

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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ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE LATE BISHOP WORDSWORTH.—The death of the late Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev. Father in God Christopher Wordsworth has removed a prominent name from the list of great living English Churchmen, and added one to that of the saintly dead. His eulogium can hardly be better expressed than in the words of the Vicar of Leeds:

"Truly he was a Christopher, for he was the bearer of Christ to many a life; a scholar with rare gifts and rarer attainments, who studied on his knees; a man who gave away more than he spent; a ruler who made himself the servant of all men; a member of a family to whom England owes much, and who left him a tradition that he greatly enriched."

The funeral of the late Bishop took place on Wednesday the Feast of the Annunciation, in Riseholme Churchyard, when his body was laid to rest, with all honors and regrets, beside that of Mrs Wordsworth, who was buried there on last All Saints' Day.

The *Guardian* says:—"A great, lofty, self-denying life, characterised by the most large-hearted charity and the most humble, has ceased for us." Canon Morse, preaching at St. Mary's Nottingham, said the late Bishop rejoiced much at the appointment of Canon King as his successor, exclaiming, as he received the intelligence, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

THE POET WHITTIER'S TRIBUTE TO GENERAL GORDON.—The following interesting extract from a letter received from Mr. J. G. Whittier, the Quaker poet of New England, has been forwarded to the *Pitt-Mall Gazette* by Mr. Charles C. Reed. Mr. Reed had suggested to Mr. Whittier that he should write a poem on General Gordon, and this is an extract from the poet's reply, which is dated Danvers, Mass., March 4, 1885:—"Thy letter found me pondering the very subject to which it so kindly sought to call my attention. For years I have followed General Gordon's course with constantly increasing interest, wonder and admiration, and I have felt his death as a great personal bereavement. A providential man, his mission in an unbelieving and selfish age revealed the mighty power of faith in God, self-abnegation, and the enthusiasm of humanity. For centuries no grander figure has crossed the disk of our planet. Unique, unapproachable in his marvellous individuality, he belongs to no sect or party, and defies classification or comparison. I should be sorry to see his name used for party purposes, for neither Conservative nor Radical has any special claim upon him. We Americans, in common with all English-speaking people the world over, lament his death and share his glorious memory. I wish it were in my power to do what thee so kindly suggest, but I scarcely feel able to do justice, at this time, to the wonderful personality which for the past year has stood on the banks of the Nile, relieved against the dark background of the Soudan. I have been suffering from illness, and dare not undertake the eulogy of such a man with a feeble

hand. Perhaps it may sometime be in my power, as it is now in my inclination, to put my thoughts of him into metrical form. If I could reach the ear of Alfred Tennyson I should urge him to give the world a threnody inspired by the life and death of one who has made not only England but the world richer for his memory."

THE NEW BISHOP OF BRISBANE.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, in compliance with the request of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane that he should nominate a Bishop in succession to Dr. Hale, who recently resigned that See, has offered the appointment to the Rev. W. T. Thornhill Webber, Vicar of St. John the Evangelist, Holborn, who has accepted it.

The Diocese of Brisbane comprises some 680,000 square miles of Queensland, and has a population of 169,000 souls. The Bishop-nominate graduated at Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1859, and was ordained in the following year to the curacy of Chiswick, from which he was translated by Bishop Tait, in 1865, to the Mission district of St. John, of which he was subsequently appointed the first Vicar.

In the course of twenty years Mr. Webber has raised upwards of £50,000 for Church purposes, having built schools, Clergy-house, and a noble church, designed by Mr. Pearson, which is generally admitted to be a notable addition to the architectural features of the metropolis, and towards which the Bishop of London's Fund contributed about £8,000. At the consecration of the church Bishop Jackson paid a high tribute to the indomitable energy and perseverance of the Vicar.

Mr. Webber is a liberal High Churchman, but belongs, above all things, to the practical school. He has for many years been a member of the London School Board, and was twelve years a guardian of the Holborn Union, besides filling onerous positions in connection with Church institutions. He is also a staunch supporter of the Church of England Temperance Society.

ARCHBISHOP BENSON AND THE CHURCH OF SOUTH AFRICA.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, in a letter to the Metropolitan of South Africa on the connection between the Mother Church and that of South Africa, says:—

"To my mind it is totally impossible to conceive that any Church is united in communion with the Church of England if you are not—you and your Bishops consecrated here; your ordained Clergy admissible to officiate in some cures and hold benefices in England exactly on the same terms as all other Colonial or Anglican Clergy. Your union is close and formal, as well as spiritual and internal. The legal separation which has been such a stumbling-block does not really determine anything but the present ownership of property. The body to which that property was given was the same that it is now, it is the body of which you are Bishop and Metropolitan. A change affects your tenure. It has not altered your doctrine and discipline. The Church of Ireland never had the same court of appeal as the Church of England, yet the whole was the Church of England and Ireland. The difference of court made no difference to the union even of an Established Church, and how can it possibly do so for an unestablished Church?"

A NOVEL CEREMONY.—An interesting and unusual ceremony, says the *Western Churchman*, took place in Grace Church, Colorado Springs, at the late visitation of the Parish. A gentleman who had been baptized and confirmed in youth, and who had afterwards become careless and indifferent about his religious duties, having "come to himself" and desiring to return to his place in the Church, was publicly restored to communion. He knelt with those who were to be confirmed, and the Bishop solemnly received him and re-admitted him to the eucharist. This was a step in the right direction. The Church sadly needs some ceremony that would emphasize the importance and value of the spiritual privileges she has to bestow, and the sin and danger of neglecting them. Every such act as this exercises an influence for good upon those within and those without the Church. Let us have more of them.

A WONDERFUL WORK.—In his last report, dated May 26th, 1884, Mr. George Muller, so well-known in connection with the work of the Orphanage at Bristol, England, gives the following summary:—

"Since March 5, 1834, when it pleased the Lord to enable me to found the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, he has graciously sent me, as the result of prayer and faith, the sum of \$5,063,850. 95,143 children or grown up persons have been taught in the 119 schools, entirely supported by the fund of the Institution, besides tens of thousands have been benefited in the schools which are assisted by its funds; 5,947 now attend the schools; 169,349 Bibles, 847,775 Testaments, 19,907 copies of the Psalms, and 999,961 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures, in various languages, have been circulated since the foundation of the Institution; 80,219,334 books, pamphlets, and tracts, in several languages, have likewise been circulated from its commencement. From the earliest days of the Institution, missionaries have also been assisted by its funds. On this object alone \$983,165 have been expended from the beginning; 6,895 orphans have also been under our care, and five large houses, at an expense of \$575,000, have been erected and fitted up for the accommodation of 2,050 orphans and 119 helpers.

A WORD IN SEASON.—Bishop McLaren writes this in his Diocesan paper:—

"There is a word that ought to be said about music at confirmation services. The visit of the Bishop for confirmation is a religious visit, and that of a very solemn character. The music ought to correspond with it. It should be a help not a hindrance. Neither in respect of occasion nor time, is there any reason why there should be a musical display. Congregational singing of a hearty kind is most congenial to the service. Solos, extra efforts in the way of anthems and concerted pieces seldom well sung, might better be omitted. Sometimes the infliction is intolerable. If choirs only knew how they offend good taste and unnecessarily prolong service, they would take this hint kindly. Give us old hymns and chants to the old tunes that all the people can sing."