

## DIOCESE OF NEW YORK.

At the late Convention of the Diocese of Western New York, the Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D.D., was elected Assistant Bishop of the Diocese. The Convention was presided over by the Venerable Bishop, Dr. De Lancey, and the occasion was one of marked solemnity. Dr. Coxe succeeded the eloquent Dr. Hawkes, in Calvary Church, New York, and will be an ornament to the Episcopate. He is a son of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Coxe, of the New School Presbyterians, and has, we believe, another brother a clergyman of the Episcopal Church. Instead of dividing the Diocese, as was expected, an Assistant Bishop was adopted. The following remarks, are from the *Episcopal Recorder*.

The late Episcopal election in Western New York has led to two unexpectedly gratifying results. In the first place, the Convention, with a unanimity which shows that its action must have been at least in concurrence with the views of the venerable Diocesan, went beyond strict party lines, and elected a gentleman whose independence is as marked as are his abilities. Dr. Coxe's history, it is true, has been one of reactions; but though, in his early days, he reacted perhaps too violently from the radical independency in which he was educated, and flouted Church peculiarities far more fantastically than he would have done had he been brought up in the Church; yet, in latter days, all his tendencies have been a loyal and earnest vindication of our Protestant faith. When in Hartford, he was one of the first to break loose from the New York trammels, and, in a series of very vigorous publications in the *Calendar*, to exhibit the reckless and un-Protestant policy by which the last few years of Bishop B. T. Onderdonk's administration were marked. And though we may differ now from Dr. Coxe as to one or two points of Church policy; and, though his views as to the Sacraments may lean more closely to the Lutheran than those maintained in this paper, yet no one can be more ready than ourselves to bear witness to the zeal, genius and eloquence, with which he maintains the leading doctrines of gospel truth.

But in another feature, the election in Western New York will be regarded with peculiar satisfaction by sound Churchmen. It repudiates, with a spirit and emphasis which no other Diocese could employ with such effect, that notion of Diocesan subdivision which will go so far to Presbyterianise as well as to debilitate our Church.

If there was ever a Diocese which could be relied upon to submit to such a process, it was the Western New York. It was spoken of by the adherents of New School as the model Diocese. It began to assume, to the Anglo-Catholic eye, the most tempting proportions. There have been eminent surgeons who it is said, never could look upon patients without some latent professional satisfaction at the fine opportunity in prospect for the display of their professional skill; and young doctors at hospitals have been known to deplore the rarity of surgical as contrasted with medical cases, as giving no chance for any bold display. In the same way the leaders of the New School of Church principles have been congratulating themselves on the portly size of *Western New York*, and finding that Pennsylvania obstinately refused dissection, taking consolation from the fact that her Northern neighbours would soon be ready for the knife—"Nearly two hundred ministers"—"A college largely endowed at Geneva!"—"Another college at Niagara Falls!"—"A large Episcopal Fund!"—"A territory about twenty times as large as many an ancient city which had half a dozen of Bishops to itself!" What an admirable subject for anatomy!

But good sense is often stronger than theory; and though the subdivision policy was urged with great zeal in the secular press, and at least not opposed in the Diocesan organ, yet, when the Convention went to work, both Bishop and Convention quietly ignored the idea of division, and elected an Assistant Bishop. The advocates of modern Church principles insist that the minimum of fifteen parishes is sufficient for a distinct Bishop. In our last issue we urged that one hundred parishes would be a just measure. But Western New York quietly repudiates even this large allotment, and with two hundred parishes, decides practically against any division at all—"all this about small Dioceses being primitive," she practically says, "is mere talk. In the first place, the fact is not so; in the second place, to cut us up is to destroy us. Western New York is becoming larger because she is already large; her strong centres build up her weak outposts; it is her centralization which has produced her expansion. And we are not disposed to change."