

The Church Guardian.

"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. 1.—No. 29.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1879.

One Dollar a Year.

REV. JOHN D. H. BROWNE,
 REV. EDWYN S. W. PENTREATH,

LOCK DRAWER 29, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA,
 MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK,

EDITORS.

THURSDAY, November 6th, has been appointed as a Day of General Thanksgiving for the Dominion.

BISHOP WHITTINGHAM, the learned and accomplished Bishop of Maryland, is dead.

THE Bishop of Iowa has had prepared and is about to publish a Prayer Book in the Swedish language, to be used at various points where there is a prospect of gathering Swedish congregations. The Bishop has already confirmed several of that nationality.

REV. J. DE PALMA, who succeeded Rev. Henry C. Riley, now Bishop of Mexico, as pastor of the Church of Santiago, N.Y., the congregation of which is composed of Spanish-speaking people, announces that since the organization of the church six hundred persons have been converted through its ministry.

THE *Episcopal Register* calls attention to the following, as "a bit of honest dealing worthy of mention": "A young minister desired to leave Methodism and join the Church of England, but the Bishop of Rochester declined to receive him until he had paid up all that the Wesleyan Theological College was entitled to for giving him his training."

SIR LAWRENCE PALK, M. P., assisted, on the 25th ult., at the re-opening of the Church at Doddescomeleigh, and spoke of the position of the Church of England, which, if ever disestablished and robbed of her endowments, would still, he believed, be the Church of the people, and remain firmly rooted in the hearts and affections of the great body of Englishmen.

MANY years ago a Welsh minister, a man of God, beginning his sermon, leaned over the pulpit, and said with a solemn air, "Friends I have a question to ask. I cannot answer it. You cannot answer it. If an angel from heaven were here, he could not answer it. If a devil from hell were here, he could not answer it?" Death-like silence reigned. Every eye was fixed on the speaker. He proceeded, "The question is this, *How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation.*"

SUPPORT your pastor with words of cheer. He has many discouragements. Every Christian minister who faithfully discharges his duties meets discouragements. He must reprove the wicked, warn the erring, oppose false doctrine, superstitions and all other evils by which he will be certain to gain enemies. His work very often seems to be in vain, and he is unable to see any good results from his labors. He meets with opposition, not only from the outside world, but often from within his own charge. These and many other things unite to discourage the earnest pastor. You should comfort him and sympathize with him in his labors. Like Aaron and Hur, who stayed the uplifted hand of Moses, use all your efforts to encourage and strengthen your pastor in his labors. Don't shrink from bearing a part of the burden and enduring a part of the reproach of the faithful minister, who nobly stands up for the truth. Oh, how cheering to the earnest pastor to have those about him who are heartily interested in his work, and ever ready to speak kind words of cheer and encouragement.—*Ec.*

THE tramway from Naples Observatory to the foot of the cone of Mount Vesuvius is nearly completed.

THE largest sum ever paid for a horse in England was \$72,000, given for Doncaster by the Duke of Westminster.

A NEW mode of collecting honey is being tried in Germany. A small apparatus with wires gives the bees an electric shock, and they fall to the bottom of the hive, remaining motionless for several hours.

THE Danish people have sent, as a wedding present to the Princess Thyra, Duchess of Cumberland, an oak bookcase, 14ft. long and 18ft. high, in the Gothic style, ornamented with sculptures of old Danish authors and poets. It is filled with six hundred volumes of Danish literature.

A JOINT-STOCK company has been formed in England with a proposed capital of \$5,000,000, in shares of \$5, for the avowed object of diminishing intemperance. It is intended that temperance hotels shall be opened in all parts of the Kingdom. In the prospectus, the name of the Archbishop of Canterbury heads the list.

THE experiment is being tried of importing oranges into England from Australia. In announcing the despatch of the fruit the grower stated that he should not have thought of sending oranges such a long distance but for the fact that they were now in season and cheap in Adelaide. A few of the oranges with paper wrapping showed signs of a minute brown mould in bruised places; those packed free in the sawdust are said to be in perfect condition.

A statistical abstract relating to British India from 1868-9 to 1877-8, recently issued, gives the area of British India, exclusive of Native States, as 899,341 square miles, the number of inhabited houses, 37,043,524, and the population 191,096,603. The area of the Native States is stated at 575,255 square miles, and the population at 49,161,540. The area of the French possession is 178 square miles, and the population 271,400; and of the Portuguese possessions, 1086 square miles, the population being 407,712. The total area of all India is thus 1,475,870 square miles, and the total population 240,937,315. Of the population of British India 139,343,820 were Hindoos, 1,174,436 Sikhs, 40,867,125 Mohammedans, 2,832,851 Buddhists and Jairs, 897,682 Christians, and 3,417,304 others, and 561,069 whose religion is not known. The total revenue in the year 1878 was £58,969,301, and the total expenditure £62,512,388. In the year 1877 there were 19,695 persons killed by wild beasts and venomous snakes, 46 being killed by elephants, 819 by tigers, 200 by leopards, 85 by bears, 564 by wolves, 24 by hyenas, 1180 by other wild animals, and 16,777 by snakes. The numbers killed in the two preceding years were 19,273 and 21,391 respectively. The sum of £10,301 15s. was paid as rewards for the destruction of wild beasts and snakes during the year, the total number of the former destroyed being 22,851, and of the latter 127,295. During the year 1877 there were 688 persons sentenced to death.

APPLICATIONS for admission to the Ministry of the Church, have lately been made in Nebraska, by three Ministers of other religious bodies.

AT a meeting of the standing Committee of the Diocese of Texas, held October 1st. Dr. J. C. Meredith, late a Methodist Minister, was recommended to the bishop for ordination to the diaconate of the Church.

A CONVENTION has been concluded between the Governments of England and France, fixing the rate of charge for telegraphic messages between the two countries at twenty centimes (about four cents) per word, without minimum as to length.

A great missionary Conference has just closed its meetings in New York. The work of the Church, particularly among the Indians, and the colored people of the South, was thoroughly discussed, and much practical good, we hope, may follow.

SIR MASSEY LOPES has built a magnificent Church adjoining his mansion at Mariston, in Devon, in memory of his late wife. The Church was open on Sunday, and the First Lord and all the other colleagues of Sir Massey at the Admiralty, being his guests, attended the service. Sir Massey read the lessons.

THE *Natal Mercury* calls attention to the Rev. George Smith, chaplain formerly to Colonel Glyn's column and latterly to the second division, as having taken an active part in the defence of Rorke's Drift, rendered good service to the wounded and dying, and performed the last offices of the Church over the slain upon the battle field of Ulundi, adding—"We have already described how bravely and zealously this dauntless parson played his part through that long night of horror but we have not yet had the opportunity of stating what recognition her Majesty's Government means to make of the services thus voluntarily rendered by a stout-hearted and simple-minded minister of the Gospel."

A POWERFUL living writer has well described "the theological world of today as keenly and promptly sensitive. Religious literature gives evidence of wide spread unsettlement; pulpits are moved to apology and defence; great, historical churches agitated and alarmed. It seems as if old and fondly cherished beliefs were slipping away from the grasp, as if accepted principles of faith were plastic and flexible, touched by the dissolving power of some invisible hand, and as if ancient creed and formula were undergoing the process of a slow and sure decay. Now, to surrender at discretion these hallowed bulwarks of religious conflict, these old lines of religious conviction, would be, rudely to sever ourselves from companionship with the brave and noble spirits of ancient times, treacherously to betray our trust, which as defenders of the Commonwealth of Faith, the past reposes in us for the service of the future, and basely to deliver up with craven hand, to the mercy of the foe, the very citadel of God, which martyrs and confessors have secured to us, and made sacred by their prayers their tears and their blood." (*British Quarterly Review.*)

Foreign Missions.

AFRICA.

BISHOP CROWTHER: HIS LIFE AND WORK.

(CONTINUED.)

IX.—THE NIGER MISSION.

SANGUINE expectations accompanied the *Dayspring* up the Niger in 1857, and the plans for the new Missions were drawn on a bold scale.

But on the Niger, as in so many other Missions, the lesson had to be learned—"Tarry thou the Lord's leisure." The failure of the supply of teachers from Sierra Leone, referred to in the preceding paper, prevented the occupation of several stations. Still, looking back now twenty years, we can see great results from the effort of 1857.

Abok, notwithstanding the warm welcome again offered to this expedition by the sons of King Ohi, was one of the places that had to be disappointed. Onitsha was decided on as the best centre for the new Ibo Mission, and there Mr. Taylor and Simon Jonas were stationed. Proceeding up the river, Crowther met a cordial reception at Idda, and at Gbegbe, the town at the confluence. At both places sites were at once granted for Mission-houses; but where were the teachers? Alas! there were none to spare, but Dr. Baikie left a Christian trader at Gbegbe, with instructions to open a day-school. On went the *Dayspring* to Egan, and thence to Rabbah, which was now visited for the first time by a Christian missionary. The Foulah chiefs, though Mohammedans, gave Crowther a much heartier welcome than he expected from a nation which has, in some respects, been the scourge of West Africa. "Sumo Zaki and Dasaba," he wrote, "have not only offered the whole river to us for trade with their protection, but they have also given us full permission to teach the heathen population under their government the religion of the Anasara [*i.e.*, Nazarenes], and promised me a place for a mission station at Rabbah."

Full of hope, Dr. Baikie and Crowther left Rabbah on October 6th, and steamed up the river. But the very next day the *Dayspring*, in endeavouring to force the passage between two islands against a strong rapid, drifted on to the rocks and became a wreck. Native canoes came to their assistance, and all were safely landed, and passed the night under torrents of rain as best they could. A camp was afterwards formed near Rabbah, and there they remained for twelve months, awaiting the arrival of another steamer, the *Sunbeam*, which had been expected to follow the *Dayspring*, but was detained.

This unexpected disaster was turned to the advantage of the expedition in many ways. Dr. Baikie paid visits to many neighbouring chiefs: Lieut. (now Sir John) Glover surveyed the river and some of its tributaries while Crowther found Rabbah the very spot for a missionary to stay at. At this point the Niger is passed by the large caravans—sometimes of 3,000 people and 1,000 head of cattle—between Ilorin, the Hausa capital in the north of Yoruba country, and the interior of Soudan; and there is a regular tariff of fares at the ferry. Frequent conversations were held with merchant