

CONTEMPORARY CHURCH OPINION.

THE *London Times* is severe on Lord Ripon, Viceroy of India. It says:—"A man who, at the mature age of fifty, or thereabouts, apostatizes from the religion of his fathers, on the ground of 'grave doubts' as to the validity of English orders or the views of the Anglican Church about the nature of the Eucharist, certainly does not possess the strength and solidity of intellect required in a ruler. A man who at that age passes a crushing vote of censure upon his own private judgment by handing it over to a priest deserves no confidence from others."

THE *Living Church* says:—"Surely it is curious to see sectarians who refuse to celebrate the birth of our Lord, meet together for a grand 'service of praise' in honor of the birth of Martin Luther."

THE *Churchman* thinks that Mgr. Capel has his appropriate mission for America, and says that it is to show Americans how graceful a polished man of the world looks when habited in the garb of a Roman Monsignor.

BISHOP DUNLOP, in a letter to *Scribner's Monthly*, says that the needless divisions among Christians are a greater hindrance to the spread of Christ's religion than any other evil, not excepting infidelity and intemperance.

THE *Church Times* answers an enquirer on the subject in the following way:—"There is no book as yet written against Anglo-Israelism intended for very illiterate people. The craze is of such an utterly silly nature that no one accepts it who is not either a lunatic or a dunce, and it is practically impossible to argue with such people. To all intelligent folk, the main disproof of the Anglo-Israel theory lies in the so-called 'proofs' of it; so ridiculous are they."

DR. GOODELL, of St. Louis, says that when "he can get a religious paper into a family he is then sure that one efficient missionary will make fifty-two visits to that household in a year." And another authority says that "the press is a great power in this age, and the Church has not yet learned to use it, for although we are among the wealthiest bodies in the land, we are among the last in the use of the press." This is not right, for the Church is not understood as it ought to be unless Church papers are circulated and read in every Church family. Although the *CHURCH GUARDIAN* has double the circulation of any other Church paper in the Dominion, yet its circulation ought to be double what it is.

BISHOP COXE in the *Kalendar* says:—"Let me remind my diocese that by a solemn act of the Diocesan Council, every clergyman who receives less than \$1,000 and a house to live in, is recognized as a contributor to his parish of the difference between his actual receipts, and that sum, which is fixed at the lowest salary that should be offered."

THE *Literary Churchman* says:—"Honest men are growing sick of half-hearted apologies for the reformation. If we are not Protestants, in heaven's name what are we but hypocrites and cowards? Do we really want to go back again to Tetzels, to a pagan Pope, and a degraded, venal, lecherous hierarchy? Do we yearn for excommunication and the ban of the empire? Do we justify the martyrdom of Huss and Jerome? Is it really our belief that mockery and pilgrimages and crusades and image worship and lying relics can save us from sin?"

THE *English Guardian* grows jubilant over the success of the Southwell Bishopric Fund, and says:—"The work which has been done within a few years in the creation of five new bishoprics proves conclusively how little Churchmen despair of the future of the Church, how lightly they regard the not unfrequent threats of spoliation of her revenues. But we may say more than this. The effort for the new bishoprics is an indication that we have outgrown the phase of opinion—natural and perhaps useful in right time and place—which looked upon parochial extension as the one thing needful. We have come to see that Church extension should include all parts, from the highest to the lowest, of Church organization."

OUR ENGLISH BUDGET.

THE exhibition of the design for the decoration of the dome of St. Paul's has been postponed until the spring.

THE Rev. Arthur Robins proposes to commemorate the part taken by the Household Calvary last year in Egypt, by the erection of a new organ in the Parish Church of Holy Trinity, Windsor.

THE entries of freshmen at the various Colleges of Cambridge University, England, this year, exceeded those of 1882 by fifty-one, the numbers being 716 and 767 respectively. The name of Prince Edward of Wales heads the list at Trinity.

At a Congregation recently held in Oxford a form of statute allowing candidates for Pass Moderations who "were born in India of parents who were born in India" to substitute an Oriental language (Sanskrit, Arabic, or Persian) for either Greek or Latin, was carried by 54 votes to 16. No special foresight, indeed, is needed to anticipate in course of time similar proposals, first, on behalf of persons "born in" France or Germany, and ultimately for any one who prefers to substitute French or German, for either or both of the two classical languages.

THE cry of outcast London has urged the rich West End Churches to respond unselfishly to the needs of their poorer brethren in the East of London.

THE Church of England Temperance Society has had a most successful anniversary two weeks ago, one of the substantial results of the meetings being the contribution of £3000 towards the guarantee fund of £10,000, which the committee are endeavouring to raise.

THE gifted authoress of "Portia," "Monica," "Phyllis," "Mrs. Jeffreys," is the daughter of a West Cork clergyman.

THE consecration of the Rev. Charles Alan Smythies, as Bishop for Central Africa, took place in St. Paul's Cathedral on St. Andrew's Day.

A Few days since a copy of Tyndale's translation of the Pentateuch dated 1530, in the original binding, was sold for £200.

At a meeting of Churchmen at Sheffield, the Archbishop of York presiding—it was resolved to establish a Church of England elementary day school association, the object being to sustain the Church schools now in active operation.

A ROUGH balance-sheet of the Church Congress has been issued, from which it appears that the receipts from members' tickets were £1,366, and from other tickets, £292, making a total of £1,658; but the building has cost £1,954, and the guarantee will have to provide £382.

THE Rev. William Panckridge, vicar of St. Matthew's, City Road, who visited Canada last year has accepted the Rectory of St. Bartholomew the Great, Smithfield, which will cause much regret to his parishioners, but will be welcomed by Churchmen generally, as offering promise of a new era of usefulness for the old City Church.

CANON BARRY, who is upon the eve of leaving King's College to assume the position of Primate of the English Church in Australia, is so embarrassed with clerical offers of co-operation that he has written to say he can give no answer to any such correspondents, and he is quite in the dark as to the needs and necessities of the case, and that the only appointment which he is able and desirous of filling up at present is that of private tutor and chaplain in his own family.

THE oldest peer of Great Britain, the Earl of Buckinghamshire, who recently attained his ninetieth year, is in Priest's Orders. Besides him eight other peers, are in Holy Orders, namely, the Marquis of Donegal, (Dean of Ruahoe), the Earls of Delaware, Carlisle, and Stamford, Lord Plunket (Bishop of Meath), Lord Saye and Sele (Archdeacon of Hereford), Lord Scarsdale, and Lord Hawke. The Earl of Mulgrave, heir-apparent to the Marquisate of Normandy is also a clergyman.

Book Notices, Reviews, &c.

THE "American Church Review" for November has been received, and is, as usual, well filled with articles of striking value. The Right Rev. Geo. F. Seymour, D. D., L. L. D., Bishop of Springfield, under the title "What is Catholicism? What is Romanism," has an introduction to a book soon to be published in this country entitled "Papal Claims with light of Scripture and History." If the publication of the book does nothing more than to give this able article to the Church, it will have done a good work. We trust Bishop Seymour's introduction will cause the new work to be widely read. The other articles are: "The Proposed Prayer Book in the Convention of 1886," by Stephen P. Nash, Esq.; "The Ark of the Covenant," by Mr. Carlos A. Butler; "William Rollinson Whittingham," by the Rev. Thos. Richey, D. D.; "The Proposed Amendments to the Book of Common Prayer." Recent Literature. "American Church Review," box 1839, New York. \$3 a year.

"The Homiletic Monthly" for December contains a splendid array of sermons from well known preachers, and quite a budget of homiletic material for Christmas. There are many valuable papers on textual and sermon criticism. To Churchmen the magazine would be of much more value if communications from the leading writers of our own communion were to be found oftener in its pages. Both paper and letter-press are of a high order. Funk & Wagnalls, publishers, New York.

A coloured series of story books from S. W. Partridge & Co., the well known English publishers, have been laid on our table by Messrs. McGregor & Knight, Granville Street, Halifax. There are twelve in all, and they are sold for \$1. They are very suitable for Sunday School gift books.

"Quenn," by Blanche Willis Howard. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co.

"Quenn" is a fascinating and touching story, written with so much force and grace as to leave a powerful impression upon the mind of the reader. The picturesque people of Breton, with their primitive ways, strong passions and warm affections, are portrayed with wonderful vividness, and the descriptions of the coast scenery of that most attractive region are remarkable specimens of word painting.

Our Christmas in a Palace, By Edward Everett Hale, New York. Funk & Wagnalls.

This is a most attractive volume of tales strung on the thread of an amusing story. A number of congenial travellers find themselves snow-bound on board a train and obliged to spend their Christmas in a palace car. Their excellent devices for spending a merry and happy Christmas in spite of adverse circumstances afford some charming reading and make us cordially admire their philosophy and varied cleverness. A thread of love and romance is of course woven through the whole. S. F. Huestis, 141 Granville Street is agent for Messrs. Funk and Wagnall.

Observations upon the late Mission, held in the City of Halifax, November 10th to November 22nd, 1883, addressed to the Clergy and Laity of his Diocese, by Hilbert, Bishop of Nova Scotia. Halifax, Wm. Gossip, Granville St. Price 5 Cents.

This Pamphlet has been published by the Bishop, that his Clergy and others may have correct information as to the Mission, with special reference to the subject of Confession, and also for the re-publication of portions of the Bishop's Charge of 1874, bearing on the same subject, with additional remarks. His Lordship, with his usual clearness and force, has here presented the matter in a way which cannot fail to make it understood. The Pamphlet ought to have a wide circulation. The low price places it within reach of all.