

The Church Guardian.

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."—Eph. vi. 24.
 "Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."—Jude: 3.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1881.

One Dollar a Year.

REV. JOHN D. H. BROWNE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR, LOCK DRAWER 29, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.
 REV. EDWYN S. W. PENTREATH, ASSOCIATE EDITOR, MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE Rev. H. J. Armfield has tabulated the official figures of last year's Confirmations in twenty English Dioceses. The total comes to 127,686—51,256 being males, and 76,530 females.

COL. EDWIN A. OSBORNE, a distinguished Confederate officer, who was several times severely wounded during the war, was ordained at Christ Church, Raleigh, N. C., on Sunday, May 22nd, Bishop Lyman officiating.

REV. DR. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, recently deceased, was one of two brothers who came very near being elected Bishops of New York and Pennsylvania, to succeed the Brothers Onderdonk, but were defeated by the Brothers Potter.

LORD DENMAN drives a horse about the streets of London that wears spectacles. It was found to be near-sighted, and the kind-hearted owner successfully tried the experiment of putting on rectifying "specs." So says the *Chicago Living Church*.

REV. J. HAZARD HARTZELL, the recent pastor of the Church of the Messiah, Buffalo, N. Y., has renounced Universalism, and come into the Church. At St. Paul's Church, Syracuse, he was confirmed on Sunday, 29 May. He has become a candidate for Holy Orders.

It has been stated in Parliament that the losses of the British army in the Transvaal war have been, of officers, 29 killed and 20 wounded; of non-commissioned officers and men, 366 killed and 428 wounded. This does not include deaths or disability from sickness.

THE oldest rose bush in the world is said to be one which is trained upon one side of the Cathedral of Hildesheim, in Germany. Its age is unknown, but documents exist which prove that a Bishop Hecelio, nearly a thousand years ago, protected it by a stone roof, which is still in existence.

THE OLD CATHOLICS are about to establish a Church in New Orleans, and it is not doubted but it will draw to itself many Roman Catholics whose allegiance to the Pope sits lightly upon them. It is said the movement is regarded as a very serious one at Rome. With the well-known views of Bishop Herzog, the Church would naturally fall under the jurisdiction of Bishop Galleher, and there is assurance that matters will be so arranged as not to interfere with Christian unity.—*New York Churchman*.

BISHOP REINKEINS lately delivered in the town-hall of Crefeld a lecture before four thousand people on 'The true nature of Christianity as opposed to the Vatican conception of it.' At the same place he confirmed fifty-six candidates. The prospects of the Old Catholics in Germany are evidently brightening again. Among their latest accessions are four clergymen, of whom one at least is a distinguished man. His name is Francis Bede Hubenvoll, and he is a member of various literary societies of Austria and Bavaria.

IN the rather gloomy picture which the Bishop of Long Island, in his recent annual sermon, drew in regard to the state of religion on the continent of Europe, he found (says the *Churchman*), a brilliant exception in the Church of England. In expending over \$200,000,000 in building and repairing Churches and Cathedrals in the last thirty years; in expending over \$30,000,000 in the last eleven years to establish and carry on Church schools; in her hold on the two great centres of the intellectual life of the nation; in the greater liberty and greater energy of action toward which all her lines are converging, the Bishop thinks she is becoming too strong, too useful, too beneficent for the State to think lightly of separation from her fellowship.

COLONEL A. W. DRAYSON, of the Royal Artillery, stationed at Halifax, N. S., after ten years' investigation, claims that the earth rotates annually around an axis which is not coincident with the axis of daily revolution. The movement is due, he says, to the preponderance of land above the water in the northern hemisphere. Owing to the mass of land on one side of the earth in Europe, Asia, and Africa, the centre of gravity of the earth is not coincident with the centre of the earth, and consequently is not located in the plane of the equator. By aid of this discovery, if it shall prove a reality, the changing position of the stars from month to month can be calculated, and so render the endless observations taken at various observatories no longer necessary.

THE stampede to Europe this summer is immense. Over seven hundred passengers sailed from this port last Saturday. It is thought that seventy-five thousand Americans will visit Europe this summer. They will spend on the average for the round trip, certainly not less than \$1,000 each. So the *New World* pays \$75,000,000 a year to visit the Old Curiosity Shop.—*American Paper*.

SPEAKING at Lichfield, the Archdeacon of Stafford strongly objected to men of advanced age being ordained, and said thirty should be the limit of age fixed. He also opposed the ordination of Scripture-readers as curates; and speaking of ex-Non-conformists who sought to be ordained clergymen of the Church, he said that they had far too much to unlearn, and for this reason must be content to plod on after their juniors. Curates had no right to set an example of improvidence by marrying on scanty means. They ought to wait until they had an independent income.

SPEAKING of the Chippeway Mission in Minnesota, the *Living Church* says: "The denominations who were at work among these Indians for many years made no impression on them, and have now all withdrawn. The Romanists have only some French half-breeds for their adherents, and are making no impression on the great body of the Indians. On the contrary, our own Church has now eight ministers of this race and six flourishing congregations. May the hands of Bishop Whipple be still strengthened, and his days prolonged to see yet more abundant success!"

THE publication of the Revised New Testament has produced the grotesque as well as the grave. New York went mad over it, and even Wall Street took the fever. Almost every important city witnessed the same zeal for the purchase of the Book. Business men who had not opened the Bible for many a year invested a small amount for the Revised. But what is far more comical than the fever to buy, is the cool manner in which certain clergymen have allowed themselves to be interviewed, and have given their opinion about the value of the revision. Many of those gentlemen are as competent to give an opinion on the subject as they would be to examine a sea captain in navigation. The best cultured of those who have yet spoken should hesitate before venturing on a criticism, for it is certain that in ability to judge they are inferior to the least capable man on the Revision Committee. It is a pity when respectable men make themselves appear ridiculous.—*Spectator*.

THE Treasurer's Report of the Hospital Sunday Fund, in New York, has just been issued, and is of peculiar interest. The result of last Hospital Sunday in New York amounted to \$44,371.97 as against \$26,455.07 of the year previous. The collections were made up from every Christian body, Hebrew Synagogues, the public exchanges, private donations, etc. The parishes of the Church, it is gratifying to note, have again contributed by far the largest share, nearly one-quarter of the whole. The list stands:—

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| Parishes of the Church..... | \$10,620 76 |
| Presbyterian..... | 6,820 07 |
| Hebrew..... | 1,880 10 |
| Dutch Reformed..... | 1,124 17 |
| Baptist..... | 303 38 |
| Lutheran..... | 148 89 |
| Methodist..... | 20 25 |
| Other religious bodies..... | 548 11 |
| Total..... | \$21,538 63 |

It will thus be seen that the Church contributed as much as all the other religious bodies together. Exchanges and private individuals added \$28,469.66 more, the offerings of Churchmen being presumably represented among these gifts also, though in what proportion cannot be known. There certainly should be no feeling of mere invidious comparison here; but the figures are of moment, as further demonstration of a fact, that is slowly, very slowly, growing into recognition, that the Church leads the way, and is far in advance of all others, in matters of practical and Christly charities. The Report will be further instructive, when it becomes understood, that St. Luke's Hospital waved all light to participation with the other institutions on this Hospital-Sunday fund for the present year; having been itself liberally remembered by designated gifts, which do not appear in these figures at all. It amounts to this: that the Church has handsomely supported its own five hospitals, among which are the only Child's hospital and the only Home for Incurables, in the metropolis, and has besides given about one-quarter of the entire sum publicly contributed to the various other hospitals of the city.—*Cor. Living Church*.

At the Anniversary Meeting of the Church Sunday School Institute held in London, on the 10th inst., the Bishop of Ossory moved the adoption of the Report, and in the close of an eloquent speech said there was great danger in our day lest secular instruction should drive religious education to the wall. Therefore there was a greater responsibility resting upon those who have Sunday School work to use the opportunity given them of bringing the blessed truths of the Gospel before the children, so that they may be by the Divine blessing made wise unto salvation.

THE Year-Book of Trinity Parish, New York, gives the following interesting items: Baptisms, 1,195; Confirmed, 497; Communicants, 4,214; Sunday School scholars, 4,871; scholars in parish schools, 953; industrial schools, 2,276. Contributions by the Vestry, \$83,237.87; appropriations by the Vestry, \$44,096; appropriations being for parochial objects. During the past year, a house and lot on Varick St. was purchased for school purposes, adding to the value of the property of St. John's Chapel. The Corporation now has a plot of ground, 240 feet front and 175 feet deep, with St. John's Chapel in the centre; on the north side, the Infirmary or parish hospital, and on the south side, the school. The clergy of Trinity Parish consist at present of the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, and sixteen assistants. Of these, the Rev. Drs. Weston, Swope and Mulchahey, in charge of St. John's, Trinity and St. Paul's Chapels, are denominated "Senior Assistants," and are assigned to duty by the Vestry.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

BORNEO.

DIocese OF LABUAN AND SARAWAK.—II.

REV. T. T. HALCOMBE, M. A.

THE consecration of the Church (1851), as mentioned in our last paper, was followed by a special mission, "undertaken by the Rev. W. Chambers, in the Sakarian district; and by the end of 1852 four clergymen had already mastered the primary difficulties of more than one new language,—had built a church, had won the hearts of the heathen by their medical skill and their readiness to impart secular knowledge, and had received, by Baptism, into the family of Christ fifty natives of mixed race, chiefly orphan children adopted by the Missionaries, and such adults as, after careful training and examination, were thought to have shown the signs of grace in their hearts. At this time the Propagation Society took the Missions under its care, and steps were taken to procure the appointment of a Bishop. After some delay, Dr. McDougall was consecrated in 1855 in the Cathedral of Calcutta, by the title of Bishop of Labuan, as that island belonged to the British Crown; and on his reaching Borneo, the Rajah nominated him Bishop of Sarawak, the capital of his own dominion."

For the last 23 years the work has progressed with varying success. From time to time fresh labourers have gone out to Borneo, either as additions to the staff or to fill the places of those who have been compelled, by ill-health, brought on by the damp, monotonous climate, to return to England. "In 1857, when the Missions were visibly extending, churches having been built, schools prospering, and more labourers loudly called for, a rebellion on the part of the Chinese suddenly threw the whole work into confusion. Several of the European officers were killed, but the Rajah (Sir James Brooke) escaped. The Bishop and his family, together with some of the Missionaries and the Christian converts, hid themselves in the jungle and afterwards took refuge in the fort at Linga. Returning at the end of a month, the Bishop found his home entirely ransacked; but, worse than all, while the Chinese had either been killed or driven into the country, the old blood-thirsty spirit was aroused anew, the passion for taking heads was rekindled, and it was a long time before the Dyaks could settle down once more to receive Christian teaching. Two years later a Mahometan plot was hatched, and two Europeans fell victims; piracy and head-taking were revived, and the Mission made but little visible way. But the Missionaries remained at their posts, doing, if not all they wished, the utmost that was possible. The small flocks were tended, the schools were organized, the languages were studied more thoroughly and translations made; the sufferings of the people were relieved by medical skill; and thus, gently, almost imperceptibly, the truth was advanced. "In 1863, Buda, the son of a notorious pirate

chief, having met with some Christian Dyaks, became himself an enquirer, and put himself under Mr. Chambers' instruction. The next year he returned with his wife and child for further teaching, and went back to his own people to work as a Catechist among them. The result was that in 1867 Mr. Chambers, who paid them a long visit, was happy in baptizing 180 of the people who but very recently had been the most dangerous enemies of the English and the most notorious of the pirates of Borneo."

The number of baptized persons in Borneo is now about 1,500, but the result of the Mission is not to be measured by such statistics. The general tone of the community is raised, and hundreds who have made no profession would be shocked at the thought of doing things in which the last generation gloried. The present Bishop declares that among the "Sea Dyaks the advance towards civilization and Christianity is very apparent, and that the contrast between the condition of things now and even five years ago would strike the most careless observer. On a recent visitation he found at Banting that a poor woman had that day died in childbirth. Her heathen parents were angry with the innocent cause of her death, and, according to ancient custom, were about to swathe the living child round the body of the dead mother and bury them together; but the public opinion of the Christian portion of the village protested against the inhuman act, and the babe's life was saved. Again, at the Undup, four strangers entered a house of the Sea Dyaks, who lived a day's journey distant from the Missionary. Their arms awakened the suspicion that they were out on a head-taking expedition, so the people rose on them, bound them fast, and cut off their heads, which they hung up as trophies. At the very same time that this tragedy was being performed six armed men belonging to the same party, and bent on the like bloodthirsty errand, entered a house of the Dyaks close to the residence of the Missionary. The same suspicions were excited, but the power of Christian teaching made itself felt; the people rose upon them and bound them, but instead of taking the law into their own hands they led them before the resident magistrate."

The Straits of Malacca Settlements are now under the Episcopal charge of the Bishop of Labuan. Of Mission work, little is being done in these parts by the Church of England. There are Government chaplains at Singapore, Penang and Malacca. At Singapore the Propagation Society has had a Mission for some years. The work is extremely difficult on account of the variety of races and creeds. Tamils, Chinese and Malays are here in tens of thousands. They remain a few years and then depart, either to their own countries or to fresh fields of labour, so that, if brought under Christian teaching, they become dispensers of the truths they have received. Few places can be found more important than Singapore. From an insignificant fishing village of 150 souls it has become the key of Eastern commerce. The forethought of Sir Stamford Raffles, who made it a free port, secured for the English Crown this splendid station. The same wise administrator provided for its spiritual development by building a church and by the endowment of a college, of which he wrote: "I trust in God that this institution may be the means of civilizing and bettering the condition of millions."

The are now in the Diocese, including the Settlements of Singapore, Penang and Malacca, on the Straits of Malacca, 13 Parishes or Missions, 10 Churches, 3 temporary Chapels, 13 Clergy, and 3,300 Church members.

In 1869 Bishop McDougall was succeeded by Dr. Chambers, who had been working as a Missionary in the Diocese ever since 1852. In 10 years Bishop Chambers was compelled to resign his office, to the duties of which bodily weakness made him wholly unequal, and our latest accounts mention that Archdeacon Hose, of Singapore, has been appointed Bishop of Labuan, and is on his way home for consecration.

The Rev. T. T. Halcombe closes his short history of the Mission to Borneo thus: "The Dyaks give no sign of decay; the abandonment of their barbarous mode of life does not pave the way to their gradual disappearance, but only brings out the docile side of their character. They are a vigorous race, accomplished alike in the acts of war and of peace, and it is incredulous blindness which hesitates to believe that the work which Bishop McDougall and other pioneers commenced more than a quarter of a century ago is destined, when we are no longer on earth, to bring forth fruit in a dominant and skilful race, the occupants of a land rich both in the fruits of the ground and in the treasures hidden beneath the ground; themselves leading Christian lives and throwing the light of their teaching and example over the Islands of Oceanica."