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pensible. We cordially recommend it to the attention of every clergyman, churchwarden, or other church official in the diocese, as a book they cannot afford to be without.

The Clergy List for 1900. Kelly and Co.

The publishers are much to be congratulated on the admirable edition of the Clergy List which has just appeared. It is about the same size as last year's, and has only a continually increasing accuracy to offer. The labour of so continually altering the details in such a mass of matter must be immense. It is an invaluable handbook to the Church of England and its allies.



The Month.

IF most of our notes this month have to do with religious societies and their anniversaries, that will be appropriate to the season. But there are certain other subjects so absorptive of public attention just now that it may be well to begin with them.

We will, however (having space), ask whether any of our readers ever see a monthly periodical entitled *Things to Come*. That it deals much with the subject of unfulfilled prophecy its title suggests. So it does. And on that subject we may reasonably expect careful and devout students of the Word to differ considerably. But there are also to be found in it most valuable articles on the Epistles of St. Paul, and on other Scriptural and seasonable topics. Another useful feature is this: Questions may be asked on Scriptural difficulties, and answers are supplied. When Dr. Ginsburg is one of the answerers—to name him only—it may be supposed that able answers are likely to be given.

The three out of the four "sore judgments of God" which have so long been upon us are upon us still: war, pestilence, famine.

As to the last, it may be questioned whether the amount contributed to the Lord Mayor's Fund be at all adequate to the necessities of the case.

As to pestilence, not only is India still suffering, but Australia is being touched, Mauritius too, and even Europe. At Cawnpore, of mournful celebrity, a "plague riot" has taken place. There the segregation camp has been destroyed by the mob, who killed four constables, and threw their bodies into the burning plague camp. Troops were called out, and ten persons were killed. In Australia recourse is being had to humiliation and prayer.

Well worth reading is a letter addressed by the Rev. A. A. van der Lingen, pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church of Harrismith, in the Orange Free State, and at one time a candidate for the Presidency, to the *Cape Times*, regarding the war. What adds to its emphasis is the fact that "it is said that nearly every minister of the Gospel in South Africa, numbering over 600," cordially endorses the sentiments of that letter. It is too long to reproduce here; but it might be well to reprint it, fortify it with proof of the support it has, and circulate it far and wide.

At all times important is the consideration of the work, position, and anniversary arrangements of the London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews. Its diligent secretary, the Rev. W. T. Gidney (it would be more correct to say one of its secretaries), has just been supplementing his two volumes, "Sites and Scenes," by a third (but quite distinct), "At Home and Abroad." Since this volume—for which only 1s., or, by post, 1s. 3d., is charged—offers not only an account of the Society's own missions in this country and on the Continent—or Continents—but also a general account of efforts at Jewish evangelization "for the past 1,800 years," with forty-two illustrations and two maps, besides other interesting historic matter, it should have a wide circulation, and be of very great use, in these closing days of the "times"—or "opportunities"—of the Gentiles.

It is with thankfulness that we find that by the end of February £6,234 16s. had been received toward the liquidation of the Society's debt of £11,087 13s. 11d., of which March 31, 1899, told. May we hope that May 4 will be able to tell that the debt is wiped off altogether?

An announcement appeared lately in a London daily paper, headed: "LARGE RELIGIOUS BEQUESTS." Particulars follow. A Mrs. Margaret Tyers Weller-Poley, of Brandon House, Brandon, Suffolk, daughter of the late Rev. Prebendary Tyers Barnett, Rector of Attleborough, Norfolk, and widow of the Rev. William Weller-Poley, of Hartest, Suffolk, leaves a sum of £30,000 to be applied, but not till after a certain death, as follows: To the Colonial Bishopric Fund, £4,000; to the Incorporated Church Building Society, £5,000; to the Additional Home Bishops' Endowment Fund, £5,000; to the Additional Curates' Society, £3,000; to the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Church of England and Wales, £4,000; to the S.P.G., £2,000; to the S.P.C.K., £2,000; to the Corporation of the Church House, £5,000.

Very gratifying it is to know that, in spite of all the calls upon purses which Africa and India have lately made, and are still making, the Church Pastoral Aid Society is able to report, as to income, "an increase under every heading except legacies, while even legacies were £860 above the septennial average." "On the whole, there is an increase of £4,449 over last year."

Moreover, the number of grants has increased: increased from 893 to 925, the largest number on record; and the population benefited is rapidly approaching 6,000,000, or one-third of the industrial population of the country.

The choice of the Right Rev. James Johnson, Assistant-Bishop of Western Equatorial Africa, as preacher of the Annual Sermon of

April 30, is striking; as this is said to be the first time that important function has been discharged by a coloured clergyman.

The party of missionaries which is headed by Bishop Tugwell, and is making its way to Kano in Hausaland, is reported to have left Jebba, on the Upper Niger, on March 5. The proposal is to strike inland by way of a place called Daba, where there is a post attached to the new British Nigerian Government. The distance from Jebba to Kano is 500 miles, and the venture is almost as much a journey into the unknown as was the mission to Uganda in 1876.

These references to the C.M.S., however, bring us back to the Indian famine; for they would not be adequate without some notice of what that Society is doing for the relief of the victims. The committee has already sent out about £5,000 for this object. The mission of this Society which feels the distress most acutely is the Bheel Mission in Rajputana, where the Rev. C. Stewart Thompson is already, according to the last report, feeding 2,500 children daily. The committee has arranged to place all famine funds at the direct disposal of the corresponding committees in India, so that necessities may be immediately relieved.

And what necessities there are! Enclosed with an appeal to which a very mingled set of names is appended—an appeal which bears at its head the words “For His Name’s sake”—comes a paper containing some brief accounts of “Famine Scenes,” by “Eye-witnesses.” Take a paragraph or two: “A high-caste Christian lady has over 300 high-caste widows—many of them children—in a training home, gathered from the last famine, and has already taken many more from this famine.” “We go out for a walk every morning, and wherever we find a child lying by its dead mother, we, of course, bring it back with us. Yesterday morning I saw sixteen dead bodies within 200 yards from our door.”

Now, this appeal says that, in 1897, about £1,000,000 was raised “by charity” for the famine; whereas now the donations to the Mansion House Fund are likely to fall far short of that amount, though the area of distress is greater. It may be well to add that contributions may be sent to F. A. Bevan, Esq. (Barclay and Co., Ltd., 54, Lombard Street), who will transmit the fund as “Christian Offering” to the Central Committee of the Famine Fund, Calcutta.

After so many sad passages, it is refreshing to turn to a more pleasing topic. “On Wednesday next,” says a leader in the *Standard* for April 18, “a century will have elapsed since the death of William Cowper.” In these days of memorials, it is but natural that this event, too, should have its “centenary observances.” Olney, where the poet lived for some thirty years, will appropriately be the centre of these observances.

We should like, finally, to call attention to a most able pamphlet on Isaiah just issued by Dr. Bullinger. Its evidence for the unity of authorship is most cogent.

