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DURHAM CHRONICLE

W. IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.

DURHAM, JULY 3RD, 1902.

APOSTOLICAL SUCCESSION.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have again waited for Reader to continue the series of interesting articles upon his beloved church so that I could reply to them or remark upon them together to save space and time. As no further letter appears, I wish to say a word or two on the points introduced in his last letter lest it might be supposed that there was but one side—namely Reader's—to those questions.

Having been for many years a somewhat indifferent (except as to facts) student of early church history, I am considerably surprised at some of the statements and inferences of your correspondent. Where he gets his authority for them I know not, unless a rich and lively imagination, assisted by personal leanings, be freely at his disposal. I hope to give him in this and following letters my reasons for thinking he is mistaken, backed by such proofs as lie at hand, and I feel sure that a broader, deeper study of the works of his own church writers, without going beyond, will convince him, if he be open to conviction, that I am right.

This week I have contented myself with quoting an extract from the Essay of Lord Macaulay on "Gladstone on Church and State," as a sufficient refutation of Reader's claim that the Anglican church was guided through the violent commotions of the Reformation period with "Unbroken Continuity—undoubted historic continuity with the past"—in other words that the church has the true Apostolic Succession. The Essay can doubtless be had in the Public Library and will repay a careful reading by anyone interested in some of the claims of the Church in this regard. Next week, I shall endeavor to give some proofs to show that Reader is somewhat-at-sea as to the origin of Ecclesiastical Vestments in general and of some of them in particular.

The extract above referred to is as follows:—

"The transmission of orders from the Apostles to an English clergyman of the present day must have been through a very great number of intermediate persons. Now, it is probable that no clergyman in the Church of England can trace up his spiritual genealogy from bishop to bishop so far back as the time of the Conquest. There remain many centuries during which the transmission of his orders is buried in utter darkness. And whether he be a priest by succession from the Apostles depends on the question, whether during that long period, some thousands of events took place, any one of which may, without any gross improbability, be supposed not to have taken place. We have not a tittle of evidence for any one of these events. We do not even know the names or countries of the men to whom it is taken for granted that these events happened. We do not know whether the spiritual ancestors of any one of our contemporaries were Spanish or Armenian, Arian or Orthodox. In the utter absence of all particular evidence, we are surely entitled to require that there should be very strong evidence indeed that the strictest regularity was observed in every generation, and that episcopal functions were exercised by none who were not bishops, by succession from the Apostles. But we have no such evidence. In the first place, we have not

full and accurate information touching the policy of the Church during the century which followed the persecution of Nero. That, during this period, the overseers of all the little Christian societies scattered through the Roman empire, held their spiritual authority by virtue of holy orders derived from the Apostles, cannot be proved by contemporary testimony, or by any testimony which can be regarded as decisive. The question, whether the primitive ecclesiastical constitution bore a greater resemblance to the Anglican or to the Calvinistic model has been fiercely disputed. It is a question on which men of eminent parts, learning, and piety have differed, and do to this day differ very widely. It is a question on which at least a full half of the ability and erudition of Protestant Europe has, ever since the Reformation, been opposed to the Anglican pretensions. Mr. Gladstone himself, to allow that, if no evidence were admitted but that which is furnished by the genuine Christian literature of the first two centuries, judgment would not go in favor of prelacy. And if he looked at the subject as calmly as he would look at a controversy respecting the Roman Comitia or the Anglo-Saxon Wittengemote, he would probably think that the absence of contemporary evidence during so long a period was a defect which later attestations, however numerous, could but imperfectly supply. It is surely impolitic to rest the doctrines of the English Church on a historical theory which, to ninety-nine Protestants out of a hundred, would seem much more questionable than any of those doctrines. Nor is this all. Extreme obscurity overshadows the history of the middle ages; and the facts which are discernible through that obscurity prove that the Church was exceedingly ill-regulated. We read of sees of the highest dignity openly sold, transferred backwards and forwards by popular tumult, bestowed sometimes by a profligate woman on her paramour, sometimes by a warlike baron on a kinsman still a stripling. We read of bishops of ten years old, of bishops of five years old, of many popes who were mere boys, and who rivalled the frantic dissoluteness of Caligula, nay, of a female pope. And though this last story, once believed throughout all Europe, has been disproved by the strict researches of modern criticism, the most discerning of those who reject it have admitted that it is not intrinsically improbable. In our own island, it was the complaint of Alfred that not a priest south of the Thames, and very few on the north, could read either Latin or English. And this illiterate clergy exercised their ministry amidst a rude and half-heathen population, in which Danish pirates, unchristened, or christened by the hundreds on a field of battle, were mingled with a Saxon peasantry scarcely better instructed in religion. The state of Ireland was still worse. "Toto illa per universam Hiberniam dissolutio ecclesiasticæ disciplina, illa ubique pro consuetudine Christiana sæva subintroducta barbaries," are the expressions of St. Bernard. We are, therefore, at a loss to conceive how any clergyman can feel confident that his orders have come down correctly. Whether he be really a successor of the Apostles depends on an immense number of such contingencies as these: whether, under King Ethelwolf, a stupid priest might not, while baptizing several scores of Danish prisoners who had just made their option between the font and the gallows, inadvertently omit to perform the rite on one of these graceless proselytes; whether, in the seventh century, an impostor, who had never received consecration, might not have passed himself off as a bishop on a rude tribe of Scots; whether a lad of twelve did really, by a ceremony huddled over when he was too drunk to know what he was about, convey the episcopal character to a lad of ten.

Since the first century, not less, in all probability, than a hundred thousand persons have exercised the functions of bishops. That many of these have not been bishops by apostolical succession is quite certain. Hooker admits that deviations from the general rule have been frequent, and with a boldness worthy of his high and statesmanlike intellect, pronounces them often to be justifiable. "There may be," says he, "something very just and sufficient reason to allow ordination made without a bishop. Where the Church must needs have some ordained, and neither hath nor can have possibly a bishop to ordain, in case of such necessity the ordinary institution of God hath given oftentimes, and may give place. And therefore we are not simply without exception to urge a lineal descent of power from the Apostles by continued succession of bishops in every effectual ordination." There can be little doubt, we think, that the succession, if it ever existed, has often been interrupted in ways much less respectable. For example, let us suppose, and we are sure that no well-informed person will think the supposition by any means improbable, that, in the third century, a man of no principle and some parts, who has, in the course of a roving and

discreditable life, been a catechumen at Antioch, and has there become familiar with Christian usages and doctrines, afterwards rambles to Marseilles, where he finds a Christian society, rich, liberal and simple-hearted. He pretends to be a Christian, attracts notice by his abilities and affected zeal, and is raised to the episcopal dignity without having ever been baptized. That such an event might happen, nay, was very likely to happen, cannot well be disputed by any one who has read the Life of Peregrinus. The very virtues, indeed, which distinguished the early Christians, seem to have laid them open to those arts which deceived

Uriel, though Regent of the Sun, and held The sharp-sighted spirit of all in Heaven." Now this unbaptised impostor is evidently no successor of the Apostles. He is not even a Christian; and all orders derived through such a pretended bishop are altogether invalid. Do we know enough of the state of the world and of the Church in the third century to be able to say with confidence that there were not at that time twenty such pretended bishops? Every such case makes a break in the apostolical succession.

Now, suppose that a break, such as Hooker admits to have been both common and justifiable, or such as we have supposed to be produced by hypocrisy and cupidity, were found in the chain which connected the Apostles with any of the missionaries who first spread Christianity in the wilder parts of Europe, who can say how extensive the effect of this single break may be? Suppose that St. Patrick, for example, if ever there was such a man, or Theodore of Tarsus, who is said to have consecrated in the seventh century the first bishops of many English sees, had not the true apostolical orders, is it not conceivable that such a circumstance may affect the orders of many clergymen now living? Even if it were possible, which it assuredly is not, to prove that the Church had the apostolical orders in the third century, it would be impossible to prove that those orders were not in the twelfth century so far lost that no ecclesiastical could be certain of the legitimate descent of his own spiritual character. And if this were so, no subsequent precautions could repair the evil.

Chillingworth states the conclusion at which he has arrived on this subject in these very remarkable words: "That of ten thousand probabilities no one should be false; that of ten thousand requisites, whereof any one may fail, not one should be wanting, this to me is extremely improbable, and even cousin-german to impossible. So that the assurance hereof is like a machine composed of an innumerable multitude of pieces, of which it is strangely unlikely but some will be out of order; and yet, if any one be so, the whole fabric falls of necessity to the ground; and he that shall put them together, and maturely consider all the possible ways of lapsing and nullifying a priesthood in the Church of Rome, will be very inclinable to think that it is a hundred to one, that among a hundred seeming priests, there is not one true one; nay, that it is not a thing very improbable that, amongst those many millions which make up the Romish hierarchy, there are not twenty true." We do pretend to know

Railroad Men's Backache.

Men who work on the railroad whether in the capacity of engineers, firemen, machinists or trackmen, find that the heavy work they do and the exposure to change of weather and temperature very hard on their back and kidneys.

There are few railroadmen who do not complain of kidney trouble in some form. Dr. Pitcher's Backache Kidney Tablets have proved themselves the greatest benefactors of all classes of railroad men. They give ease to the aching, sore back, clear up the urine, relieve the scalding and burning, and impart new life and vitality to the urinary organs.

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Mrs. Mary Wilson, living on Albert Street, Sarnia, Ont., has confidence in Dr. Pitcher's Backache Kidney Tablets. Her son George, employed as a machinist on the Grand Trunk R.R., has been cured of lumbago by using them. Mrs. Wilson said: "Dr. Pitcher's Backache Kidney Tablets that I brought my son from Geary's drug store has cured him of that constant pain and lameness in the back that caused him the greatest misery. He had tried plasters and other remedies, but nothing gave him the permanent relief obtained from these Tablets. The whole difficulty has quite disappeared and with it the accompanying weariness and lack of energy. He has no headaches nor kidney trouble, but is enjoying perfect health. I can honestly recommend these Tablets to anyone having any trouble with their backs."
Dr. Pitcher's Backache Kidney Tablets are 50c. a Box, at all druggists or by mail, THE DR. ZINA PITCHER CO., Toronto, Ont.

to what precise extent the canonists of Oxford agree with those of Rome as to the circumstances which nullify orders. We will not, therefore, go so far as Chillingworth. We only say that we see no satisfactory proof of the fact, that the Church of England possesses the apostolical succession. And, after all, if Mr. Gladstone could prove the apostolical succession, what would the apostolical succession prove? He says that "we have among us the ordained hereditary witnesses of the truth, conveying it to us through an unbroken series from our Lord Jesus Christ and his Apostles." Is this the fact. Is there any doubt that the orders of the Church of England are generally derived from the Church of Rome? Does not the Church of England declare, does not Mr. Gladstone himself admit, that the Church of Rome teaches much error and condemns much truth? And is it not quite clear, that as far as the doctrines of the Church of England differ from those of the Church of Rome, so far the Church of England conveys the truth through a broken series?

That the founders, lay and clerical, of the Church of England, corrected all that required correction in the doctrines of the Church of Rome, and nothing more, may be quite true. But we never can admit the circumstances that the Church of England possesses the apostolical succession as a proof that she is thus perfect. No stream can rise higher than its fountain. The succession of ministers in the Church of England, derived as it is through the Church of Rome, can never prove more for the Church of England than it proves for the Church of Rome. But this is not all. The Arian Churches which once predominated in the kingdom of the Ostrogoths, the Visigoths, the Burgundians, the Vandals, and the Lombards, were all episcopal churches, and all had a fairer claim than that of England to the apostolical succession, as being much nearer to the apostolical times. In the East, the Greek Churches which at variance on points of faith with all the Western Churches, has an equal claim to this succession. The Nestorian, the Eutychnian, the Jacobite Churches, all heretical, all condemned by councils, of which even Protestant divines have generally spoken with respect, had an equal claim to the apostolical succession. Now, if, of teachers having apostolical orders, a vast majority have taught much error, if a large proportion have taught deadly heresy, if, on the other hand, as Mr. Gladstone himself admits, churches not having apostolical orders, that of Scotland for example, have been nearer to the standard of orthodoxy than the majority of teachers who have had apostolical orders, how can he possibly call upon us to submit our private judgment to the authority of a Church on the ground that she has these orders?

—A. B.

Brain-Food Nonsense.

Another ridiculous food fad has been branded by the most competent authorities. They have dispelled the silly notion that one kind of food is needed for brain, another for muscles, and still another for bones. A correct diet will not only nourish a particular part of the body, but it will sustain every other part. Yet, however good your food may be, its nutriment is destroyed by indigestion or dyspepsia. You must prepare for their appearance or prevent their coming by taking doses of Green's August Flower, the favorite medicine of the healthy millions. A few doses aids digestion, stimulates the liver to healthy action, purifies the blood and makes you feel buoyant and vigorous. You can get this reliable remedy at Darling's Drug Store.

GLENMONT.

The roads in this vicinity were greatly improved last week by the use of the township road grader.

Mr. Thos. Hornsby was visiting friends in Owen Sound last week.

While driving over Hooper's hills about a week ago, Geo. and Mary Hargrave happened with what might have been a very serious accident. The horse became frightened at a dog and went over the bank upsetting both out of the buggy. Geo. was somewhat injured, but Mary got off with a good shaking up.

The entertainment held in Ebenezer church last Tuesday evening was quite a success. The program consisted of music, addresses, readings, recitations, etc. Everyone enjoyed Rev. W. K. Smith's illustrated address. After the program Mr. Wm. Ramage was presented with an address and two beautiful chairs, as a small token of his service in training the fall and winter singing class and Ebenezer choir. Mr. R. made a very suitable reply, thanking all for their kindness to him.

The Priceville Garden Party is postponed till July 4th. We wonder why.

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Women's Dongola Bals, excellent quality, price \$2.00 for \$1.50.
Women's Light Wearing Bals, price \$1.35 for \$1.00.
Women's Extra Quality Box Bals, price \$2.50 for \$1.75.
Women's Dongola Bals and Buttoned, good leather, price \$1.75 for \$1.25.
Women's Dongola Bals and Buttoned, price \$1.40 for \$1.00.
Women's Strap Slippers, price \$1.25 for 95c.
Men's Medium Weight Wearing Shoes, price \$1.25 for 75c.
Men's Fine Dongola Bals, price \$2.00 for \$1.50.

BE ON THE LOOK-OUT for SHOE BARGAINS at this store. Watch our window. It always pays to buy Footwear here.

Ordered Work and Repairing our Specialty.

PEEL, THE SHOE MAN

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We've just added a new line of cleaning machinery. Suction from rolls. Steamer for steaming the wheat, and are now prepared to furnish a fine grade of flour. Give us a trial and be convinced.

Breakfast Food.

We've also got our new Chopper in first class running order, and have a large quantity of Chopped Corn, Wheat, etc. on hand. Give our Breakfast a trial. It's good.

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Every farmer has some choice, but there is no machinery so universally in favor as that manufactured by the Frost & Wood Co., of Smith's Falls, Ont. We have the local agency for the goods manufactured by this firm, and as they are so extensively known throughout the Dominion, it is not necessary to say anything by way of introduction. Before buying, however, we may be permitted to suggest, the wisdom of examining our goods, which sell at sight in many instances. See them.

Our No. 3 Open Back Binder is a Leader in the Market.

We also carry a full line of Mowers, Rakes, Champion Seed Drills, Disc Harrows, Cultivators, in short everything a farmer needs on the farm or in the house. The Standard Sewing Machine carries with it a five-year guarantee. Everybody knows the McLaughlin Buggies and Cutters, the Gray Buggies of Chatham, and the Armstrong Buggies of Guelph. We have them all, give us a call. Don't forget we have the National Cream Separator and Famous Threshers made by White & Son.

D. Campbell, - Durham, Ont.

Lacrosse No

OWEN SOUNDERS STRUCK A
THEY RAN UP AGAINST O

A large and enthusiastic supporters of the Durham team followed their favorite pretty little village of Flesch Dominion Day to ascertain the relative strength of their so called pennant w Owen Sound. When the t up on the field it was qui that the big fellows from had the advantage in size against "Doc. Mahan's col After the first blow of the the "Colts" sprang in with a determination to w The ball travelled up on Sound defence, and after a the best of combination, A tyre by a neat shot from scored the first goal. Time

The next quarter was bit tested, Durham continuing class the stalwards owing t speed and better combinati The third quarter was ma one of the fastest combin played in this district. "han's colts" giving "Jack aggregaion" a sample of game is played and won, few hard checks the "Col scored, this time Corp. Day ing the trick.

Owen Sound tried hard t in the last quarter, but t ing continually in their found it difficult work to the play of the Durham hter some minutes play, L of the Sound, by one of the shots" scored. This ended ing, "Doc. Mahan's colts" by 2 to 1.

NOTES.

Now for Hanover.

Watch "Doc. Mahan's col now on.

"Dug" Munro, Wiuk Cartre, McIntyre, Dayment, linson are hard to beat o while on the defence McCra Munro, Meredith and M are stout ribs to run again the Owen Sound home at the

No serious accidents to the game was clean and gen throughout.

Ramsley's heavy-weights, classed by "Doc. Mahan's c Pete Gagnon kept the their work all the time.

It was no surprise when came that the Durham boys defeated the Owen Sound an exhibition game at Flesch Dominion Day and carried prize of \$25.00 awarded by ing fraternity of our sister to the east of us.

Charlie Lavelle between the as solid as a cement wall.

The Sounders, no doubt, that \$25.00 their money, an only modesty that prevent sending down for a check s ago. The "crest-fallen" g "Cementville" was thought mark for the invincibles of t ago, but they went home a and decided to learn to play before meeting our boys here.

Mike McCracken, Wes. T Joe Collinson, Dave Wint Allie McIntyre and all the them are said to have done work. They can do it.

Owen Sound plays in Han Monday. Will they win?

Wes. Theobald, who is a strength to our team, got knocked out of joint and wa in the last quarter.

The Owen Sound papers, have a chance to make a c between the appearance of t before and after the game didn't forget that when the ed our boys.

Durham got the \$25.00, the pennant, but they're w play for it.

The referee seems to ha satisfaction. We hear p lains. Quite a change t Durham-Hanover one.

"Durham has a good t Owen Sound has a better O. S. Times. Looks like t.

Doc. Mahan's colts should sidered horses after knocki Sounders on Dominion Day.

A Championship Lacrosse t between Hanover and Dur played here on Thursday i result was 3 to 2 in favor of team. Since the exhibitio here on Empire Day the boys made substantial impr in handling the rubber, an score indicates the Durba were held down much tight they were on the previous

The visiting team did some bination work, and at times good game. The home boy a little off color, and if we s estly we most say they p rather inferior game, and not be taken as an exhibitio they can do under favorable stances. The referee was M of St. Fr st, and from the seem'd evident to the genle that his sympathies w the Hanover team. He tailed to popularize himself Durham boys, over whom he authority in sending to fenc slight, and sometimes qu provocation. The game app us to be rough enough on b and how enthusiastic lacrosse can take pleasure in som