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# 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.

RT. REV. JOHN WILLIAMS, D.D., LL.D.—The Bishop of Connecticut, the Rt. Rev. John Williams, D.D., LL.D., the Presiding Bishop, though nearly 70 years of age, is active both in body and mind. Without assistance, he has discharged the duties of a large Diocese, having 194 clergymen and 172 Parishes and Missions. He has been nearly forty nine years in the ministry, and in the Episcopate for nearly thirty-six years. He enjoys the confidence of Churchmen throughout the land, and worthily represents the Bishops, the Clergy and the laity of our communion. He is a man of culture, and as the President of Trinity College, and the founder of the Berkeley Divinity School, at Middletown, has shown himself the possessor of organizing and administrative power.

PRIZE-WINNER.—The Prize of \$250 for the best essay on Beneficiary Education, offered some months since by a "prominent layman" through the columns of the *Church Review*, has just been awarded to the Rev. Frederick W. Harriman, of Windsor, Conn., son of the late Secretary of the Society for the Increase of the Ministry.

A PRAYER FOR CHURCH WORKERS.—O Lord of Souls, Who hast chosen and called me to service in Thy Church, all my trust is in Thee, for in Thee are the springs of my life. Abundantly give me of Thy Blessed Spirit, without Whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; and use me as it shall please Thee for the glory of Thy Name. Make my will patient, my conscience pure, my temper bright. Empty me of self, and fill me with the meekness of wisdom. Increase my faith, mellow my judgment, stir my zeal, enlarge my heart. Let my life enforce what my lips utter. Do Thou choose for me the work I do and the place in which I do it; the success I win and the harvest I reap. Preserve me from jealousy and

impatience; from self-will and depression. Make me faithful unto death, and then give me the crown of life:

And this I ask for Christ's sake. Amen.

UNWELCOME FACTS.—The Diocese of Western Michigan comprises 34 Counties, having a population of 740,479. In seven of the newer counties, having a population of 53,370, there are now no services. In eight others, containing 168,805 inhabitants, there are only the occasional services of the Bishop and the General Missionary, given to 3 cities and 7 villages having a population of 15,690. In the remaining nineteen counties containing 518,304 people, there are 14 cities and 16 villages with a population of 162,007, in which regular services are maintained.

Thus the ministrations of the Church are given regularly to a little less than 22 per cent. of the population of the Diocese, and occasionally to another 2 per cent. That is to say, the Church does not afford one-fourth of the people within the Diocese a chance to use her Liturgy and appreciate her ways. Of our fellow citizens, 592,782 are therefore beyond the immediate influence of the Church. Most of these live in the rural districts, but by no means all of them. There are three cities having an average population of 3,283, which are destitute of services. There are 4 villages with an average of 2,687 people without services. There are 8 villages with an average of 1,669, 12 with an average of 1,194, 38 with an average of 732, and 23 with an average of 353, which are all without our services. In fine, 3 out of 20 cities, and 78 out of 110 villages are destitute, though it may be well to add that in about 30 of these 81 unoccupied towns, some Church work has been done in the past, and in many of them, Parishes or Missions were organized which have now lapsed. Such is the field in its extent and destitution.

STATE OF JUDAISM.—The existence of the Jewish nation is a standing miracle. The Old Testament is full of predictions concerning this people. Many of these have been so literally fulfilled that it might be taken rather as history than as prophecy. It is interesting to read what the Rev. Dr. Kohler, a prominent rabbi of New York, said last Saturday concerning the present state of Judaism:—

"The Jewish pulpit at present gives evident signs of decline. The reason seems to be, first of all, lack of the right moral support of the congregation, or rather of the Jewish community. Judaism is to be the light of the nations. So at least our lofty seers declare, but the desire to be enlightened in order to be a beacon unto storm tossed humanity is but little exhibited by the Jewish communities. The majority of members of the Jewish congregations, whether orthodox or reform, rarely attend divine service during the year. The regular audiences consist chiefly of elderly men and a fair number of pious women, the stronghold of the congregations being the four principal holy days of the year, and even then the demands of the younger element are but slightly taken regard of. Consequently the pulpit has no field to work in for the future. It lacks the stimulus, the inspiration of the com-

munity. The Jewish minister is but a preacher in the wilderness, for the reason that most of his people, being absorbed by the necessity of providing for the material welfare of their households, cannot attend divine service on Saturday, and yet have not the courage nor the religious earnestness, to allow services on another day to offer a substitute for the neglected Sabbath day worship."

DEACONESSES.—The Bishop of Rochester, at a special service for admittng Mrs. Gilmore to the office of Deaconess, laid his hands upon her in the name of the Trinity; and in his address referred to the order of Deaconesses as being, (1) *A Revival* of an ancient idea, and what we are doing to-day has the stamp upon it of Primitive Church History. (2), *The explanation of the principle* that skilled woman's work is essential to the Church, and that trained woman can alone fully carry out the meaning of the phrase, "Woman's mission to woman." (3), *The recognition of a fellowship in work.* This house may presently make way for a larger one, and thus our Deaconess Home may become the centre for the corporate life of all those who are engaged in woman's work for God in this populous diocese. Here the various threads of such work can be gathered up and properly combined.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HEAD DEACONESS.—Turning to the Head Deaconess, the Bishop of Rochester said: "You have to found this house. The solidity of the foundation will depend upon the clearness and distinctness of the principles you inculcate, and by your power of winning and persuading the right kind of persons to join our Home. We begin with two probationers. There is room for six. But it is far better to begin cautiously, and by degrees to secure those really likely to be fitted for the work. Again, you will have to train others. I can't conceive a happier work. By personal conference and conversation and advice you will guide, instruct, and encourage those engaged in nursing, in teaching in schools, in preparing candidates for baptism, and in conducting mother's meetings, &c. Again, you have to edify those who live here by example, consistency, devoutness, and the power arising from Christ living within you. People will not come here as angels; and living together you will find out one another's defects, and those you meet in daily intercourse must be built up into Christ by the influence of your character and life. Last of all, you must rule this house with firmness, self-respect, dignity, and gentleness. The rules will be few and simple, but essential, and they must be kept conscientiously. The faculty of ruling wisely comes from God, and from first learning to obey. May God's richest blessing rest upon you, and in the power of the Resurrection, may you to-day consecrate anew your conscience, will, mind, and heart, in obedience to this honoured call. May God supply all your need, and may His presence ever go with you."

CONSECRATION OF A DEACONESS IN NEW YORK.—The Right Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese, visited St. George's Church, New York, on the morning of May