

The Church Guardian

Upholds the Doctrines and Rubrics of the Prayer Book.

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"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.

AMERICAN CHURCH CONGRESS.—The programme of the Tenth Church Congress, to be held in New Haven beginning Tuesday, Oct. 20, is published as corrected to the present date. Holy Communion will be celebrated at Trinity Church at 10:30 a.m. Address by Bishop Whipple. At 12 m., inaugural address by Bishop Williams at Carll's Opera House; Memorials of deceased members, by Rev. Dr. Wildes, the General Secretary. Discussions will be in the following order:—

First topic: "Christian Doctrine of the Atonement." Writers—The Rev. C. A. L. Richards, D.D.; the Rev. Wm. R. Huntington, D.D.; the Ven. Archdeacon Farrar. Speakers—The Right Rev. A. M. Randolph, M.D.; the Rev. A. C. A. Hall; the Rev. D. R. Goodwin, D.D., LL.D.; the Rev. R. H. McKim, D.D.; the Rev. Prof. Wm. Clark, A.M.

Second topic: "Grounds of Church Unity." Writers—The Right Rev. A. Cleveland Cox, D.D., LL.D.; the Ven. Archdeacon Farrar. Speakers—The Rev. Prof. Thomas Richey, D.D., LL.D.; the Rev. W. W. Newton; the Rev. Julius H. Ward; the Rev. Davis Sessums.

Third topic: "Ethics of the Tariff Question." Writers—Gen. Henry E. Tremaine; the Rev. Francis A. Henry. Speakers—The Right Rev. T. U. Dudley, D.D.; Chas. Heber Clark, Esq.

Fourth topic: "Aestheticism in Worship." Writers—The Rev. W. A. Snively, D.D.; the Rev. Percy Browne; Joseph Packard, Esq. Speakers—The Rev. G. R. Vandewater; the Rev. C. W. Ward.

Fifth topic: "Free Churches." Writers—John A. Beall, Esq.; R. Fulton Cutting, Esq. Speakers—The Rev. J. C. Brooks; Causton Brown, Esq.; Francis Welles, Esq.

Sixth topic: "Deaconesses and Sisterhoods." Writers—The Right Rev. G. F. Seymour, D.D., LL.D.; the Rev. T. M. Peters, D.D. Speakers—The Right Rev. Wm. Crosswell Doane, D.D., LL.D.; the Rev. C. B. Perry; the Rev. A. St. John Chambre, D.D.

Seventh topic: "Place and Methods of Bible Study in the Christian Life." Writers—The Rev. G. W. Douglas, D.D.; the Rev. C. H. Babcock. Speakers—The Rev. E. S. Thomas; the Rev. B. W. Maturin; Russel Sturgis, Esq.; the Rev. W. Hay Aitkin; the Rev. G. Z. Gray, D.D.

BISHOP OXENDEN.—We have already announced that Bishop Oxenden has been compelled by ill-health to resign the incumbency of St. Stephen's, Canterbury, together with the Rural Deanery. His Lordship will leave in October, and a valedictory gathering of parishioners was recently held at the rectory. The attendance was numerous. Following an address by the Bishop, Colonel Horsley gave expression to the deep regret which would be caused by the departure of the most rev. prelate. The cause of that departure was also sincerely lamented, but he could, on behalf of those present and the whole parish, express a sincere wish that Bishop Oxenden might long be spared to continue the good work he had done in

writing such excellent books, more than two million copies of which are now in circulation. He hoped that at Biarritz the Bishop would find health and happiness, and that he would long be spared to shine as an ornament of the English Church. Three hearty cheers were subsequently given for the Bishop, and a merry peal was rung upon the bells of the parish church.

IN MEMORIAM.—Five stained glass windows have been placed in the chancel of All Saints' Church, Cairo, in memory of the soldiers who fell in the Egyptian campaign of 1882. The windows represents the Lord of Hosts attended by various Saints.

THE SACRAMENT OF MUSIC.—At the 'Tenth Sunday Afternoon for the People' at St. Michael's, Folkestone, the Rev. E. Husband, the vicar, after playing upon the organ a selection from Gounod's new oratorio, *Mors et Vita*, gave the following address on the 'Sacrament of Music:—

Music is a sacrament. Not a sacrament in the sense in which Holy Communion and Baptism are Sacraments, not to be confused with these, or compared with these, but altogether distinct from the Sacraments of the Gospel. Still, at the same time a sacrament, if that word is used in its wide general meaning. The word sacrament in its original meaning had a far more general meaning than is now given to it by the ecclesiastic. All I mean is that music, like a great number of other things which I might name, has an outward visible sign, and an inward spiritual grace. The outward visible sign is the singer, or the player upon an instrument; the chorus stretching far back to the farthest limits of the great platform; and the orchestra with its strings and wind instruments, and the great organ towering above them all. The inward spiritual grace is the effect which that music has upon the soul; at one time awing it into a spirit of solemn, reverential worship, at other times into a spirit yearning for a greater knowledge of God and Heaven, at other times into a spirit of supreme joy and gladness. Music can do this! for it not only can touch the emotions, which would be but superficial, but it touches the heart, and the soul, and all that is noble and pure and refined in man's inner nature, so that few can listen to good music without being the better for it.

LEO XIII.—At a meeting recently held in London, England, in behalf of the Reform movement in the Italian Church, the Rev. Dr. Nevin, rector of St. Paul's Church, Rome, an authority whom none will question, said emphatically that it was a mistake to regard Pope Leo as a liberal Pope. His violence against Protestants had been greater, and his support of such fables as *Loreto* had been warmer, than Pius XI's. His present strife with some of the higher ecclesiastics, only meant that he was asserting his position as Lord of the Church, in accordance with the Vatican decree.

THE BISHOP OF EAST CAROLINA ON CHURCH MUSIC.—Bishop Watson, in the course of a sermon lately preached devoted to an exposition of what was the true worship of God, expressed

himself very forcibly in favor of congregational singing in the churches. The organ and the choir, said the distinguished divine, are very valuable adjuncts in the singing of praises, but when they served to silence the voices of the congregation, they became, not only not canonical, but an offence, an insult to the church, and an unmitigated nuisance. There was an emphasis in the Bishop's remarks in this particular which caused them to take hold of the entire congregation. Every one present seemed to be strongly impressed, and all who heard the sermon are now doubtless well convinced that true worship, in the way of singing praise, should not be left alone to the organ and the choir.

SWEEPING OUT.—"I say, Pat, what are you about? sweeping out the room?" "No," says Pat, "I'm sweeping out the dirt, and leaving the room. The popular notion of sweeping is just the reverse of Pat's. Sweep out the Church is the cry. Sweep out everything that is divine or apostolic or primitive, and leave everything that is human and recent. Away with a constituted ministry, primitive liturgies, ancient creeds, sacred festivals and fests, but leave the platforms, the quartettes, and private pews, the extempore prayers. Sweep out the room and leave the dirt.—*Weekly Churchman.*

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHING.—The Rev. Canon Venables writes:—The work of the Church of God must be done in the ways ordained or suggested in His Word, and therefore the Church cannot yield the point of a three-fold and rightly ordained ministry. It is not a question of expediency or of policy, but of principle and she cannot yield it. With this there must be, as there used to be, a clear and hearty recognition of lay work, and in few things can this, for years to come, be better displayed and used than in real, hearty Sunday-school teaching. But let us determine that teaching shall not be "goody goody," "namby-pamby," or the reading of a story-book, or the mere teaching of Scripture and religion as a science. That the teaching may be systematic, and good, and sound, and true, let us ask our great societies, and our college of bishops, to take counsel together, and to secure the labours of one or more men, gifted, and skilled, and learned, to furnish the graduated books, which are so greatly needed, on the Bible, on the Prayer Book, on Church History, and on Church Principles, as well as work for candidates for Confirmation. I believe that such a store of manuals would prove of unspeakable aid to teach themselves and of usefulness for their scholars.

A NOTABLE CONVERSION.—One of the latest Paris sensations is the conversion of the notorious atheist and blasphemer Leo Taxil. The man's real name is Gabriel Jogand Pages, and he was the founder of the Anti-Clerical League. He is but 33, and previous to his conversion to Christianity was first and foremost among the leaders in modern French attacks upon the faith. He is a journalist by profession. It is of course his prominence among that fraternity which gives importance to his change of heart. It is to be hoped that his conversion may be the means of undoing some of the evil of which he was certainly guilty.