

# 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.

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One Dollar a Year.

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THERE are over 25,000 Clergy of the Church in England.

THE Pope has sent the Golden Rose this year to the new Queen of Spain.

THE Turin Academy of Science has awarded a prize to Professor Darwin for his discoveries in the physiology of plants.

ON Sunday the Premier completed his seventy-fifth year; and the Archbishop of Canterbury his sixty-eighth. Mr. Gladstone has just reached seventy.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury requests the clergy in his diocese to make mention of the troops in Afghanistan in their use of the Prayer for All Conditions of Men, and in the Litany.

THE statement has been authoritatively made in the American Church papers that the Church has increased more rapidly during the past year than any other religious body in the United States.

THE Oxford and Cambridge Boat-Race will, in the ordinary course of events, take place on Saturday, March 20, being much sooner than usual, owing to the early fall of Easter, which regulates the fixture.

CARLISLE, the Cornish pedestrian, who has been on a tramp from Land's End to John o'Great's and back, driving a wheelbarrow before him all the way, has completed his journey, having walked nearly 2,400 miles.

THE Princess Louise, before leaving Ottawa for England, gave instructions for a "clearing" to be made in the woods of Rideau Hall and a veritable backwoods shanty to be constructed upon it. The work will be ready when she returns to Canada.

THE English Church (of the Resurrection) at Brussels has just been enriched by the addition of a painted window, from the studio of Mr. W. G. Taylor, of Berners-street, the gift of Mrs. Walton Fleming, in memory of her husband. The subjects of the window, "Faith and Hope," are in continuation of a series.

MENDELSSOHN'S oratorio *Elijah* has been heard for the first time in Rome. It was given in the Sala Dante by the Royal Roman Philharmonic Academy before a crowded audience, among whom were Signor and Signora Cairoli, the German Ambassador, the Austrian Charge d'Affaires, and the Abbe Liszt.

THE General Summary of Statistics of the Church in the United States; according to Whitaker's Almanac, up to the end of the past year, is as follows: Bishops, 62; Priests and Deacons, 3,196; Candidates for Orders, 369; Ordinations, 188; Confirmations, 26,903; Communicants, 324,995; Contributions, \$6,582,999.68.

THE Emperor of Austria has conferred the gold medal for science and art on Mdlle. Camilla Ruzicka Ostoic for a new Turkish and German Dictionary which she recently published. This learned young lady had already distinguished herself in the department of Oriental Languages at the Imperial Oriental Academy at Vienna.

It is stated that a letter has been found "on the Czar's bedroom table" in which he was told—

"For the fifth time fate has preserved you from the stroke of justice. You know our power and determination. Beware of the sixth decree. Do you wish that those who strike to-day shall become apostles instead of executioners? If you do, then cease to be a tyrant and become a man, and render to your subjects what belongs to man by the law of nature—namely, liberty. It is not your person that we attack, but your principles. Be ware and reflect.

War Department has arranged that successful candidates at Kingston Military Academy will be allowed to enter annually for commissions in British army. Instructions have been forwarded to Canada to this effect.

MANY years ago the *Resolute*, an English ship, had to be abandoned in the Arctic seas; but she was found by an American Government ship, taken to America, repaired by the Government, and restored to our Government. She has now been condemned to be broken up; and her Majesty has ordered a magnificent article of furniture, combining writing table and book-shelves, shall be made out of the ship's timber, and sent as a present to the President of the United States.

It has often been said that Roman Catholics emigrating to the Western States of America are speedily lost to old religious associations—new ones being formed, as may be hoped. The statement receives now confirmation from the following letter from the *Vicar Apostolic of Nebraska*, appearing in the *New York Observer* of the 4th December:—

"It would surprise Catholics in the East to know how many have been lost to the faith in the West during the last half-century. In Nebraska alone, with its sparse population, the number thus lost has been from 10,000 to 15,000, and the Church has no more bitter enemies to-day than the children of these Catholic parents."

THE Editor of the *Basel Volksblatt* and one of his correspondents have been fined for a libel in which Old Catholicism and all its works were denounced in violent terms, and Bishop Herzog was stigmatised as an "alcoholised priest" (*alkoholischer Pfarrer*), the latter expression being a play on the term *alkatholischer Pfarrer*. (Old Catholic Priest). The editor stated that the adjective as it appeared in his correspondent's letter was *alkoolischer*, (alcoholic), and that he altered it to *alkatholischer*; but by the perversity of a compositor the word had been "set up" *alkoholischer*, which not being a word at all, could hardly be held to constitute a slander. The writer of the letter was fined 200f.; the editor 50f. and costs, and also to print the judgement in full in his paper.

THE Queen has just placed in her pew at Wippingham a mural monument to the memory of the Grand-Duchess of Hesse. It has been executed by Mr. Frank Theed, in white marble, consisting of a medallion of her Royal Highness, surrounded by a chaplet of flowers, supported by two angels, with the following inscription:—

"To the Dear Memory of Alice Mand Mary, Princess of Great Britain and Ireland, Grand-Duchess of Hesse, Who departed this life in her 36th year, on the anniversary of her beloved father's death, December 14, 1878.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."—St. Matthew v. 8.  
This monument is placed by her sorrowing mother,  
Queen Victoria.  
1879."

THE *New York Churchman* states that in two hundred and fifty years only thirty eight clergy of the Anglican Church have taken orders in the church of Rome. Of these, six were originally congregationalists, eight Presbyterians, eleven Methodist, and one a Roman Catholic. Since the English Reformation, three hundred years ago, two Bishops have perverted to Romanism—Bishop Gordon, of Galloway, Scotland in 1688, and Bishop Ives, of North Carolina, in 1852; during the same time, *Fourteen* Roman Catholic Bishops, and a very large number of priests have renounced Romanism.

## SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR LENTEN ADDRESSES, BIBLE CLASSES, INSTRUCTIONS, AND MEDITATIONS.

Compiled by the Rev. Theodore E. Dowling.

### No. 1.—TO THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER.

The Incarnation of God, the Restoration of Man.

1. The Fall.
2. The Incarnation.
3. Holy Baptism.
4. Repentance.
5. Prayer.
6. Holy Communion.

The Development of the Spiritual Life.

1. The Source of the Spiritual Life.—Romans, xi. 36.
2. The Process of the Spiritual Life.—Ephesians iv. 22-24.
3. Spiritual Awakening.—Ephesians, v. 14.
4. Spiritual Knowledge.—St. John, xvii. 3.
5. Spiritual Peace.—Romans, v. 1.
6. Spiritual Hope.—Romans, xv. 13.

Some of the Dangers of the Spiritual Life.

1. Danger of Display.
2. Danger of Dissimulation.
3. Danger of Stifling Convictions.
4. Danger of Self-Love.
5. Danger of Self-Confidence.
6. Danger of Luke-warmness.

The Earnest Call to Repentance from Isaiah, Chapter 55.

1. The Free Invitation, verse 1.
2. The Sure Covenant, " 3.
3. The Great Command, " 6, 7.
4. The Eternal Purpose, " 8, 9.
5. The Faithful Promise, " 10, 11.
6. The Happy Success, " 13.

The Exceeding Sinfulness of Sin.

1. Sin.—Lam. v. 16.
2. Sin's Deadly Nature.—Prov. xiv. 9.
3. Sin's Delusions.—Gen. iii. 4, 5.
4. The Sinner's Hope.—St. Matt. xx. 6, 7.
5. The Sinner's Wisdom.—St. Luke, xii. 58, 59.
6. The Sinner's Friend.—St. Luke, vii. 34.

Six Duties from the Sermon on the Mount.—St. Matthew, Chapter 6.

1. Almsgiving.
2. Prayer.
3. Forgiveness.
4. Fasting.
5. Preparation.
6. Single-mindedness.

The Holy Mounts of Scripture. (By the Rev. Daniel Moore).

1. The Mount of Temptation.
2. The Mount of Instruction.
3. The Mount of Prayer.
4. The Mount of Transfiguration.
5. The Mount of Prophecy.
6. The Mount of Sacrifice.

Typical Persons. (By the Rgt. Rev. Bishop Walsham How.)

1. Adam.
2. Melchizedek.
3. Moses.
4. Joseph.
5. Isaac.
6. Jonah.

Typical Things. (By the Rgt. Rev. Bishop Walsham How.)

1. The Rock.
2. The Brazen Serpent.
3. The Scapo Coat.
4. The Cities of Refuge.
5. The Paschal Lamb.
6. Jacob's Ladder.

The Church Militant.

1. The Kingdom of God.
2. The Parables of the Kingdom.
3. The Ambassadors of the Kingdom.
4. The Subjects of the Kingdom.
5. Things Pertaining to the Kingdom.
6. The Unity of the Kingdom.

[To be Continued.]

## Foreign Missions.

### INDIA.

MAHOMET AND HIS RELIGION.—No. 1.  
"There is no God but God, and Mahomet is his Prophet." This *adzan*, or call to prayer, has been chanted morning and evening from the minarets of every mosque for the last 1200 years. It proclaims the existence of the third great false religion with which Christian Missions have to contend in their work in India.

The story of the camel-driver of Mecca is almost too well known to need repetition. Mahomet, born and brought up in poverty, married a rich widow, whose affairs he had managed with faithfulness and success. During the years spent in commercial business, his many journeys brought him in contact with men of various countries and different faiths.

In Arabia, whatever knowledge of the One God which may have been possessed by Mahomet's countrymen was overclouded and lost. The land was full of idols and idol-worshippers, though here and there were souls longing for light as the following anecdote testifies. "Some years before Mahomet appeared, four men of his tribe the Korishites, met together and told each other of their doubts, 'What is this pretended divinity,' they asked, 'which our people worship? Only a lump and senseless block of stone let us seek the pure religion of our forefather Abraham, and seek it, if need be, in foreign lands.' Three actually started on their travels in search of truth, and were ultimately received into the Christian Church. The fourth Zaid staid at Mecca and daily visited the Kaaba (temple) and prayed 'Lord, if I know, in what way thou wilt to be aided and served I would obey thy will; but I know it not.' He vigorously denounced the prevailing errors and superstitions. He was persecuted and finally murdered" (Arnold's *Islam*).

Mahomet was in his fortieth year before he began to listen to secret intimations, that there was a Divine mission for him to fulfil. "The crisis of his life had arrived. Fleeing from men; hiding in mountain caves, deeply sunk in religious reverie, seeing visions and dreaming dreams, it was only after a long interior conflict that he began to declare as God's message by him to the world, *there is no God but God and Mahomet is his Prophet*." A.D., 611. One of Archbishop Trench's lectures on Medieval Church History is so interesting, that we shall quote at some length his terse and forcible sentences: "Mahomet's claims to the prophetic office were met by contemptuous indifference, and then by bitter hostility no where so bitter as at Mecca; for he too was a prophet who found no honour in his own country. Driven from thence at length by the persistent enmity of his own tribe, and hardly escaping with his life, he and the few whom he had persuaded to believe in his mission took refuge at Medina, not so named before, but now acquiring this name of the City—the city, that is of the Prophet. This was in 622, some eleven years after he had begun to preach. The year is worth remembering for the Hegira or Flight to Medina is the Mahomedan era, the date from which they reckon, as we do from the Nativity of our Lord. At Medina he found the belief which had been refused him at Mecca. New adherents united themselves to him. Early friends, scattered from him at the time of his flight, gathered round him again. The Korishites indeed still pursued him with implacable enmity, and many battles were fought with varying success; but his cause was gaining ground; and when in 632 he expired, all Arabia recognized him as her prophet and king. He bequeathed to the Califs, his successors, the task of subduing the world to the faith which he had proclaimed. This task they prosecuted with a zeal and success which for a while seemed to threaten the establishment of the faith of Islam on the ruins of every other religion in the world. Terrible indeed was the first out-

burst of the children of the desert. Ten years had not elapsed since the death of the prophet, and already Palestine and Syria and Egypt had accepted the yoke; already three out of the four famous patriarchates of Eastern Christendom—Jerusalem, and Antioch and Alexandria—if not actually blotted out, retained little more than a merely nominal existence; Constantinople itself was twice besieged, and but for the discovery of the Greek Fire, would have succumbed to Mahomedan arms. The tide of conquest rolled onward. North Africa was subdued. Crossing over into Spain, the Arabs or Moors, as they were here called, overthrew in a single battle the kingdom of the Goths. They surmounted the Pyrenees and threatened to make France and all Western Europe, their own. It was here at length that their proud waves were stayed. At the great battle of Tours Charles Martel encountered the armies of Islam with the gathered chivalry of the West and inflicted on them a crushing defeat" (18th Lecture on Medieval Church History.)

In the East the same scenes were being enacted. The Persian empire was conquered and then Islam won its way into India, not being preached like Buddhism, but by hard fighting. For three hundred years invasion after invasion was repelled, but in the eleventh century, Mahmud of Ghuzni established the Mahomedan dominion in Hindustan, the *dominion only*, not the religion. In the centuries that followed, it was only by the sword that Islam gradually extended. Dreadful massacres followed every war. One of the Moslem kings Mohammed Shah, (1340) made a solemn vow on the Koran that he would not sheathe his sword till he had dyed it with the blood of 100,000 idolaters and he kept his vow.

The most powerful of the Mahomedan rulers of India were those of the Mogul dynasty which reigned at Delhi for three hundred years; especially Akbar in Queen Elizabeth's time and Aurunzebe in that of Charles II. "Akbar was a remarkable man. Though at first an earnest Mahomedan, he was tolerant to the Hindus. At one time he professed to embrace Christianity, but he refused baptism, and set up a mixed religion which he called the Divine Faith. At length he returned to his old allegiance and died a Mahomedan" (Vaughan).

After the time of Aurunzebe the Mogul dynasty, lingered on, despite great reverses. At length it became tributary to the British Government, and finally fell when the great Scapoy Mutiny was put down in 1857.

The Empress of India now reigns over forty millions of Mahomedans. One-half of these are so only in name, being more than half Hindus observing caste rules and practising idolatrous rites. The remainder are descendants of the old invaders, and are most numerous in the North-West.

"How shall we explain these extraordinary successes, the going forth of this novel faith over the world, thus bringing the world to its feet? It is not enough to appeal to the simple habits of the conquerors, their hardy training, their martial character. We must look deeper. The Moslem hosts went forth in the confidence of a mission from heaven. Comparing what they now were with what they had been, when they worshipped dead idols, they felt they had been brought into a new world, they had learned what was the true dignity of man, viz., to be the servant of the one God, Maker and Ruler of all, they felt themselves to be such servants, whose task it was to proclaim His power, themselves to submit, and to compel others to submit to His will." (Trench).

In our next number we shall give the Archbishop's considerations on the worth of this "novel religion," not as compared with that "decaying form of Christianity which it encountered, overcame, and supplanted in the East, but as compared with the Christian faith contemplated in its ideal truth and purity."