

Congress. Few can fail to feel that an earnest Bishop, who was above party influences, and whose work for good in this Church was so unceasing and zealous, is at this time a very great loss to her; and after the appointment of the Rev. A. Boyd to the Deanery of Exeter, vacated by Lord Middleton, it is a matter of anxiety whether the present Government will give to the Diocese a man really fitted to be, in such times of difficulty, a chief ruler of the Church. Most heartily we sympathize with the Spirit of the Prayer, which the Council of the English Church Union has put forth for the use of members of the English Church, "that God would so dispose and govern the heart of " Victoria, our Queen, her advisers and all others, who are privileged to take " part in the nomination, election, confirmation and consecration of Bishops, that " they may have grace to make a wise choice, one pleasing to Our Almighty " Lord God, and conducive to his glory, and honour, and the advantage of His " Church."

The Congress at Wolverhampton, at which the moderation of the late Bishop Lonsdale shone so conspicuously, was in every respect a success; in fact it is now almost needless to say of a Congress that it is a success; the facilities of travelling in England are so great, that anything of the kind, which depends mainly upon the numbers gathered, is sure to succeed. And a Church Congress, at this time, when so deep an interest is felt in Church matters, is sure not to be behind hand in point of a full attendance. The Congress at Wolverhampton was especially brilliant, from the number of Bishops who gathered there from all parts of the world. Men who have been witnessing long for the faith of Christ in distant colonies of the vast British Empire, or in the United States of America, met there with their brethren at home for mutual support and discussion; such a meeting could not fail to be alike important and interesting. At the same time doubts have been thrown upon the advisability of a yearly Church Congress; for it is said that it rather tends to draw away the minds of men, and especially the Clergy from the routine of home duties, and to accustom them too much to spiritual excitement. The true field for work that now takes place in these miscellaneous gatherings, is in the Diocesan Synods of the Clergy and Laity, which, if necessary, might be strengthened and supplemented by occasional Congresses, at which the work done in the Synods of the various dioceses might be gathered up, and perhaps reviewed and criticized. Such is the view advocated in "The Churchman," and which certainly needs consideration, inasmuch the substitution of responsible for irresponsible gatherings is in itself a gain to the Church, and would afford a very important benefit to every diocese in which such Synods should be held.

We learn by the last papers from England that the Rev. W. J. Butler, vicar of Wantage, who was elected Bishop of Pietermeritzburg, in the room of Dr. Colenso, deposed by Bishop Gray, Metropolitan of South Africa, has refused to accept the Bishopric. It is said that this course was taken on the suggestion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of Oxford; and, further, it is