

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

THE Dean of Bangor condemns in strong language the policy of non-religious instruction in day-schools. He looks forward to the day when the orthodox principles of Christianity, on which both Churchmen and Non-conformists were agreed, will be taught in every school in the land.

BISHOP ROBERTSON, of the Diocese of Missouri, says:—"For some time past almost all our accessions by ordination have been from other religious bodies. It must be difficult for me to recall when we have had a candidate who presented himself from the families of our own people." This, it seems to us, is a humiliating confession. But it ought to come out, if true.

THE *Episcopal Register*, commenting on Ecclesiastical appointments in Canada, and the way the same are lauded in the papers, says:—"Bishops-elect seem to have a fine opportunity to carry omniscience into their new duties, if we judge by the amount of advice at their disposal.

CANON WYNNE tells preachers that in trying to make themselves heard, they should be more careful about distinctness of utterance than its loudness. It is not at all easy to listen to shouting. The noise is heard only too plainly, but not the articulate words. A distinct whisper will carry farther than a gruff roar.

THE sermon question is agitating the press, and the *Saturday Review* is in favour of the partial abolition of sermons. But the *Review* eases its complaint in the following way:—"There are no difficulties in the way of preaching shorter sermons. If all the younger clergy, like many amongst them, could simply say just what they feel is in them, and say it as much as possible as if they were talking to the people before them, there would be fewer of these demands for the abolition of sermons."

The *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*, writing on "pews," remarks:—"Fancy St. Paul giving directions about the collection of pew-rents! On the other hand, we know from his Epistles that the principle of the weekly offering had his full and absolute sanction; and we must remember that he wrote under the teaching of the Spirit of God."

THE *Church Quarterly* has an article on "Pellicia's Policy of the Christian Church," a work of great authority in the Roman Church:—"It is instructive to be reminded from such a source that the errors of purgatory, the denial of the cup of the laity, the reservation of the consecrated elements, and extreme unction are departures and variations from the beliefs and practices of the early ages."

THE *London Times*, in an article on the late Canon Clayton, says that the Canon was a devoted leader of the Evangelicals, and goes on to say that the Evangelical party derived its power from the times in which it sprung up, and, under the altered circumstances of the present day, still exists merely as a survival "without any great future before it."

THE *Record* thinks that the *Times* misunderstands the character of Evangelical principles. Our contemporary confesses that the future of Evangelicalism "lies in a new direction."

THE *Churchman* thinks that the debate on the Prayer Book, in the Convention, was one of the ablest ever held in the body, and showed a remarkable knowledge of liturgics among both the clergy and laity.

The *English Guardian* speaking of Mission work in our great North-West, remarks that just because the Canadians are ready to help themselves we ought to do our best to help them, both in men and in money. Who can doubt that the need will task, if it does not overtask, the combined energies both of English and Canadian Churchmen? From the report of Canon Anson, who speaks with all the authority of his own self-devotion, it is but too plain that as yet far too little has been done, and that, if the present opportunity is let slip, it may be very hard in the

hereafter to overtake the arrears of our responsibility. It will be, therefore, we believe, good policy in our great societies to concentrate their efforts as much as possible on this critical point, rather than spread their resources, such as they are, over too great an area of enterprise.

THE *Church Review* says:—"General Booth has been attacked for claiming Divine authority for his orders. Writing to the *Times* in reply to these assaults, he asks—"Does not every clergyman and minister, before becoming such, declare that he is moved by the Holy Ghost to assume the office?" The clergyman at least does not "assume," but is ordained, which is quite another thing. No one will deny that General Booth's is an assumption."

OUR ENGLISH BUDGET.

CANON BARRY, the Primate-designate of Australia, leaves England at the beginning of the year.

THE Bishop of Truro has recently sustained injuries by falling from his horse. He remains in London under medical treatment.

THE income of the London Missionary Societies of all denominations amounts to some \$7,000,000. The Bible and Tract Societies hand over \$2,000,000 more to this grand total.

THE Bishop of Liverpool presided at an Anti-Opium Conference held in Liverpool recently. His Lordship said that as a Christian country we ought to be ashamed of being mixed up with the trade.

THE Deanery of Exeter has been offered by Mr. Gladstone to Dean Lake, who would greatly prefer to be placed in the south of England, although he would lose £1,000 a year by the change from Durham.

At a meeting of the Elective Assembly of the Diocese of Bloemfontein, it was unanimously decided to delegate the appointment of a bishop to the vacant see to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of Truro and Edinburgh.

DURING the restoration of Pickering Church, Yorkshire, a number of interesting wall frescoes were discovered, and are now being cleaned from whitewash. They were probably covered up to save them from the ruthless hands of the Puritan spoliators.

ON St. Luke's Day, the Bishop of Lichfield reopened the parish Church of *Hodnet*, Salop, after an almost complete restoration. No fewer than five Nonconformist places of worship evinced their interest in the work by simultaneously making collections to help the work.

THE extension of Church charities, and the elevation of masses by Church organizations may be found in the facts, that the number of paupers in 1872 was one twenty-fourth part of the population, while in 1882 it was only one thirty-third; and the able-bodied adult paupers, which in the former year were one in 150 of the population, in the latter were only one in 254.

It is stated that Mr. Rowe has purchased a central site in Cambridge, upon which he intends to build and endow a large free and open Church, dedicated to St. John of Jerusalem. The scheme includes an infirmary for the use of members of the University; a training school and home for nurses ready for engagement in private houses, and an ambulance centre for instruction.

THE Principal Registrarship of the Province of York (in the gift of the Archbishop of York) has become vacant, after an occupancy of fifty years, by the death of Mr. Egerton Vernon Harcourt. In 1870 Mr. Harcourt made over the munificent sum of £10,000, and in 1881 an additional sum of £5,000 to the Archbishop of York, for the augmentation of poor livings within the county of York.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has been undergoing surgical treatment for a small fistula, and has been confined to his house at Addington. We are glad to hear that His Grace is doing as well

as possible; but his medical advisers consider that he will not be in a position to discharge public duty for some weeks, and that he should have entire and prolonged rest.

THE remains of a Saxon Church have been discovered at Peterborough. As the workmen engaged in the restoration of the cathedral were digging for the purpose of laying foundations for the new piers, they came against masonry which clearly indicates the presence of some building in former times. It is supposed to be a portion of a Saxon monastery, which was built on that spot in the year 655, and destroyed by fire in 870. The stones still bear the traces of having been exposed to fire. A Saxon sarcophagus was also exposed.

Book Notices, Reviews, &c.

THE "Pulpit Treasury" for October is fully up to the Standard of this Magazine, and will be found useful for those engaged in Pastoral work. Price \$2.50 per year. E. B. Trent, Broadway.

Mexico and the Mexicans, or notes of travel in the winter and Spring of 1883, by Harord Conkling. New York: Taintor Brothers, Merrill & Co., illustrated. Price \$1.50. This is a well written and most interesting book of travel. The author has had superior facilities for becoming acquainted with this wonderful country and its people, form of government, institutions, religion, etc., and he possesses the power of turning to good account what he has seen and heard.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending Oct. 27th and Nov. 3d, respectively, has been received, and their contents are as usual of the best quality from the leading Reviews and Magazines.

BY-WAYS OF LITERATURE, by David H. Wheeler, LL.D. A series of essays on things old and new in the customs, education, character, literature and language of the English-speaking people of the last fourteen centuries. This is a most interesting and instructive book. Published in Funk & Wagnall's Standard Library, No 100. Price 25 cents. S. F. Huestis, Halifax.

MARTIN LUTHER, a popular, scholarly, and reliable life of the Great Reformer, based on Kostlin's extensive work, as prepared by Prof. W. Rein, Eisenach, Germany, and translated and enlarged by Rev. G. F. Behringer, Brooklyn. Published in Funk & Wagnall's Standard Library, No. 101. Price 25 cents. S. F. Huestis, Halifax.

WE have received the Baptist Year Book of the Maritime Provinces for 1883. This work is worthy of imitation by those who get up Church publications of the kind, and its contents show that the Church may well emulate this denomination in its vigorous Home and Foreign Mission work and mission zeal. Our contemporary *The Christian Messenger*, at whose office it was printed, is to be congratulated on the fine appearance of the book. It does the printers credit.

WE invite attention to the several advertisements of the great Sunday School Publishing House of D. C. Cook, Chicago, to be found on pages 11, 12 and 16. Mr. Cook's low prices are a great thing in his favor, and the quality of his goods are always excellent.

WE direct attention to Mr. L. Lamplough's advertisement on page 11. We believe Mr. Lamplough keeps the largest and best selected stock of Church Music of any house in Canada. We can recommend him as a Churchman and thoroughly reliable.