

SUMMARY OF CHURCH NEWS.

A proposal, originating in England, has been made to found a French Orthodox Church in Paris. The advantage of such an establishment at the time of the Universal Exhibition is regarded. The Liturgy would be celebrated in French.

A Florence journal asserts that an application has been made to the Pope to remove the interdiction which prevents the employment of female voices in most of the Churches in Italy.

The annual Whitsuntide gatherings of the S. P. G. was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, May 22. There was full choral service. The anniversary sermon was preached by the Dean of Emly before a large congregation.

The Duke of Argyll, refusing to sign a petition against innovations, says "that he regards the extreme jealousy of a little instrumental music in divine worship, or of the use of some written prayers instead of extempore prayers, or instead of prayers committed to memory, as a jealousy founded on a dangerous mistake as to the points of essential value in the Presbyterian system."

It is stated that the Rev. W. Cox, late of Tasmania, is suggested as a successor to Bishop Colenso in Natal. Nothing, however, will be done without an election by the clergy there.

About £52,000 has just been contributed towards church extension in Liverpool, and within a period of eighteen months the town has set apart more than £154,000 for church purposes.

The Report of the Committee on Ritual, presented to the Lower House of Convocation, contains the following remark—"that both excesses and defects in ritual service are symptoms of a deep-seated evil—namely, the want of a more effective working of the diocesan system; such as would afford better and more frequent opportunities for consultation between the Bishop and the clergy and people of his diocese."

The Bishop of London presented and supported a petition from Miss Burdett Coutts to the House of Lords to the effect that full force might be given to the letters patent of Colonial Sees. In the debate that followed, the Archbishop of Canterbury stated that two recent decisions of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council made it clear to him that at the present moment these Churches were severed from the United Churches of England and Ireland, as far as the supremacy of the Queen was concerned:—

If the Royal Supremacy was not to bind these Churches to the Church of England what was the alternative? He firmly believed the only alternative was the voluntary connection which these Churches had formed, binding them most solemnly to the Church of England in regard to doctrine as expressed in the Articles and Formularies of the Church. He believed that was the only real security. He had a very extensive correspondence with the Colonial Churches in all parts of the world, and during the last year he had received from all parts the most firm and reiterated assurances that their most anxious object was to secure and cement that connection which had been so much disturbed by the recent decisions.

Lord Ebury has again moved in the House of Lords for a Royal Commission to revise the Lessons and the Burial Office. The Archbishop opposed the motion, and spoke thus with reference to the Burial Service:—

He thought an overscrupulousness was sometimes shown, and that there were very few cases indeed in which a clergyman need scruple to employ that language. Some cases, indeed, there were, such as that of a person dying in the avowal of utter and