

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 aged Bishop Crowther has been attacked by paralysis.

THE last census gives the coloured population of St. Louis, Missouri, as 40,000.

THE enthronement of the Bishop of Rochester will take place on October 22nd.

MR. W. RICHMOND, A.R.A., is designing the decorations for the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, which are to be executed in mosaic.

THE Rev. R. C. Joynt, vicar of Darnall, Sheffield, has declined the offer of an African bishopric made to him some weeks ago.

It is announced that the Rev. Marmaduke Shaw, Congregational minister of Tynemouth, will shortly be ordained in the diocese of Exeter.

THE consecration of the new Bishop of Zululand, the Rev. William Marlborough Carter, will be held at Westminster Abbey on Michaelmas Day.

THE Bishop of Derry has accepted an invitation from the trustees of Columbia College to deliver in New York city during Lent of 1892 a course of lectures on the Evidences of Christianity.

THE Rev. Chaplin S. Hedges, rector of Mt. Olivet Church, Algiers, La., recently celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination to the ministry. Dr. Hedges is the only clergyman living who was present at the organization of the diocese of Missouri.

IN the Chapter House at Worcester, on the last Thursday in August, presentations were made to the Bishop of Peterborough and the Bishop-designate of Truro by the leading clergy and laity of the diocese of Worcester, Dr. Gott receiving from Canon Melville, on behalf of the subscribers, an episcopal sapphire ring, and Dr. Creighton, a Crozier of ebony, with supports and decorations of silver.

BISHOP TUCKER will sail once more for his African diocese early in November. He will practically say farewell at a meeting in Exeter Hall on October 30th. His present anxiety is not so much for men as for money. Funds are needed to print more copies of Bible portions in the language of Uganda. The desire of the people to learn is stated to be quite marvellous, and all the copies taken up country were at once disposed of.

THE Paddington Board of Guardians has voted a contribution to the London Labour Home work of the Church Army, in consideration of several persons who have been taken off the rates and out of their Union workhouse. After most careful investigation the Local Government Board has confirmed this grant, in consideration of the efficient help given to paupers in this way. It will be remembered

that in these Labour Homes these inmates are kept for two or three months.

THE consent of a majority of the Bishops has been given to the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Nicholson as Bishop of Milwaukee. The consecration will take place in St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia, on SS. Simon and Jude's Day, October 28th, Dr. Nicholson will be enthroned in his cathedral soon after his consecration.

AT the meeting of the Board of Managers of Missions of the P. E. Church in the United States, Sept. 8, 1891, the Presiding Bishop informed the Board that he has committed the charge of the missionary jurisdiction of Oklahoma and Indian Territory to Bishop Pierce, until there shall be an election, and that he has appointed the Right Rev. Dr. Atwill, Bishop of West Missouri, as the preacher at the Missionary Council.

THE Rev. Canon Argles, preaching the other day in Pork Minster on Elisha's words, 'Whence comest thou, Gehazi?' spoke out bravely about the gambling evil. Referring to the York races, he urged upon his hearers the safe and manly course of keeping aloof from doings and amusements where money was treated not as a trust from God, but as a thing to be recklessly tossed about, where multitudes were striving to use superior skill or knowledge to gain money from one another, where chance and sharp practices held predominant sway, and where foul language and strong drink flow in copious streams.

IN a recent letter the Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary says: 'The Roman priests are giving us great trouble on the reserves near Battleford and at Onion Lake. The Indians are very poor, and money, tea, tobacco, clothing, &c., are most welcome gifts; and, from what I can hear, it is evident they are trying to buy some of our people. The other day, I am told, a Roman priest went out to Red Pheasant's Reserve, where hitherto we have been alone, and offered a woman and her daughter, members of our Church residing there, a dollar apiece if they would consent to be baptized by him. They refused; but some are easily influenced and yield to offers of the kind. Revs. Messrs. Inkster and Macdonald are doing excellent work, but they are sorely tried, and are loth to see some of their converts drawn away from them.—Church Bells.'

A GOOD story is told, but nobody is bound to believe it as an article of faith. A rustic deacon had to announce that the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, M.A., would 'star' it at the chapel. He did so to the following effect:—'The Rev. Hugh Price Hughes's Ma., will preach,' and—he added, with that love of amplification which is habitual in his class—'we hope the old lady will give us a good discourse.'

IN The Church of Christ, the first duty of a Christian is, like the Holy woman and the disciples, to seek to hold converse with our Risen Lord.—Liddon.

AN IDLE ROMISH BRAG.

The press agents of Romanism in England and elsewhere take frequent occasion to magnify the progress of the Roman mission in that country. Of late they have been more industrious than usual, and—more unfortunate. Hardly had they published the fact (?) of the secession of Viscount St. Cyres to the Roman communion than his father publicly denied it and added that Lord St. Cyres had no thought of any such thing. A simultaneous publication of a 'wild rush Romewards' has led to an investigation of the facts. The 'wild rush' story is supported by some remarkable figures; but they do not seem to belong to the Washingtonian class of figures that do not lie, and other figures tell uncomfortable truths.

The 'wild rush' is proved by an unproved allegation that 'the usual statistics of conditional baptism and confirmations (in R. C. chapels) just presented show that the numbers of conversions in each of the fifteen dioceses of England ranges from 700 to 1,000 annually.' Let us call it 850, and then it will appear that in the last forty years of the mission there must have been a gain of something over 500,000 'converts.' Now, in 1840, the Roman Catholics in England numbered 800,000, and in the five years between 1846 and 1851 that number was increased by an immigration into England of 700,000 Irish Roman Catholics. The Irish immigration has been constant, but we may disregard it as an element in our calculation except for those years. We may likewise disregard the constant immigration of Roman Catholic Germans, Italians and other foreign Roman Catholics, which is shown by the census, and all calculation of births in Roman Catholic families since 1840. Taking, then, only the figures given above, it appears that, if the 'rush' story is true, there must now be at least 2,000,000 Roman Catholics in England. Instead of that, however, the Roman Catholic 'Society for the Propagation of the Faith' puts the whole number at 1,345,000; so that, if the Roman Mission has really gained 500,000 converts from the Church of England and the Protestant dissenters, it must have lost 646,000 of its own people! If it had made no converts at all, the same figures would show that it had lost 146,000 of its own people! In view of the elements of the problem which we have chosen not to reckon, the probabilities are that the number of converts has been infinitesimally small, and that the losses has been enormously great. Most assuredly there is not much to brag about in this exhibit of the net result of forty or fifty years' work of the Roman mission in England, with fifteen Bishops and a Cardinal at their head to manage its affairs. It shows that since 1851 the ratio of Roman Catholics to the whole population has been diminished, not increased, and in fact that, since 1851, there has been an absolute dead loss, with nothing whatever as an offset.

We take no satisfaction in the losses of any Christian body anywhere; but we do take great satisfaction in the exposure of the systematic and mendacious brag of a 'wild rush' of converts from the Church of England to the Church of