

# 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.

BISHOP LIGHTFOOT'S total contributions to church building since he came to the diocese amount, says the *Durham County Advertiser*, to £12,030.

PRELIMINARY steps are being taken to create a new Welsh diocese of Brecon and Swansea to be carved out of that of St. David's, with a minimum income of £2,000 a year.

THE Bishop of Bedford is vigorously at work among the million and a half of people, mostly very poor, who are now comprised within the ecclesiastical district of East London.

THE Bishop of Durham was received with singular honor on the recent occasion of his being presented with a silver crozier, the whole company rising as one man to greet his lordship when he stood up to speak.

THE Guild of St. Luke, a guild composed of medical men, founded for evangelistic work among their patients, lately held its annual festival at St. Paul's Cathedral. The seats beneath the dome were occupied by a crowd of some 3 000 persons interested in the work of the guild. A choir of some 400 men and boys contributed by the Gregorian Association sang a choral service of the plain-song type.

OWING to his advanced age, the Right Rev. C. J. Abraham has intimated to the Bishop of Lichfield that at Lady Day next he will resign the office of canon residentiary and precentor at Lichfield Cathedral, which he has held since 1876. Bishop Abraham was Bishop of Wellington, N.Z., from 1858 to 1870, when he resigned, and was subsequently appointed Canon of Lichfield, by Bishop Selwyn, with whom he has worked in the Australian colonies.

THE Presbyterians are becoming somewhat dissatisfied with their Confession of Faith. At least so it would seem from the recent action of the New York Presbytery, which decided by a vote of 67 to 15 in favor of its revision. Drs. Crosby, Alexander, Parkhurst and Field were amongst those who voted in the affirmative. This probably means a modification of the extreme Calvinistic doctrine of that church.

A SCHEME for promoting higher education in religious knowledge in the Diocese of Rochester has been just launched. It is a society whose object is to promote definite and systematic study of the Old and New Testaments, the Book of Common Prayer, the History of the Christian Church, and Christian Evidences. This will be done prescribing a course of study, by arranging lectures and classes, and by holding examinations.

LADY PLUNKETT, the wife of his Grace, the Archbishop of Dublin, died last month. She was the only daughter of the late well-known and respected Sir Benjamin Guinness, and sister, therefore, to Lord Ardilaun and to Sir Edward Guinness, and we learn from the Peerage that she had barely completed the fiftieth year of her age. Lady Plunkett was well-known

and highly esteemed for her kindness, pleasing and lively manners, and the truthfulness of her friendship.

THE opening sentences in the Order for Daily Morning Prayer in the American Prayer Book has been changed, appropriate sentences being given for Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Whitsunday and Trinity Sunday.

THE table of "Proper Psalms for certain days" has been enlarged in the P.E. Church of the U.S. so as to include, First Sunday in Advent, Christmas Day, Circumcision, Epiphany, Purification, Ash Wednesday, Annunciation, Good Friday, Easter Even, Easter Day, Ascension Day, Whitsunday, Trinity Sunday, Transfiguration, St. Michael's, and All Saints' Day.

THE *Pacific Churchman* says:—The Rev. A. G. L. Trew, Dean of the Southern Convocation, has returned as a Doctor of Divinity. The degree was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater, the University of Trinity College, Toronto—a university founded by royal charter, and which is very sparing and discriminating in conferring such honors. Dr. Trew has our hearty congratulations.

WE have before us, in a Baptist parish paper, a "Catechism on Baptism," in which the child is asked, 'What does the word baptism mean?' *Answer.* It means dipping, plunging, overwhelming immersion in any substance." But when we read of the people of Israel being baptized in the Red Sea, they were neither dipped, nor plunged, nor overwhelmed or immersed in any substance. The little child, therefore, gets bad information.—*Exchange.*

THE Governor of Florida is a Churchman, and this is what the *Church Year* says of him:—It is pleasant to note the active personal interest which Governor Fleming takes in the work of this parish, (St. John's, Tallahassee,) regularly attending his class in the Sunday school, and opening and closing its services, and in the absence of a clergyman reading the Sunday services, morning and evening, at St. John's, and in the afternoon at the Chapel, for colored people.

OF the action of the late General Convention in the U.S. in regard to the liturgical report, a careful analysis shows that out of sixty-five propositions the Deputies non-concurred with the Bishops in regard to twenty-one. It illustrates the entire independence of the two houses: they do not sit simply to execute each others decrees or to fill each others wishes, but upon their responsibility to do what each shall think best and wisest for the Church. In some instances a conference could not effect an agreement, and each house remained firm in its own action.

SOME rather startling statistics have been just brought forward by Mr. T. G. Shearman in an article in the *Forum*, entitled, 'Who owns the United States?' It appears that a small body of seventy men represent an aggregate

wealth of £540,000 000. Of these J. J. Astor owns over thirty millions, each of the Vanderbilts twenty millions, and so do Senator Stanford and Mr. Rockefeller of the Standard Oil Company. Jay Gould is said by some to own fifty million pounds sterling. 'The richest dukes of England,' says Mr. Shearman, "fall below the average wealth of a dozen American citizens.' One half the wealth of America is owned by 25,000 persons, and the whole wealth is practically owned by 250,000 people, a very small fraction indeed of that immense population.

SOME of the most effective work done by the St. Andrew's Brotherhood in the U.S. has been at the hotels. Travellers are peculiarly liable to become careless in their religious observances, and anything which may help to keep them in mind of them, and facilitate their attendance upon them, will be good work in their behalf. Stopping over Sunday at a hotel, in a strange place, unless they are plainly directed, or invited to the church, they are all too likely to yield to a disinclination to make an effort to find it. Some chapters of the Brotherhood have a committee which personally visits the hotels, seeking strangers and inviting them to attend service on Sundays. Others have provided neatly framed directions, to be hung in plain sight in hotel sitting-rooms, at the depots and other places, giving information as to the location of the church, hours of service, etc.

SECESSIONS FROM NONCONFORMITY.—The Rev. W. Vale, vicar of Halesby, writing with regard to the statement recently made by the Bishop of Llandaff as to the "bees returning to the old hive," says—"It may interest your readers to know that at a church which I built in a populous Lancashire town some years ago, and of which I was the first vicar, my curate was an ex-Congregationalist minister, the Scripture-reader had been a Primitive Methodist local-preacher and the sexton and organist had both been Congregationalists. Moreover, my next curate had been a Wesleyan minister, and he is now, I am glad to say, occupying an influential position in the dear old Church." The *Western Morning News* says that the Rev. J. H. Jones, of St. John's College, Cambridge, who is awaiting ordination, after being educated at the Baptist College, Bristol, accepted the pastorate of the Baptist Chapel, Appledore, in 1887, but resigned within twelve months, in order to enter the Established Church. His father was, at his death last year, the president-elect of the Welsh Baptist Union, and the South Wales agent of the Liberation Society.

IN the last General Convention there was one gentleman who was facetiously called "the delegate from Europe and continents adjacent." This gentleman represented the foreign churches and faithfully endeavored to secure some amendments to the rather cumbersome canon which regulates those churches. Perhaps he received scant courtesy. At least the General Convention refused to adopt his proposed canon and refused to refer the matter to a committee to the next Convention. But the *Churchman* is in error when it attributes this