

**BRITISH BUDGET.**

Bishop Beckles contradicts the rumor that he is going out to Natal as Bishop Colenso's successor.

At nearly all the Irish Easter Vestries resolutions were passed condemning Mr Gladstone's scheme for Local Government in Ireland.

The new Bishop of Manchester has selected the Dean of Manchester to preach the sermon on the occasion of his enthronement in Manchester Cathedral.

The Rev. Henry Blunt, rector of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and Rural Dean, has been elected president of Sion College, in the room of the Rev. J. F. Kitto, instituted to the vicarage of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

Very few Englishmen, says the *Guardian*, are aware of the real state of the Church in Wales. In the parish of Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, 561 persons communicated on Easter Sunday, the population being 9,071.

In appreciation of his lengthened ministerial work in the town, the Rev. Prebendary Vaughan, who has just relinquished the incumbency of Christ Church, Brighton, has been presented with a testimonial consisting of £1,500.

It is announced in the *Gazette* that the Queen has appointed the Rev. William Rowe Jolley, M.A., rector of Huggate, Pocklington, Yorkshire, to be one of the Deputy Clerks of the Closet in Ordinary to Her Majesty, in the room of the Rev. Lord Wriothlesley Russell, deceased.

At the next monthly general meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Archbishop of Canterbury will move that a grant of £500 a year for five years be made to maintain and extend an educational mission from the Archbishops of the English Church to the Assyrian Christians in Kurdistan. The material circumstances of this oppressed Christian body have made it impossible for them to provide a suitable education for those who are called to the ministry of the Church. They are very anxious for enlightenment and self-improvement.

The Rev. W. Hay Aitken, writing a long and weighty letter to the *Times*, says that, in common with multitudes of other Liberals throughout the land, he contemplates Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule proposals with a feeling of consternation. It was all so unnecessary, too. Mr. Gladstone himself was not committed to any surrender at the feet of Mr. Parnell; on the contrary, he said last November—"Let Mr. Parnell order every Irishman, let him bring every Irishman to vote against every Liberal; let him pour out the vials of vituperation and abuse; yet he and his party know perfectly well that all

these actions and all these words will not have the slightest effect on the policy of the Liberal party." The constituencies were not committed; they never heard one word of the impending projects.

**MR. RUSKIN ON THE BIBLE.**

Mr. Ruskin has addressed a letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in which he says:—

ST. MARK'S DAY, 1886,  
(Easter Sunday.)

Sir.—Will you allow me, rather from Venice in thought, than from poor little Brantford in body, to send you one quite serious word, for the close of my part in your book discussion? I see in your columns, as in other literary journals, more and more buzzing and fussing about what M. Renan has found the Bible to be, or Mr. Huxley not to be, or the Bishops that it might be, or the School Board that it mustn't be, &c., &c., &c. Let me tell your readers who care to know, in the fewest possible words, what it is. It is the grandest group of writings existent in the rational world, put into the grandest language of the rational world in the first strength of the Christian faith, by an entirely wise and kind saint, St. Jerome: translated afterwards with beauty and felicity into every language of the Christian world; and the guide, since so translated, of all the arts and acts of that world which have been noble, fortunate, and happy. And by consultation of it honestly, on any serious business, you may always learn—a long while before your Parliament finds out—what you should do in such business, and be directed perhaps besides to work more serious than you had thought of.

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