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that men, tempted by short hours and high wages, flocked to the mines whenever there was an opportunity. As a matter of fact, 22,232 more persons were employed in the coal-mines in 1894 than in 1893, and 37,257 more than in 1891, when the output was only 2,798,399 tons less than last year. The death-rates from accidents in 1894 ran very close to those of 1893, being, indeed, slightly the worse of the two. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wrexham.

Under the heading of "The Poster in Politics," the *Review of Reviews* has collected some amusing examples of election placards. Much the most effective, in our opinion, was that issued in Inverness, describing "What the Liberal Government have done since 1892." It runs thus :

1892.—Came into office ; made peers ; made promises.

1893.—Home Rule fiasco ; made more peers ; made more promises.

1894.—Passed a Local Government Act ; increased the death-duties ; won the Derby ; lost their leader ; made more peers ; made more promises.

1895.—Again won the Derby ; made still more peers ; made still more promises ; resigned.

Total : 1 Act ; 2 Derbys ; 15 peers ; promises innumerable."

As a succinct history of a late administration, that could hardly be beaten.—*Spectator*.



Obituary.



THE LATE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER.

THE venerable Dr. Durnford died suddenly on Monday, October 14, at Basle, Switzerland. The late Bishop had been absent from his diocese since September 5, spending his annual holiday with his daughter, Miss Durnford, at Cadenabbia, on the shores of Lake Como. Soon after his arrival there he was slightly indisposed, but he soon recovered, and apparently was in his usual health when he started on his way home on the 11th, in order to be present at the opening of the Diocesan Conference at Worthing.

The late Bishop, who was the son of the Rev. Richard Durnford, Rector of Lower Clatford, Hants, was born at Sandleford, Berks, on November 3, 1802. He was educated at Eton and Oxford, and during his schoolboy days was a frequent contributor to the *Etonian*, which at that time was edited by W. Mackworth Praed. Richard Durnford graduated at Magdalen College, of which he was sometime a Fellow, and he was one of the founders of the Oxford Union. He took his B.A. (First Class Lit. Hum.) in 1826, proceeding M.A. in 1829, and D.D. in 1870 upon his elevation to the Episcopal bench. In 1830 he was ordained deacon, and received priest's orders the following year, but of his earlier clerical appointments there is no record. He was presented to the rectory of Middleton, Lancashire, in 1835, and remained in charge of that busy centre for the long period of thirty-five years. The first Bishop of Manchester, Dr. Prince Lee, held Mr. Durnford in high esteem, and made him an Honorary Canon of the Cathedral in 1854. In 1867 he was promoted to be Arch-deacon of Manchester, and in the following year was appointed Canon Residentiary. He succeeded Bishop Gilbert at Chichester early in 1870, being consecrated on Sunday, May 8, 1870, in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall. He was then in his sixty-eighth year.

At that time Chichester was the one diocese in the Church coterminous

with a county, and the only exacting sphere of the Bishop's duties was the supervision of the rising watering-places dotted on the seventy miles of the southern coast-line. But comparatively small as was the sphere of his labours, the late Bishop addressed himself to his work with all the ardour and sagacity which he had shown in his crowded Lancashire parish. Within five years the number of confirmations was doubled, and he from the first availed himself of every occasion for urging on his clergy the importance of taking part in the work of education. His elevation to the Episcopate having coincided with the enhancement of interest in Elementary schools which resulted from the passing of Mr. Forster's Act, Dr. Durnford was anxious that the clergymen of his diocese should, as he put it, "make the most of a great opportunity," not leaving religious instruction to be given by deputy, but giving it themselves in the appointed hours.

Bishop Durnford married in 1840 Emma, daughter of Dr. Keate, the famous Headmaster of Eton, but was left a widower in 1884. He leaves issue Richard, an Assistant Charity Commissioner since 1877; Walter, a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and an Assistant-Master at Eton; and one daughter.

ARCHDEACON PALMER.

We regret to record the death, at his residence at Christ Church, of the Venerable Edwin Palmer, Archdeacon of Oxford. He had a paralytic stroke on Sunday, the 6th Oct. Edwin Palmer was the fourth son of the Rev. W. J. Palmer, Vicar of Mixbury, Oxon, and the younger brother of the late Lord Selborne, and of the late William Palmer, of Magdalen. He was born in July, 1824, and was thus at the time of his death in his seventy-second year. Educated at Charterhouse, he was elected scholar of Balliol in 1841, and entered, like his brother before him, upon a brilliant University career, obtaining the Ireland and Hertford Scholarships in 1843, the Latin Verse in 1844, a First Class in Classics in 1845, and the Latin Essay in 1847. He was elected Fellow of Balliol in 1845, was Classical Lecturer of the College for ten years, when Jowett, Lake, and Woollcombe were the tutors, and was himself tutor for four years, until he was appointed in 1870 to the Corpus Professorship of Latin, in succession to Conington. He held the professorship till 1878, when his appointment to the archdeaconry of Oxford, with a canonry at Christ Church, gave occasion to the comment, "*Palmam qui meruit ferat.*"

The life of a scholar passed entirely in his University, with the one brief exception of a winter spent at Athens and in Palestine, can present few marked events. As a consequence of that visit, he retained to the end of his life an excellent colloquial knowledge of modern Greek. There were three phases of his career—that of the college tutor, of the professor, and of the Church dignitary. Of his excellence as a tutor former pupils speak with enthusiasm almost, if not quite, as great as that evoked by the memory of the beautiful character and brilliant scholarship of his friend and colleague, James Riddell, or of that other ornament of his University, Henry Smith, also at the same time a lecturer of the college. Sound and graceful scholarship, a command of the whole range of Greek and Latin literature, unflinching energy in teaching, great lucidity of exposition, a kindly cordiality, bearing down a natural shyness—the conflict between the two not seldom leading to an amusing outburst of *gaucherie* or brusqueness—an intensity and singleness of character and purpose: such were the qualities which made Edwin Palmer eminent among eminent colleagues, and made him at once the friend and guide not only of his own pupils, but of many other young men throughout the University. His professorial career was less noticeable. He discharged

the duties of his chair with zeal and thoroughness—that of course; but his lectures were for the most part limited to the ordinary curriculum, and were not such as to make an epoch in the study of classical literature.

The discharge of his archidiaconal duties filled in the most complete sense the third and final period of his life. It was marked by tireless energy, clear mastery of subjects, singleness of purpose, and courteous demeanour. His lodgings in Christ Church were for many years before his death a centre of diocesan activity. His charges were models of clear and acute treatment of politico-ecclesiastical topics, upon which he brought to bear qualities which at the Bar could hardly have failed to insure him eminence little less than his brother's. His clergy never regretted that they had declined to avail themselves of the option he gave them of a discontinuance of these customary deliveries. Doctrinal questions on such occasions he avoided; but he was one of the company of translators of the New Testament in the Revised Version, and edited the revised Greek text, of which he and Bishop Ellicott issued a defence in pamphlet form against the attack of Dean Burgon. He also edited his friend James Riddell's "Apology of Plato," after the latter's lamented death. He also, jointly with two others, published an expurgated edition of Catullus. He rendered constant valuable service as a delegate of the University Press. Although by no means a pulpit orator, he was twice appointed a Select Preacher. The colleges with which he had been connected, Balliol and Corpus, each placed him on their list of Honorary Fellows; of the latter college he might, we believe, have been President had he wished. Archdeacon Palmer married, in 1867, the sister of his friend, Mr. James Riddell; his son, Mr. E. J. Palmer, who was Craven Scholar in 1889, is Fellow and Tutor of Balliol.—*Times*.

Mrs. Cecil Frances Alexander, so well known as "C. F. A.," died at the Palace, Londonderry, after a few weeks' illness. She was born in county Wicklow in 1818, and was the daughter of Major John Humphreys, who served with distinction at the battle of Copenhagen, and was afterwards a landed proprietor and extensive land-agent in Ireland. In 1847 she married the Rev. William Alexander, who became Bishop of Derry and Raphoe in 1867. In all religious and charitable works in Londonderry and the diocese she took a wise and energetic part. She possessed a simple and straightforward dignity of manner, which gave a peculiar distinction to her in social relations. Among the poor and aged she was loved with pathetic intensity. It is, however, upon her writings that Mrs. Alexander's extended fame is built. She had a natural bent for poetry, and her early intimacy with Keble and Hook stamped her mind with a lasting impression. Her "Hymns for Little Children" and "Moral Songs" have had an immense circulation. Her less widely known "Poems on Old Testament Subjects" reach a loftier practical standard; but it is by certain of her hymns especially that she will be remembered, not only within the Anglican Church, but by all Christian communities. Of several of these Gounod said that they seemed to set themselves to music. Six only need be indicated: "The roseate hues of early dawn," "When wounded sore the stricken soul," "His are the thousand sparkling rills," "Jesus calls us o'er the tumult," "All things bright and beautiful," and "There is a green hill far away." The "Burial of Moses" is her best-known poem. Of this Tennyson observed that it was one of the poems by a living writer, of which he would have been proud to be the author. The Rev. F. A. Wallis, of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, preaching in Londonderry Cathedral, mentioned that he had heard Mrs. Alexander's hymns sung by half-clad Africans in a language she had never known.