

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.

THE Mid-African King who murdered Bishop Hannington a few years ago, is said now to be a Christian.

THE tenth anniversary of Bishop Starkey's consecration as Bishop of Newark, N.J., has just been celebrated. A pastoral staff was presented to him on the occasion.

THERE are eleven boy choirs in Boston, the one singing the service at the Church of the Advent being the first one formed in America. For fifteen years it was the only one in Boston or in New England.

MR. JEREMIAH JORDAN, the Irish Wesleyan M.P., condemns a proposed Wesleyan mission in county Clare (in which his constituency lies), on the ground that it would be an insult to the Roman Catholics.

THE Bishop of St. David's in his confirmation tour for 1889, held services in fifty churches, and confirmed 1,378 males and 1,828 females—a total of 3,206. During the last three years he has confirmed 9,212 persons.

AN Imperial irade sanctions the erection at Bethlehem of a chapel for Protestant pilgrims. The need for this has long been felt, and the Sultan's present decision was most gratifying to the late German Empress, who had the scheme most particularly at heart.

FAITH, Hope, and Love were questioned what they thought

Of future glory, which religion taught.
Now Faith believed it firmly to be true;
And Hope expected so to find it too.
Love answered (smiling with a conscious glow)—
"Believe! expect! I know it to be so."

THE Church festivals of New York continue to develop new and startling possibilities for revenue raising. In one down town local church they have hit upon the idea of putting up ladies at auction, the highest bidder having the privilege of taking the lady he has "purchased" out to supper. Possibly those ladies who do not attract bidders individually will be put up in job lots. Comment is needless.—*Pacific Churchman.*

THE LATE LADY MASSEY.—It is stated on very good authority that the Church has been benefited considerably under the will of the late Lady Dillon Massey. Rumor has it that the deceased lady bequeathed £5,000 to the parish of Clontarf, £1,000 to the parish of Kilpeacon, £1,000 to Trinity Church, £1,000 to the Rev. Canon Gregg for charitable purposes, and £100 towards reducing the debt on the Haverhall Hall.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

A MOVEMENT is on foot to provide a pastoral staff for the diocese of London, Eng., the subscriptions being limited to a guinea. At present the following sees are possessed of pastoral staves:—Bath and Wells, Carlisle, Chester, Durham, Ely, Exeter, Lincoln, Llandaff, Man-

chester, Newcastle, Oxford, Peterborough, St Albans, St. David's, Southwell and Turo Chester and St. Asaph will shortly be added to the list. Canterbury has an appropriate crozier.

THE "Lawyer" Prayer Union has been in existence for the past forty seven years, and Lord Cairns, Lord Justice Lush, Baron Pigott, Justice Archibald, and other notable members of the profession have been members. At present it has on its list many names well known on the English Bench. Its efforts to do good among law clerks and stationers have been attended with happy results. At the public meetings of the union, held twice annually, there is a large gathering of these presided over by some judge.

A REALLY notable service and event was the consecration of a handsome new church lately for one of the missions of the P.E. Church of the U.S. in Tokio, Japan. The building was crowded by a congregation of Japanese for the most part, and of the 184 persons who received the Holy Communion 152 were Japanese. Bishop Williams was attended by fourteen of his clergy, three of whom were natives. The services and sermon were in Japanese, the preacher being the Rev. Mr. Tai. In the afternoon a service in English was held, largely attended by Americans and English residents.

A SHORT time ago we published a leading article commenting upon the remarkable "levelling up" now in process of development in the Established (Presbyterian) Church of Scotland. The latest evidence on this subject is worth noting. At two Glasgow churches recently built in exceptionally grand proportions daily prayer has been established; and at a meeting of the "Glasgow Elders' Association" the Rev. Dr. McLeod of Goran stated, amid applause, that the furtherance of this movement, and the more frequent and ornate celebration of Holy Communion would be made the special business of his life. The fact is that these Scotch Presbyterians are now a good deal "higher" both in practice and doctrine than most of our "Evangelicals" in the Church of England.—*Family Churchman.*

THE CHURCH IN WALES.—A writer in the *Quarterly Review* proves that while her enemies have been assaulting her with one falsehood after another, the Church has been regaining the lost ground. In the small diocese of St. Asaph, with its population of 260,000, the sum of £399,000 has been spent since 1850 upon church building, parsonage houses, and school buildings. The confirmations returns show that in the diocese of St. David's the confirmation candidates have doubled within the last fifteen years, while the children in Church schools have since 1846 more than trebled, the number in the diocese of St. Asaph having risen from 10,000 in 1870 to 19,000 in 1889, being at present double the number of those in the Board schools. The official year books of the Welsh Nonconformists state that the Calvinistic Methodists, the most numerous and powerful Nonconformist body in Wales, since 1875 the "applicants for membership" have

fallen from 3,205 to 5,720, a decrease of 2,485; and the "members admitted" have fallen from 11,126 to 6,401, a diminution of 4,726; meanwhile, between 1875 and 1886, the church debts have increased from £205,000 to £323,000 while the efforts to reduce these have fallen from £42,000 in 1875 to £31,000 in 1886. One of the Methodist records is that of "hearers," each chapel sending in at the end of the year all those who at any time attended the services, be they even babies or tourists. In 1875 these were returned at 270,000, and in 1886 at 277,000; so the Methodists have been providing a new chapel for every 3½ new "hearers."

A TOUCHING INCIDENT.—Bishop Whittingham once met two Jewish ladies who had become Christians. "They told him their hopes touching their father; their trust that he would some day recognize the fulfillment of the hope of Israel; of his gentleness towards them, of his evident desire to learn all that concerned the ground of their faith; they told of their reading aloud the New Testament that he, in an adjoining room, might hear its teaching without openly admitting that he was listening; and how they could at times hear him weeping when the story of the betrayal and rejections and crucifixion of Jesus thus reached him. They "did not doubt that he at least feared that his nation had slain their Lord." "But ah, Bishop," said they, "you cannot know how hard it is for a Jew to abandon the convictions of his early life."

"One day," says the *Watchman*, "these ladies sent for the Bishop in great distress. Their father had been stricken during the night with paralysis and was speechless. They could not say that he had ever openly confessed Jesus to be the Messiah, but yet in other ways he had shown them that he was a Christian believer, and they were fully persuaded that now in prospect of death, he would avow his belief. They implored that the Bishop would baptize their dying father."

"He found the poor man as one dead, save that his breast rose and fell, and that his eyes had the power of motion. These eyes were glowing with a preternatural light, and it seemed as though all the power of his lost faculties had concentrated in them. Having prayed that God would keep him from error in word and act, the Bishop stood by the bedside of his hearer, who had no power to show assent or dissent, and preached to him Jesus. How must he have been moved when under such circumstances he expounded and testified the Kingdom of God! Would that his words could be given, or even the outlines of his discourse; even as every reader of the Book of Acts must wish that we had been told what Paul said to his brethren in Rome when he persuaded them concerning Jesus from morning till evening. We can know only what he himself told me. The exposition of the faith was followed by the baptism of the father—the speechless one for whom his daughters answered."

The Son of Abraham, being now, as was trusted, within the better covenant, the minister of Christ continued his discourse as to the Christian brother about to enter the promises, when, as he spoke of the resurrection and the second coming of the Lord in glory, the para-