

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."—Judo: 3.

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One Dollar a Year.

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THE Revised New Testament has 384 changes in the Epistle to the Ephesians, which contains only 155 verses.

THE main exhibition building at Philadelphia, which cost \$1,600,000, was sold for \$97,000 to an agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

A ROYAL commission from the Pope, it is stated, is to be granted to Cardinal Nina, in order that he may visit the Protestant countries of the world.

AN anonymous donation of £1000 has been made to the C. M. S. for sending a missionary to the Eskimos of the Mackenzie River and the shores of the Polar Sea.

THE *Globe* observes that the allegation that people will not "ticket themselves," which has been so persistently urged as an argument against a census of religious profession, has been refuted by the rector of Liverpool and those associated with him in taking a religious census of that city. It is said that "infinite pains" have been taken to secure accuracy and trustworthiness in the return, and the results are these:—Members of the Church of England, 264,668; "Dissenters and others," 88,861; Roman Catholics, 140,115; and of no known religion, 5,398.

THE Ministerial *Diritto* "learns, on the best authority," but "with reserve," that the Pope proposes quitting Rome. This resolution is said to have been formed on the day following the insults offered to Pius IX.'s remains, and communicated to the Powers, who were assured that the Pope was firmly determined to leave Italy unless a new condition of things was created for him. He is said to have chosen Malta for his new residence. All the Cardinals absent from Rome have been recalled, and those present invited to remain.

THE *Witness*, the organ of Irish Presbyterianism, comments on the complaints in the American papers of a declining state of religion in the Presbyterian Churches. During the past year there was scarcely an appreciable increase in the number of their communicants. This is matter for serious consideration, and coming so soon after the labours, in so many cities, of Moody and Sankey, it leads one to inquire whether occasional seasons of awakening, followed, as they seem generally to be, by corresponding periods of declension and deadness, are the most healthful means of promoting true religion.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE, of New York and Pittsburgh, now an American citizen, but a native of Dunfermline, has intimated to the custodian of Dunfermline Abbey his desire that the Crown should permit him to fill the large west window of the Abbey Church with stained glass. The window is a very beautiful specimen of early 14th century Gothic, and is situated immediately above the fine recessed Norman doorway of the original church, founded A. D. 1075. Mr. Carnegie has already given to Dunfermline \$25,000 and \$40,000 for the establishment of public baths and a free library.

At the International Law Conference now being held in Cologne, Mr. Field, the American Delegate, introduced a resolution, which was carried by acclamation, to the effect "that it is desirable that in an extradition treaty where political crimes are excepted, provisions be inserted that neither assassination nor attempt at assassination as a means of effecting a change of Government or redress of grievances shall be deemed a political crime within the meaning of the treaty, and that the privilege of asylum be denied the perpetrator of any such crime. Mr. Field said that it was the feeling among Americans that assassination should be stamped out.

In speaking lately, at some festivities connected with a young ladies' school in England, Archdeacon Denison said:—"Talking slang was a growing evil. When he was at Oxford it was just beginning to be common with young men. Now it was adopted by young women. He had a very good rule in his household, and he found that it was an effectual cure of the evil in question. When he heard a young lady talking slang he would say, 'My dear young friend, I am very fond of you, and delighted to see you, but if you use that word again one of us must leave the house; and as I am sure that you are not rude enough to wish to turn me out of my own house, it follows that you must go.' He cautioned them against the contagion of talking slang." We are delighted with the Archdeacon's well-timed and outspoken words; we wish his household rule was universal.—*Scottish Guardian*.

WE some time since alluded to the election of two women as members of a Vestry in a parish in New England. A woman was recently elected Church Warden in a parish in England.

THE famous old English schools, Eton, Harrow, Rugby, and Winchester, are constantly full to overflowing, although their cost continually increases. Oxford and Cambridge were never so crowded with students as now.

THE *Capitule*, an anti-clerical paper of Rome, speaks of the Pope as "the greatest enemy of Italy." The agitation against the law of the guaranties, which secures the protection of the Hierarchy is becoming very violent, and threatening much trouble.

THE steeple of old St. Paul's Chapel, at Broadway and Vesey Street, New York, is undergoing repair. Among the many sights of interest which this spire has looked down upon, was the formal entry of Washington after the evacuation of New York by the British.

EVERY reader of *Lavengro* will lament the death of George Borrow. He acquired the Romany language from some gypsies camped near Norwich; he was twice imprisoned in Spain for circulating the Bible there, which he translated into the Gypsy, the Spanish, and the Chinese tongues.

THE correspondent of the *Germania* at Rome says: The Pope has signed a brief appointing Dr. Korun, who is approved by Germany, to the vacant bishopric of Treves, Rhenish Prussia. This is considered to be a considerable step toward a reconciliation between Germany and the Vatican.

MR. William Lehman Ashmead-Burdett-Coutts-Bartlett has notified that he has (pursuant to the directions contained in the will of the late Duchess of St. Alban's, the widow of Thomas Coutts, the maternal grandfather of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts) taken upon himself the surname of Coutts.

ACCOUNTS from Geneva last week report that Switzerland is beginning seriously to suffer from drought, which, with the exception of a few thunder showers, has now lasted two months. The grass is burnt up, and there is no chance of making the usual second hay crop. In the mountain pastures of several cantons, and in Savoy, beasts are perishing from the lack of water. In canton Schwyz, in the Vaudois Alps, and the valleys of the Jura whole herds have perished. In some districts the peasants have to carry water many miles up steep mountain paths.

THE Bishop of Manchester was present at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new mission school-church at Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington. The foundation-stone was laid by Miss Wilkinson, daughter of Mr. William Wilkinson, J. P., Henfield House. In the course of a sermon prior to the ceremony his Lordship referred to the educational work that was being performed through the Church of England, and said that there was accommodation in the elementary schools of this country for four millions of children, and out of that the Church of England had provided accommodation for 2,300,000—more than one half of the whole accommodation in the elementary schools, which, reckoned at 5s. per head, meant the expenditure of about 10,000,000s. Churchmen need not be ashamed if any one asked them what the Church of England had done for education.

THE authorities of the British Museum have purchased a collection of Biblical and other Oriental manuscripts, which are of the utmost importance to the criticism and exegesis of the Old Testament. The collection, which was made in South Arabia, consists of 40 manuscripts. Fifteen of these are portions of the Hebrew Scriptures, and two are probably the oldest that have as yet come to light of the Old Testament Scriptures. A third, which contains the Hagiographa, exhibits a recension of the Hebrew text, the other two portions of which are already in the Museum, thus completing the whole Hebrew Bible. Several of these manuscripts have the Arabic translation of Sauidiah, in alternate verses with the Hebrew, while others have the superlinary, or Assyrian, vowel-points, which till comparatively recent times were unknown. The remaining twenty-five manuscripts are Midrashim, or homiletic commentaries and liturgies, which are more or less unknown. Dr. Rieu, the head of the manuscript department; Mr. Bond, the principal librarian; and the trustees are heartily to be congratulated on this boon which they have conferred upon the nation.

THREE Roman Catholic Priests have lately joined the ranks of Bishop Reinken's Old Catholic Clergy—a learned Benedictine, a medalist and a member of several scientific societies.

THE appointment is gazetted of a lady, Miss Pogson, to be Meteorological Reporter to the Government of the Madras Presidency. Miss Pogson has for some years discharged the duties of Assistant-Government Astronomer.

THE *Church Times* looks forward to a successful gathering at the Church Congress at Newcastle-on-Tyne in October next. It says: "This time there has been no shirking of burning questions, but the Subjects Committee seem to have taken care to include as many topics as they could of a kind likely to attract attention."

VARIOUS correspondents of the *Times* are suggesting the removal of the organ screen at Westminster Abbey, and the transference of the clergy and choir to the space east of the transepts. The screen is no doubt thought by some a great eyesore, but the proposed arrangement could hardly be carried out unless the altar screen and St. Edward's shrine were also removed and the altar placed in the apse. Precentor Venables has written strongly against the scheme.

DR. SCHLIEHMANN, the archaeologist, is in Berlin arranging the treasures from Priam which he has given to the German government, but which he intended as a gift to the United States, and was only prevented from carrying out this purpose by the fatuous and short-sighted policy of the last administration. Speaking of his courtship and marriage to his present most excellent wife, the doctor recently said:

It is now 12 years since I met her in the house of her parents in Athens. I remember it as plainly as yesterday. It was a Saturday. In the course of the conversation I made an astonishing discovery. The young, 18-year-old girl, as the talk turned upon the *Iliad*, recited for me a long piece from that work with literal accuracy. We were soon absorbed in the subject, and on the same day I was able to tell her, "Next Thursday will be our wedding day." And Thursday was our wedding day, for important business called me to Paris. We made our wedding journey thither. Then came the time for learning. I recited Homer to her, and she repeated it after me. During our married life we have not had a single falling out, not even over Agamemnon and his sister. The only dispute we ever had was when we had different ideas about the rendering of a passage in Homer.

STATISTICS OF CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The last report issued by the committee of the Church of England Sunday School Institute furnishes several interesting facts, as showing the hold which they have upon the young. The parishes in the dioceses of England and Wales which made returns were in number 8,405. The number which did not make returns was 6,064. The returns, therefore, apply to .58 of the whole number, leaving .42 unaccounted for. The total number of scholars on the books of the schools in the 8,405 parishes making returns is 1,289,273, giving an average of 78 for each school. Allowing the same average for the 6,064 parishes not making returns, the total number of scholars in Church of England schools is 2,222,891. The total number of teachers on the books of the schools in the 8,405 parishes making returns is 113,412, giving an average of 6.87 for each school. Allowing the same average for the 6,064 parishes not making returns, the total number of teachers in Church of England schools is 195,533. The number of scholars over fourteen years of age in the schools making returns is 168,734. The number of scholars who are communicants, 48,680. The number of teachers who were formerly scholars, 30,764. Separate services for children are held in connection with 2,709 of the schools making returns.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

MAURITIUS.

How beautiful is the tropical sea as one approaches the Island of Mauritius, situated in the midst of the Indian Ocean. Looking down into its clear depths, one sees the many coloured finny tribes which catch their glowing hues from the sun shining through the limpid waters, and present themselves to the eye of the observer as a marvel of colour and beauty, as they move now languidly and now fitful-

ly among the caves of ocean bordered by coral reefs, themselves aglow with colour. Leaving these, the eye now rests on the ships riding at anchor, and bearing the rich produce of many lands, brought for food to the people of the Island, who cultivate sugar to the exclusion of almost every thing else. The houses seem to nestle under the mountains, which rise abruptly range over range with peaks of fantastic shape, alike, yet varied, showing they were once all under the same mighty influence which upheaved them from the depths of the sea, and thus carrying the imagination back to a period of remoteness which defies history. Not always does the scene present the same beauty. When the awful hurricane rages in these seas, no ship dare venture near the coast, nor mariner on its deck stand to brook the wind or gaze upon the agitated waters, The troubled heavens above only intensify the terror of the scene, and add to the fury of the raging winds which seem to sweep the earth and seas with the besom of destruction. Inland the island presents every variety of scenery—hill and dale, mountain and ravine, plateau and plain, with everywhere a peep of the sea to heighten the view and limit the landscape. The soil is very rich, and would produce all tropical fruits. But every thing else is rejected for the sugar-cane, which grows here to perfection, and brings a handsome profit to the planters when they are fortunate enough to have a good season—that is, one free from draughts and hurricanes. Such seasons are as brief and as rare as the fortunes they help to make. To cultivate the sugar-cane, thousands of Indians are brought over from Madras and Calcutta under contract to the planters for a term of years. They are well cared for by the British Government, who appoints a high official called Protector of Immigrants to look after their interests, with a seat in the Legislative Council. They need this care, for the climate is very unhealthy, and malarial fever abounds. There are nearly 400,000 people in this Island of Mauritius, of which three-fourths are Indian, the remainder being made up of Creoles, French, Chinese, and English. The Indians bring with them their Priests, and keep up their heathen religion and customs, and support some large temples, from which heathen processions set out on their festival days; and throughout the land one may hear the Indian tom-tom or drum, and see around one, on every high hill and under every green tree, the marks of idolatrous worship.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has had an important Mission here for many years past. The Society, according to its long-declared principles, labours among the Colonists, Emigrants, and Heathen. Its Missionary Staff consists of one European Missionary, one Native Clergyman, and six Catechists working among the Tamils; one Native Clergyman and two Catechists labouring among the Telugoos; and two Native Clergymen and two Catechists labouring among the Creoles. There are over one thousand adherents to our Church, ministered by its agency in the Island of Mauritius, and seven hundred in its dependency of Seychelles. This Church work is a witness of our faith and doctrine to the surrounding mass of heathenism. The two leading principles of the Society, in carrying out this work, are to develop self-help among the people already become Christian, and to raise and place out, as congregations are formed, native clergymen, who shall be supported, partly or wholly, by their own people. As an instance of the success of the work, it may be mentioned that during the past seven years a new congregation of Telugoos—numbering 150 with Native Pastor and Catechist complete—has been gradually won from heathenism, chiefly by the labours of its own native pastor, who was selected for his aptitude and trained by the Missionary for the work of the Ministry. Many friends to the Missionary cause, and others who appreciate Christian work, can bear testimony to the reality, vitality, and progress of the work here carried on. During the past year thirty-five adults and ten children received baptism, and forty nine young persons were confirmed. In the past seven years three new Churches have been built, and in them separate services are regularly held in the various languages spoken in the island. Mauritius and its dependencies constitute the See of a Bishop, who superintends the civil and military chaplains and the Missionary Establishment of the colony.

Much intercourse is kept up between the island and Natal, to which many of the Tamil Christians emigrated and carried the Gospel with them. Thus, as the more enterprising nations spread over the earth, they help to disseminate the truth. But they cannot spread it unless they possess it for themselves; hence our part is to see that they have it, and to support Missionary efforts to that end.

R. J. FRÉNC