

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.

VOL. XI. }
No. 6, }

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1889.

\$1.50
PER YEAR

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

More than 2,000,000 of the youths of India are to-day receiving an education in the English language.

HYMNS A. & M.—The new and enlarged edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern is having an immense sale. On the first day of its publication one million copies were sent out to advanced orders.

THE Rev. C. F. Hoffman, D.D., has given \$25,000 to St. Stephen's College, Annandale. The Hoffman family, the Dean of the General Seminary being one, have been liberal benefactors to the Church.

THE English Churchman acknowledges, with apparent regret, the fact that evening Communion is on the decline in the diocese of Liverpool, while the decoration of churches at Easter is on the increase.

CURIOUS.—A curious fact has been brought to light in a Welsh parish of Bangor diocese, that an examination of gravestones in the churchyard shows that whereas inscriptions in the English language can be found as far back as 1600, yet that no Welsh inscription is more than seventy years old.

THE Bishop of Wakefield is a man who has very definite opinions, and therefore the remark made by him, that 'nothing was more *perilous to the Church* than that it should be identified with any party,' is all the more worthy of attention. It was made, too, on a very appropriate occasion,—the opening of his first Diocesan Synod.

NOTEWORTHY.—*The Living Church*, says, we are pleased to note that the reverent observance of Holy Week as well as of Easter is increasing among the descendants of the Puritans, to whom even the celebration of the nativity was an abomination. We have before us an announcement of four services at a village church in Massachusetts during "Passion Week," with preaching by four Congregational ministers.

BOY CHOIRS.—*The Church Chronicle* speaking of the good work of a boy choir, says: "One of its highest advantages is the interest and pride which the young men and boys take in it. It is very common to find this class generally absent from our congregations altogether. But the vested choir proves a charm and works a revolution. The boys feel a dignity and noble pride when, like the boy Samuel, they are permitted to 'minister before the Lord in an ephod.'"

LORD CARNARVON'S ADVICE.—In a letter addressed to the *Times* his Lordship says—"There is a common consent that the rigid uniformity of former times is gone, that the latitude of thought and practice which undeniably exists must be accepted, and that in the interests, not of any one, but of all parties, a wide comprehension within certain limits may be safely conceded. . . . I venture to say, let us put aside the misleading phantom of

some new spiritual court, which is outside the bounds of present possibilities, and contenting ourselves with an imperfect but not unsatisfactory condition of things, under which this generation has witnessed a vast growth of religious life in the nation, let us address ourselves to the one really vital question—how, without fear and favour for either extreme, we can bar the way to religious prosecution and maintain that comprehension which is essential to the very existence of the Church of England.

TACT.—The Rev. Charles Kingsley was not only one of the muscular, but one of the brave Christians. Coming from him, this sentence is worth reading every day of the week: "How difficult it is to distinguish between the loving *tact* which avoids giving offence to a weaker brother and the fear of man which bringeth a snare." It is not so difficult for the preacher to be bold for Christ and his gospel before a congregation. For this purpose he was educated and commissioned. But to be bold before one man in private, to declare his sins and failures, this requires a zeal and energy and courage which not every clergyman possess. To be done, however, with *tact*, said Kingsley; to be done, said Christ, with wisdom and harmlessness. Thinking only of this one matter, how these words of the Apostle come to mind, "And who is sufficient for these things?"

Tact is from *tactus*, participle of *tangere*—to touch; and so nice discernment, how to utilize the "soft times of speaking," how to do it so as to do most good, and not merely to liberate our own souls.

BISHOP OF MEATH ON UNITY.—"If we are to win disciples to His name, it must be by displaying unity not division, concord not disagreement; in short, it must be by understanding that Christianity is not Presbyterianism, nor Congregationalism, nor Anabaptism, nor any other of the isms into which it is now so unintelligently to the heathen split; but that as there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, so there is but one Spirit handed down from age to age, and perpetuated in that succession by which it has pleased the Head of His Church to secure the unity of His body, not merely in the doctrine of the Apostles, but in their fellowship. In other words, until the various sects of Protestant Christendom shall see that unity of discipline and membership is as important as unity of doctrine, we cannot expect that the fulness of the blessing shall be poured on their efforts."

LAY READERS.—The report of the Bishop of Malborough's Readers' Committee, which was presented to the Upper House of Convocation some weeks ago, has just been published in the *London Diocesan Magazine*. It recommends two orders of readers—one licensed to a parish and admitted to office by the incumbent, the other commissioned for the whole Church, but licensed for the diocese in which he works. They are to be habited in surplices and to wear a badge or tippet when officiating, and to be *ex officio* members of rural dean conferences. A readers' board, appointed by the Bishop, is

to supervise all matters connected with readers in the diocese, including inquiries as to candidates and nomination for commissions. Educational helps and examinations are contemplated. The report having been submitted to the committee of London Diocesan Lay Helpers' Association, has received its general approval, which has been formally communicated to the Bishop.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.—Gloucester Cathedral has been presented with a rich altar frontal, a magnificent sanctuary carpet, and two elaborately-chased altar candlesticks. The part of the screen which has been painted and gilded is now visible, and presents the appearance of vast golden shrine, from which the white groups of sculpture stand out. The dean has displaced "Church Hymns" with Dr. Butler's appendix, for, "Hymns Ancient and Modern."

THE annual meeting of the Church of England Young Mens Society took place in London, at Sion College on Wednesday, May 8th. The president of the society, the Right Hon. Lord Halsbury occupied the chair. The report, which was read by the Rev. Stephen Barass, showed "progress all along the line."

The number of affiliated branches had never been so large, the work at the central rooms had never been so vigorous and full of life, the religious services in City churches, organized by the society for young men, had never been so numerous or so largely attended, the influence of the society's work in City warehouses were never so great or so widespread, and the financial support accorded to the society, although still far short of the necessities of the case, had never been more encouraging than during the year under review.

CARE OF CONFIRMEDS.—*St. George's (N. Y.) Chronicle* makes the following suggestion to meet the problem of caring for its 164 newly confirmed. The plan ought to work well if it is carried out systematically:

"We must have the help, and that promptly and earnestly, of the older and tried communicants. The solution of the problem is this:—each communicant to take the names of four, or even three, younger communicants who have been lately confirmed, and do for them, in the name and for the love of Jesus Christ, these three things:

1. Write the names of the three young communicants given them, in a little memorandum book. Pray daily for them by name.
2. Visit them regularly and try to understand their position and their peculiar temptations.
3. Bring to bear upon and into their young lives something of the spiritual power and blessings with which God has blessed your own.

In other words just so far as Jesus Christ is real to you, my sister and brother communicant, go out and make Him real and helpful to your younger and weaker friend and fellow communicant."

ELY.—Diocesan statistics show that the confirmations for 1886, 1887, and 1889 num-