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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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TO BE NOTED.

Some of our Subscribers seem to forget that the One Dollar per annum rate only applies to Subscriptions PAID STRICTLY IN ADVANCE. We are continually receiving remittances three, six, nay even twelve months after the due date at the dollar rate; whereas in such cases the subscription is really \$1.50 per year. WE CANNOT RECEIVE PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AT THE RATE of One Dollar per year, unless PAID STRICTLY IN ADVANCE. Will Subscribers please note this.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

PRINCELY GENEROSITY.—Mr. John Allan Rolls, of the Hendre, Monmouth, late M. P. for Monmouthshire, the owner of extensive estates in South London, has promised a contribution of 10,000*l.* to the Dorchester Diocesan Society, to be paid in ten annual instalments of 1,000*l.* each, the disposal to be entirely at the discretion of the Bishop. Mr. Rolls has previously given considerable sums in support of the objects of the society.

[Had Mr. Rolls only known of the plan pursued by donors in the Diocese of Montreal he might have made his gift available *independently* of the Bishop, and indeed might have brought the whole clerical education, and even the Society itself under his control, had they accepted his gift. English people, you know, have so much to learn!]

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER ON MUTILATING THE CHURCH SERVICES.—My constant observation of the Sunday services in the Diocese has occasionally made me anxious as to the apparently growing practice of omitting the State prayers. If the Church ceases to pray for the State, and thereby to aid her with spiritual offices and intercession, the State may some day be disposed to retaliate [on the ground that she is thought past praying for], in the direction of relieving the Church of her function as the representative of the nation's faith. Then, while it shortens the morning service occasionally to omit either the Litany or the ante-Communion Service, such omissions are only justifiable on the understanding that these services are used at other periods of the day. For the morning congregation seldom or never to hear the Ten Commandments read out to them means for them to be deprived of the Divine expression of the moral law for mankind; and to miss the Litany is to suffer the loss of one of the most ancient and holy forms of worship that the Holy Ghost has ever inspired Christian man to conceive, indite or offer.

ASSYRIAN MISSION.—We learn that Mr. Athelstan Riley has just returned from Kurdistan bearing letters to the Archbishop of Canterbury from His Holiness the Patriarch, Mar-Shimoon, Catholicos of the East, and from Archbishop Isaac, Metropolitan of the East, acknowledging the arrival of the Rev. Canon Maclean

and the Rev. W. H. Browne, who it will be remembered, left England with Mr. Riley last June to organize seminaries and schools amongst the Assyrians or Chaldeans of Turkey and Persia at the Patriarch's urgent request. A college for priests and a school for boys and candidates for ordination have already been opened at Urme, where theological and secular instruction will be given, partly by the English clergy themselves and partly under their immediate direction. Amongst several of the chief Assyrian ecclesiastics whom the Patriarch and the Bishops are sending to the college this winter are Mar Oraham, the young Patriarch designate [already a bishop], and several boys who are being brought up as successors to the present occupiers of the Chaldean sees, these bishoprics being confined to members of certain episcopal families by an abuse of three hundred years standing. We understand that his grace the Primate intends to make shortly a very special appeal to churchmen generally to enable him to carry on and to develop this work, unique in the history of Anglican Missions, which has begun with such great promise.

WAKEFIELD FUND.—The Bishop of Ripon besides the announcement already made that a gentleman who desires to be known only as "a friend," offers to be responsible for half the amount of 11,000*l.*, which is estimated to be needed to finish the fund, provided the residue be raised before the end of the present year, adds that "Sister Katherine" offers £500 provided six other donors in the Deanery of Leeds will do the same.

DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S GIFT.—The Duchess of Connaught, who is a great admirer of art needle work, and herself a skilled needlewoman, has made a very acceptable present to St. Ann's Church, Bagshot, consisting of three superb altar cloths and frontals. The first is of rich embroidered white damask silk, the super of scarlet Utrecht velvet; a second of red with a velvet cross, beautifully worked with real gold thread and white lilies, the monogram I.H.S. in the centre being of solid gold thread; a third of purple, with a crown of thorns in the centre, and is now on its way from India, where it has been worked by natives. About four years ago the Duchess of Connaught presented to the Church a handsome altar cloth and frontal, worked with her own hands.

CLAIMS ON THE CLERGY.—Prebendary Grier, speaking at the Lichfield Conference, said:—

"Claims upon the Clergy were increasing, and, as it was, a parson was expected to know everything, to do everything and to be everything—an eloquent preacher, a fluent speaker, a diligent student, a convincing controversialist, a learned theologian, a perfect organizer, a successful catechist, a ready debater, a good man of business, a diligent visitor, a lively conversationist, a skilful hand at lawn tennis and a finished beggar."

ON THE OCCASION of the Eastbourne Corporation's annual visit to the old Parish Church, the preacher, Mr. Shepherd, denounced the meanness of the well-to-do in modern society. He

had noticed that on a previous Sunday the attendance had included many ladies, some of them wearing bangles and bracelets from the wrist to the elbow, and yet among these were persons who would put into the plate a button or even a brightened farthing. The collection amounted to only some two hundred and fifty coins in a congregation of eight hundred, an average of about a penny apiece. This was not honoring, but dishonoring God.

ANOTHER PRINCELY ACT.—Two earnest churchwomen, of Philadelphia, Pa., U.S., have given the sum of \$250,000 to build and endow a memorial church in the northwestern part of that city. The Church to be entirely free.

CHURCH UNITY.—The memorial in behalf of Church Unity, presented to the General Convention of the Church in the U. S., was signed by thirty-three Bishops, by more than a thousand Clergymen and by about three thousand laymen. This great work was undertaken only a few weeks before the meeting of the Convention, and its success is an indication of the deep feeling that had taken possession of churchmen throughout the country.

MADRAS, on the whole, cannot be said to be badly off for clergymen of the Church of England, as at the end of the last official year there was one Bishop for the Diocese, two Assistant Bishops and two hundred and twenty-two other ordained clergymen. Of the latter, ninety-two were Europeans or of European descent, and one hundred and thirty were natives. The number of Government chaplains was only thirty-eight.

A PRIVILEGED MISSIONARY.—The Rev. L. Lloyd, C.M.S., who has been labouring in Fuh-Chow since 1876, states that the 1,600 converts whom he found on first going to Fuh-Chow have been increased to the grand total of 6,000, and of these he himself has been privileged to baptize one thousand.

GROWTH OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND.—The confirmations in the Church of Ireland during the Episcopate of the late Archbishop showed an excess of 250 over the annual average of the previous Episcopate, and this number has risen to 300 during the last two years. The attendance at the Holy Communion in the united dioceses at the Christmas and Easter Festivals show a similar improvement. The yearly average during Dr. Trench's Episcopate was at Christmas 15,072, and at Easter 14,425. Last Christmas it was 15,932 and last Easter 15,873, showing an increase of 860 on the one and of 1,448 on the other of these festivals. In noting the significance of these facts, the Archbishop of Dublin [Lord Plunket], at his visitation on Tuesday week, vindicated the claim of the Church to the title of Church of Ireland, contending that her Bishops derive their succession in a direct line from St. Patrick and the Bishops that followed him:—"Again [he said] the ancient Church of Ireland was free from Papal control, and was never committed to those dangerous innovations with which Rome has overlaid the Primitive Faith. The old Church, after passing through a season of bond-