



ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH.

platter and a few drinking horns as their only furniture. Here and there might be seen a church or minster built of stone, and a few remnants of Roman grandeur; but, as a rule, their buildings were poor. The people were very much given to the excessive use of mead and wine, and their mode of life was rough and sometimes brutal. The Church had done much to humanize and soften the manners of the people, but the incursions of the Danes interrupted and undid much of this merciful work. The Church itself, however, was by no means free from disorder, which only awaited an opportunity to show itself painfully to the world; but Archbishop Wulfhelm managed to keep things quiet during his episcopate, which ended with his death in the year 942.

#### THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH AND PRIMATE OF ALL IRELAND.

**T**HE Most Rev. Robert Samuel Gregg, D.D., whose election on Dec. 14th, 1893, to be the Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland, and Metropolitan in succession to the late Dr. Knox, is announced in another column, was born in the year 1834. He is the second son of the late Dr. John Gregg, who was sometime Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross. He spent his early school days in Cork, and afterwards proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated with distinction in 1857, and was ordained in the same year to the curacy of Rathcooney, County Cork. Two years later he was appointed incumbent of Christ Church, Belfast. In 1862, after about three years' work in that parish, he resigned the living to undertake the duties of examining and domestic chaplain to his father (Bishop Gregg, of Cork), in conjunction with the incumbency of Frankfield, County Cork. He was rector of Carrigrohane and Precentor of Cork Cathedral from 1865 until his preferment to the deanery of Cork in 1874. In the following year he was

elected to the see of Ossory, Ferns, and Leighlin, and in 1878, the death of his father having left the see of Cork vacant, he was translated to that bishopric.

Dr. Gregg, who is an eloquent preacher, and noted for the simplicity and clearness of his style, has a remarkable aptitude for figures, which was of signal advantage to the Irish Church in the dark times when she was disestablished and plundered. His Grace has been noted during the whole of his career for the faithful and zealous discharge of all the duties which have fallen upon him. In many different spheres of work he has shown the greatness of his ability and the variety of his qualifications for the position to which he has just been elected.

Clergy and laity alike have ever found in Bishop Gregg a kind and sympathetic friend. His management of both the dioceses over which he has had jurisdiction has been admirable. In council he is wise, and in debate is noted for his perfect calmness and conciliatory attitude towards those who differ from him. He is the author of a few works, of which the bestknown is a life of his father. The new archbishop is strongly convinced that Home Rule would be the ruin of his country, and has again and again, with great moderation and firmness, warned his countrymen against the evils which he foresees would follow if such a step were to be taken. A recent address on the subject, which was printed in pamphlet form, has had a very large circulation.

So far as we have heard, Irish Church people are well satisfied that Dr. Gregg has been chosen to succeed the late Dr. Robert Knox, and are convinced that he is a worthy successor of his illustrious predecessors in the archbishop's throne in the ancient Cathedral of Armagh.

From the days of St. Patrick, in the fifth century, Armagh has been the seat of the Irish Primacy. The present cathedral, which was built, for the most part, towards the end of the seventeenth century, in the time of Primate Beresford was greatly repaired and beautified. It is in the form of a cross, the extreme length of which is 184 feet, and the extreme width 119 feet. It is surmounted by a tower and spire, of which the height is 150 feet.

The Cathedral of Armagh represents rather more than fourteen centuries of Church life and work of various kinds in the sister isle. Roughly, for six of these fourteen centuries the Irish Church maintained its independent position, and was, in all respects, a national Church. Then followed about four centuries of partial subjection to the see of Rome. With the Reformation, that subjection was finally abjured, and to-day the see of Armagh stands at the head of the ancient Church of Ireland, founded by St. Patrick.—*Church Bells.*