

# The Church Guardian.

*My Godfrey*

"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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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1879.

One Dollar a Year.

REV. JOHN D. H. BROWNE,  
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EDITORS.

BISHOP BARING, retired Bishop of Durham, is dead.

It is a noticeable fact that the period when the Mother Church of England became most prosperous was when she woke to her Foreign work.

THE crops in New Brunswick are said to be remarkably good. More wheat has been grown than was ever known before, and the yield is very heavy.

A NEGRO, Mr. Charles E. Cummings, was recently ordained to the Diaconate in the Church of the Good Samaritan, St. Louis, Mo., whose Rector is the Rev. J. C. Thompson (colored).

THE financial state of St. John, N. B., is in such a condition that the School Trustees will be compelled either to close some of the schools altogether, or else to reduce the salaries of all the Teachers fifty per cent.

QUEEN VICTORIA, has by several years outlived every bishop and every judge whom she found seated on those benches of England, Scotland, and Ireland. She has witnessed the funeral of every Premier who served under her except Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone.

THE will has been proved of Queen Christiana of Spain (personal estate in England being sworn under £6,000.). Queen Christiana directs that 5000 Masses shall be recited for her soul by four priests, 5,000 for the souls of her late husbands, 1,000 for the souls of her deceased children, and 5000 for the souls of her deceased grandchildren, the alms for each Mass to be 10 reals (about 2s).

THE Cathedral at Garden City, Diocese of Long Island, which is intended to be a memorial of the late A. T. Stewart, and is being built by his widow, is externally completed, and a great deal of the inside work has been done. Excepting the floor, the crypt is finished, and shows very fine work, executed in imported marbles of different kinds, the sculpturings have been done in Newark, N. J. View is obtained of it through a pierced marble screen. Here is to be a reredos, and in front of this the chapel. Above, the iron columns upholding the roof, which have seemed to some as incongruous, are to be covered with bronze picked out with *leur de lis*. This will be in harmony with the rest of the edifice, and will give less obstruction than if stone columns had been introduced. A portion of the interior is now temporarily used as a modelling room, where mouldings are made from flowers and fruit and then cast for the ornamentation of the interior ceiling and walls. The windows are conspicuously beautiful for their exquisite carving in stone, and are to be set with such emblematic figure pieces in stained glass.

There are various niches throughout the building for statues, and two large spaces are to be covered with paintings, representing scriptural scenes. The chancel and choir are so far completed as to begin to show the chaste beauty of the sculpturings which will adorn them. There will be three organs, which, with the chimes, can, if desirable, be all operated together in perfect harmony from the same keyboard. The main entrance doors of the building are to be of great cost, and to receive the highest artistic execution.

THE *Christian Herald* announces its discovery that Prince Jerome Bonaparte is "the Beast of the Revelation whose number is 666." Wisdom is known of her children.

The correspondent of the *Standard* at Madrid says the Ministers approved entirely of King Alfonso's choice, and have decided to convoke the Cortes early in November. The marriage will take place probably on the 28th of the same month, the birthday of the King.

THE first stone of Cologne Cathedral was laid on August 15, 1248. It is hoped the next Anniversary, the 632nd, will really see the finishing of this great monster. The two towers have now reached their last stage, and have only to be filled with their massive caps of solid stone-work.

THE roll of the House of Peers, as it now stands, comprises exactly 507 names, commencing with the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, and ending with the junior Baron, Lord Norton. It includes 4 Royal Dukes, 2 Archbishops, 22 Dukes, 19 Marquises, 134 Earls, 32 Viscounts, 24 Bishops, and 262 Barons.

"IN the very priestly heart of Japan," says the Rev. W. Flemming Stevenson, "in a city where ten years ago foreigners could only be smuggled in by stealth, I listened to sermons preached by native ministers to large native congregations, and found them so scriptural, thoughtful and eloquent, as to place them on a level with our best sermons at home."

RANAVALONA, Queen of Madagascar, has issued a proclamation to her subjects commanding them to send their children to school, saying that it makes her glad to see her subjects wise. She adds: "And so be all of you diligent, for although you do not now know the sweetness of knowledge and wisdom, you will discover it when they become yours."

MR. KO-KUN-HUA, the new Chinese Professor at Harvard, is a slender, richly-dressed man of forty. He is now established at Cambridge with his wife and six children. He is engaged to teach Mandarin Chinese for three years at \$2000 a month. It will be taught simply for commercial purposes to those young men intending to go to the East;

LIVINGSTONE'S self-denying work is producing fruits. Four missionary bands have already established themselves on the great lakes of Central Africa, provided with boats by which they can reach over the lakes and their affluents, and the rivers that flow from them, more than a thousand miles in a straight line north and south, thus commanding the great waterways of Central Africa by a line of mission stations.

THE Bishop of Georgia renews his warning against Romish Schools, and quotes a work used in them, which condemns all Protestants to perdition. Apropos of the influence brought to bear on children, a lady went to see her sister in one of these schools, having heard of her intention to join the Church of Rome. She was assured by the authorities that the girl had *no such intention*. It afterwards transpired that she had been *baptized some days previously*.

## Foreign Missions.

### AFRICA.

#### BISHOP CROWTHER: HIS LIFE AND WORK.

(CONTINUED.)

#### V.—LIFE AND WORK AT ABEOKUTA.

FOR twelve years Samuel Crowther was connected with the Yoruba Mission, and the greater part of this period was spent at Abeokuta. His journals and reports, teeming with interesting information and incident, and brimful of both earnestness and common sense, occupied a prominent place in the Society's publication and embody a vivid history of the brightest period of the Abeokuta Mission. No Mission since the Society was established had begun with more promise; in none did the reaping follow so closely on the sowing. On August 3rd, 1849, Crowther's journal observes, "This Mission is to-day three year old. What has God wrought during this short interval of conflict between light and darkness! We have 500 constant attendants on the means of grace, about 80 communicants, and nearly 200 candidates for baptism. A great number of heathen have ceased worshipping their gods; others have cast theirs away altogether and are not far from enlisting under the banner of Christ.

Crowther's work at Abeokuta was by no means confined to preaching the Gospel. His journals bear abundant witness to the variety of the methods adopted to influence the people. Schools were a prominent agency from the first; and involved not merely teaching, but the preparation of school-books, in which, as well as in the translation of the Bible and Prayer-book into Yoruba, he had a very large share. Efforts were made to improve the agriculture of the country, and to establish a trade in cotton. And again and again we find Mr. Crowther joining with the English missionaries in appealing, not always unsuccessfully, to the chiefs to modify or even abolish inhuman and barbarous social customs.

The records of his translation are particularly interesting. Year by year he sent home fresh portions of Scripture in Yoruba to be printed; and the delight of the people when the printed copies reached Abeokuta is again and again referred to. With their newly acquired power to read, each book, as it was put into their hands, seemed a fresh revelation of the goodness of God. The Psalms were not among the parts first printed, but several were taught to the Christians by heart. The Prayer-book also was greatly valued. The heathen were greatly struck by its petitions. "Ha! ha! ha!" exclaimed the chiefs, "so they pray to Olorun [God] for everything, for all people, for their enemies even; we never heard the like before." In this connection a passage in Mr. Crowther's journal of September, 1849, is worth preserving:—

When I was spending a few days with a pious officer in the army at Woolwich, in 1843, I came in contact with a gentleman of the Plymouth Brethren, who used all the arguments he could to get me into his persuasion. When he found that he could not succeed, he gave me this one solemn advice—not to make use of the Liturgy among my country-people. In reply, I begged him to con-

sider for a moment the propriety of the conduct of a son who has been cared for, nursed up, and taught to pray upon the lap by his kind mother from his infancy, till he attained the years of discretion; and then because the prayers of the mother did not suit his fancy to kick against them. How ungrateful! I have considered the Church as my mother, which has taught me to pray, as it were, upon her lap by the Prayer-book, when I knew not how to utter a word. After having been thus taught to express my wants, shall I now kick against it?

My attachment to the use of the Liturgy has not in the least abated since that time; but on the contrary, since I have been sifting various portions in translating them into my native tongue, I have found its beauty sparkles brighter and brighter, scriptural in its language, and very well adapted for public service, and I can find no substitute for my countrymen.

In 1848, the Egba chiefs spontaneously took occasion, by a visit of Mr. Townsend to England, to send a letter to the Queen, thanking her for having rescued so many of their countrymen from slavery, and begging that further measures might be taken to put an end to the slave-trade and open Yoruba to lawful commerce. "We have seen your servants the missionaries," the letter added; "what they have done is agreeable to us. They have built a house of God. They have taught the people the Word of God, and our children beside. We begin to understand them." A gracious reply was returned by Her Majesty through the Earl of Chichester, which was delivered at a great gathering of chiefs and elders on May 23rd, 1849, accompanied by two splendid Bibles English and Arabic, and a steel corn-mill from Prince Albert. It fell to Samuel Crowther to read the royal letter, translating it paragraph by paragraph.

"The Queen," it said, "and people of England are very glad to know that Saguba and the chiefs think as they do upon the subject of commerce.

"But commerce alone will not make a nation great and happy, like England—England has become great and happy by the knowledge of the true God and Jesus Christ.

"The Queen is therefore very glad to hear that Saguba and the chiefs have so kindly received the missionaries, who carry with them the Word of God, and that so many of the people are willing to hear it."

Crowther describes how he impressed the lesson of these sentences upon the chiefs. "I proved it to them," he writes while holding the two splendid Bibles in my hand—the prosperous reigns King David, Jehoshaphat, Hezekiah, Josiah, who feared God," &c., &c. "After this, he goes on, "the mill was fixed; some Indian corn, having been got ready, was put into the funnel before them, and, to their great astonishment, came out in fine flour by merely turning the handle of the machine."

The request of the chiefs with regard to the slave-trade was not made in vain. Two or three years later (1851) a British force dethroned the slave dealing usurper of Lagos, made a highly favorable treaty with the King and thus opened the way for the extensive legitimate trade which has since made that part the most flourishing in West Africa.

THE American Company of Revisers of the Authorized Version of the Bible have issued an address, in which they state that the greater part of the work will be finished this year.