interests of the Church. Men were simply bewildered by the number of claims made upon them. He looked forward to a time when the Church as a Church, and acting through her authorities, should combine her forces. The population was increasing in a frightful ratio, and the Church, as it claimed to be national, must meet the wants of the nation. The clergy were never less able to multiply curates, but curates must be multiplied, or the needs of the population met by lay help; and the duty fell upon the laity. Landowners were suffering very grievously; but there were duties which must be fulfilled, or evils worse than the loss of a little money would be the result. Prebendary Webb-Peploe, who seconded the motion, said there were 1,300 curates who had reached the age recognised by the society, with very little prospect of preferment. At least £2,000 had been

spent on their education, yet at the age of fifty their average income was about £120. The beneficed clergy had never been in such straits before, and there were now 11,000 fewer benefices than clergymen. It could hardly be expected that parents would send their sons into the Church unless every clergyman should have some prospect of comfort, though not of luxury, in his declining years. The motion was supported by Prebendary Barker, and carried. The Archdeacon of London moved that the society deserved the hearty and liberal support of all Churchmen. This resolution was seconded by Sir Walter Phillimore and adopted.

A meeting of the board of management of the Bishop of London's Fund has been held at the office, 46a, Pall Mall, the Bishop of London in the chair. The report of the executive committee stated that the total amount received between January 1 and July 6 had been £15,152, being £1,224 more than the amount received up to the corresponding date in 1894. With the balance at the beginning of the year this had placed at the disposal of the committee a total sum of £20,898. Grants had been made as follows: Missionary clergy, £1,250; additional curates, £3,280; lay agents, £2,746; parsonages, £875; schools, £1,505; mission buildings, £4,804; and churches, £2,470—a total of over £16,930. A sum of £206 had been received for the Special Church Repair Fund, and grants amounting to £195 had been made for the repair of seven churches. The total amount of Church collections received up to July 6 had been £5,344, received from 378 churches.

The Archdeacon of London presided (in the absence, through illness, of the Dean of Canterbury) at the thirty-ninth annual meeting of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation. Dr. Pigott read the report, which stated that during the past year the income of the corporation had increased under every head—annual subscriptions from £2,805 to £2,875, donations from £3,586 to £5,910, church collections from £226 to £248, and legacies from £1,570 to £5,858. As against this, the official auditors' statement shows that the grants, ranging from £5 to £50 each, voted to 976 cases, amounted to £10,972—an increase of £3,000 over the sum distributed by the committee during the preceding year. A warm tribute was paid to the memory of the late Lord Selborne, who had been a most generous supporter to the corporation, as was almost every member of his family, from its foundation.

The thirty-first annual meeting of the supporters of the St. Andrew's Waterside Church Mission has been held at the Church House, Dean's Yard, the Bishop of St. Albans presiding. The annual report recorded satisfactory work for the year, but stated that while the total receipts showed an increase, there was a decrease in the amount received from legacies and donations, and the council had been compelled to discontinue some grants for want of funds. Increased support was urgently needed to enable the council to carry on the work of the mission.

At Belfast a very interesting function has been performed by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor in the unveiling of a handsome memorial tablet to the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Napier, Bart., late Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Vice-Chancellor and M.P. for Dublin University, LL.D., D.C.L., M.R.I.A. The tablet has been erected in connection with the Church of Ireland Young Men's Society, in the founding of which many years ago the late distinguished Belfastman took a warm interest, and the first lecture in the interests of which he delivered. The monument, which is of the Renaissance style of architecture, of very chaste design, is placed on the left wall entering the hall, near the platform. It is

supported on two projecting corbels, moulded and carved on face, between which is a semicircular slab or apron, having the coat-of-arms, with mantle, crest, and motto of deceased, sculptured in high relief, with foliage springing from either side. A richly-moulded cornice rests on the corbels, and supports the inscription slab, on which is neatly engraved the following inscription :

“ Erected by the Members of the Church of Ireland Young Men's Society, Belfast,
In Memory of the Right Honourable
SIR JOSEPH NAPIER, BART.,

One of the patrons of the Society, and by whom the first public lecture in its interest was delivered. As a lawyer trusted implicitly and successful ; a staunch friend, an honoured Irishman, one of whose history Belfast may well congratulate itself. His public career was marked by most sterling qualities, honourable, upright, consistent, and of the very highest principle ; in Parliament a skilful and able debater and a wise counsellor ; in the General Synod of the Church of Ireland a constant and most helpful member for many years ; a firm, uncompromising, evangelical Protestant, adhering faithfully all his life to the principles of the Reformation. Born at Belfast 26th December, 1804 ; educated at Belfast Academy under James Sheridan Knowles, and afterwards in Trinity College, Dublin. Elected M.P. for Dublin University, of which he was eventually Vice-Chancellor, 1847 ; Attorney-General of Ireland, 1852 ; D.C.L. of Oxford, 1853 ; Lord Chancellor of Ireland, 1858 ; created a baronet, 1867 ; his coat-of-arms placed in Gray's Inns, 1868 ; appointed a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, 1868 ; Chief Commissioner of the Great Seal, 1871 ; died at St. Leonard's, 9th December, 1882. Aged 78 years. ‘ Thou hast brought me to great honour and comforted me on every side.—Psalm lxxi. 19 v. This monument is to one of the noblest of the sons of the United Kingdom.’

The Rev. Ernest L. Ridge, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, has written to the papers : “ The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have for some months past ceased to be patrons of the Church Extension Society (Sisters of the Church).”

The Bishop of Dover has consecrated a new church, by the name of “ The Church of the Holy Innocents,” to be a chapel-of-ease for the parish of St. Mark, Lower Norwood. The church has been erected in the Decorated style from designs by Messrs. Bodley and Garner, and has cost £10,000.

Bishop Wilkinson has consecrated the English Church of St. John, Boulogne. The building cost £6,000, and is the result of seven years' labour on the part of the chaplain, the Rev. J. H. Fry. The church is vested in the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

The new English Church of St. James the Apostle, at Grindelwald, will be opened on St. James's Day, July 25, when the sermon will be preached by the Dean of Norwich. The cost of the church will be about £2,200, and it will seat 300 persons. About £1,400 is still required. The patronage of this chaplaincy is now in the hands of the Colonial and Antient Church Society, 9, Sergeants' Inn, Fleet Street, and it is earnestly hoped that visitors to the Continent who are interested in the work will contribute to the building fund.

The Corporation of the Church House has received a donation of £200 from Mr. Albert Brassey towards the building fund.

An anonymous donation of £1,000 has been received by the Additional Curates' Society.

The Fishmongers' Company have contributed £1,500 to the decoration of St. Paul's Cathedral, the cost of the mosaic in the chancel dome which represents the creation of fishes.