

The Church Guardian.

Upholds the Doctrines and Rubrics of the Prayer Book.

"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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ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE ENTHRONEMENT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.—The ceremony of enthroning Lord Plunket as Archbishop of Dublin and Dean of Christ Church took place in the Cathedral on New Year's Day, the anniversary, as it happens, of the installation of his predecessor, which took place twenty-one years ago. While the procession, with the Archbishop in the centre, was entering the Cathedral, the choir sang Dr. Child's anthem, "Praise the Lord, O my soul." The formal ceremony of installation took place at the conclusion of the First Lesson. After the celebration of the Holy Communion, the recessional hymn, "Behold now, praise the Lord" (Rogers), was sung by the choir as the Archbishop was conducted to the Chapter-house, where he was installed as President of the Chapter of the Cathedral. Speaking at a meeting of the Colonial and Continental Church Society, on Friday evening, the Archbishop showed that his feelings are entirely in accord with those of the body over which he has been called to preside:—"I do not," he said, "merely love my Church, but I am proud of her. I do not wish to indulge in any foolish boasting. I know that the Church of Ireland is not always acting up to the standard to which a Church should aspire and to what a Church is able to accomplish; but if we compare our Church with the other Churches of Christendom, I think I am justified in saying that there is no Church that has so faithfully observed the right mean between the error of excess in one direction and defect in another. There is no Church, as it seems to me, that has so completely succeeded in combining together the great principles of Evangelistic truth and Apostolic order."

THE SPENCERIAN SYSTEM.—In the *Edinburgh Review*, for January, 1884, there is (says a writer in *The Church Eclectic* for February, 1885) a full examination of the Spencerian System, and the reviewer thus concludes:—

"This is nothing but a philosophy of epithets and phrases introduced and carried on with an unrivalled solemnity and affectation of precision of style, *concealing the loosest reasoning and the haziest indefiniteness on every point*, except the bare dogmatic negation of any 'knowable' or knowing author of the universe; which, of course, is the reason why this absurd pretence of a philosophy has obtained the admiration of a multitude of people, who will swallow any camel, that pretends to carry the world, standing on the tortoise that stands on nothing, provided only it has been generated by a man out of his own brains, and in imposing language, with sufficient confidence." This system which claims to explain everything "astronomic, geologic, biologic, psychologic, sociologic, ethical, political, numerical, educational, and speculative," is only worthy of being mentioned with wonder at the credulity and ignorance of those who profess to admire it. Sir James Stephen calls the distractions of Mr. Spencer "an unmeaning play of words."

BISHOP OF EXETER.—Dr. Bickersteth, Dean of Lichfield, has been appointed Bishop of Exeter.

The Very Rev. Edward Bickersteth, born in 1814, is a nephew of the late Lord Langdale and a brother of the present Bishop of Ripon. He obtained the Taylor's Mathematical Exhibition, graduated in honors, and gained the first prize for a theological essay at Durham University. He was thrice elected Prolocutor of the Convocation of Canterbury, and in February, 1875, was nominated to the Deanery of Lichfield. He was a member of the company appointed by Convocation to revise the New Testament, and has been a prolific writer on theological subjects.

DR. JACKSON'S SUCCESSOR.—The Bishop of Exeter, the Right Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D., has been appointed to and accepted the Bishopric of London, made vacant by the death of the Right Rev. Dr. Jackson.

A GOOD STORY.—A good story has recently come to us about Bishop Hawks and one of the clergy of his Diocese in the olden time. The Bishop knew of the good sense and the good style which the clergyman's sermons possessed; at the same time he knew how these were disparaged by the poor manner of their delivery; the people were complaining of his poor sermons. The Bishop determined to bring the matter to the clergyman's notice. He asked the parson's wife to lend him one of her husband's sermons one time when he was visiting his parish. That night he preached it. When he came home, the Bishop asked the clergyman what he thought of his sermon that night. The clergyman replied, "Why, Bishop, that was a splendid sermon: the people were charmed with it. I never heard you preach better." "Did you never hear that sermon before?" "No, indeed; I could never forget that sermon." Then the Bishop told the clergyman that it was one of his own sermons, and the way in which he had become possessed of it, and showed him how much what he could write would be added to in interest and power, if he only threw life and grace into it.—*Church News* (St. Louis).

A PRACTICAL TEMPERANCE CRUSADE.—The Swedes in Minnesota, with that determined fixity of purpose which is their distinguishing feature, are setting vigorously to work to root out the plague of intemperance from their midst. Being practical men they do not deal out condemnation on every hand on those who do not see eye to eye with them as to the particular way in which the evil is done away with. While they do not neglect preaching against it, they are striving to antagonise the temptation by instituting counter attractions to the saloons in the shape of temperance coffee-houses and the like. They do not cry out for Prohibition, or pass prohibitory laws that do not prohibit, but they simply ostracise the seller of liquor, and place him under a social ban, cutting him off by such a resolution as the Scandinavian Augustana Synod recently passed, that no saloon-keeper can become a member of any of their congregations and at the same time continue in the

business of selling this moral and physical poison. Therefore he and his customers are thereby banished from decent society, and compelled to herd together like pigs wallowing in their "sensual sty."—*Church Press*.

AN AMERICAN GOVERNOR ON THE LAWS OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.—Governor Hoadly, in his recent message to the Ohio Legislature, has the following wholesome views on the subject of "Divorce," and recommends such a change in the laws of marriage on the statute books as will, so far as possible, remedy the great and crying evils of the day on that subject. The Governor says:—

"I repeat the recommendation of my inaugural address, that the divorce laws of Ohio be revised, with the view of restricting the legal causes for divorce, and of limiting the right to marry again. If marriage were a union of hearts only, there might be some foundation for the claim of either party to withdraw at pleasure. But marriage is an objective reality—the foundation of the family relation—which, however lightly it may be entered into, can rarely, if ever, be severed without serious injury to the parties, to their offspring, and to the community. Religion, morality, and the welfare of society, as well as their own permanent interests demand of men and women in this relation that they bear largely with each others defects and infirmities rather than seek relief in separation. A system of laws which encourages the opposite is at once shocking to the moral sense, and highly impolitic. As divorces have for many years increased in numbers in a ratio beyond that of population, I am constrained to believe that our system is lax, and tends to the dissolution of families."

THE "MISSION" MOVEMENT IN NEW YORK.—Meetings have been recently held in New York for the purpose of considering the advisability of holding a "Mission" in that city next autumn. These meetings are the result of a desire on the part of the clergy of a few parishes to do something for the spiritual destitution of many parts of the city. It is hoped by means similar to those which have been used with such great success in East and West London to arouse the masses to a sense of their spiritual needs.

ANOTHER VENERABLE CLERGYMAN GONE.—The Rev. A. B. Beach, D.D., Rector of St. John's Church, Ithaca, N. Y., died on Friday, Jan. 16, from the effects of an apoplectic stroke received the previous Sunday. On that day he was in the act of examining the Sunday-school class when persons in the audience noticed a spasmodic twitching of his lips. Then his mind wandered, and abruptly leaving the subject on which he was talking, he suddenly repeated in an abstracted manner the Apostles' Creed. His body next began to waver, and he was only prevented from falling by timely assistance rendered him. His left side was completely paralyzed. The Rev. Alfred Beach, of New York is his brother. He had been in the sacred ministry for half a century, and had filled charges in Oswego, Syracuse, and Binghamton.