

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.

VOL. X.
No. 35.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1888.

\$1.50
PER YEAR

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

The late Bishop Fraser of Manchester, gave away on an average \$11,000 a year during the fifteen years of His episcopate.

AMONG recent benefactions to the Church Missionary Society was one of £5,000 from Mrs. Disney Robinson, of Torquay.

THE Bishop of London completed his sixty-seventh year on Friday, his lordship having been born at Sanat Maura, in the Ionian Islands, on Nov. 30th, 1821.

At the opening of Bishop Doane's Cathedral at Albany N. Y., lately there were in procession about two hundred clergymen and seventeen bishops, and among the latter were two colored bishops.

RESIGNED, BUT—SUSPENDED.—The Rev. H. T. Widdemer, of the Church of the Beloved Disciple, Philadelphia, who was recently tried for violation of the canon relating to divorce and suspended, has resigned the ministry.

MISSION HOUSE.—The Mission House of St. Mary the Virgin, Forty-fifth street, near Broadway, New York, was consecrated on Friday, December 7, by Bishop Potter, assisted by Bishop Quintard and others, with appropriate ceremonies.

THE Bishop of Ripon takes his seat in the House of Lords by rotation when Parliament meets next February. The next in turn is the Bishop of Exeter. As each new bishopric is created the intervals are, of course, longer, there being only twenty-four seats.

FLORIDA.—To the Bishop of the diocese, who is now in Connecticut in search of renewed strength for his duties, strength comes very slowly, though he is steadily improving. His attack of yellow fever, came upon him after long and exhausted labor, and so was of a very severe character.

NOTE THIS.—From Advent 1887, to Advent 1888, the following conversions to The Church have been noted: Methodists, 8; Baptists, 5; Roman Catholics, 4; Presbyterian, 3; Congregationalist, 2; German Reformed, 1; Reformed Episcopal, 1; Lutheran, 1; and 2 whose denomination could not be learned. Total 27.—The *Living Church*.

CONGREGATIONALISM.—In regard to the condition of affairs in Vermont, the *Congregationalist* says: "It is found that the membership of Congregationalist churches there has diminished by about 3,000 in the last fifty years. It is found that, of those residents who live two miles or more from a church, but about one third ever attend it. It is believed that of an entire population of 332,236, from 100,000 to 125,000, besides invalids and little children, never heard the gospel.

A USEFUL SOCIETY.—The *St. Michael's Messenger*, the parish paper of St. Michael's church.

New York, says the Sunday night service in that church is increasing in interest through the prayerful and intelligent efforts which the young men of the St. Andrew's Brotherhood are making. The enlisting of young men in Church work, utilizing their influence with their fellows in the cause of Christ, according to the simple plan of St. Andrew's Brotherhood is likely to prove a great movement in the Church.

"THE decision of the Calvinistic Protestants of Hungary to enforce celibacy upon their clergy," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "is one that will naturally excite considerable amazement throughout the Protestant world. The celibacy of the clergy has hitherto been the distinctive note of the Roman Church, and against this both the Protestant and Orthodox Greek Churches have always protested. If the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland were to establish the Mass, they would hardly do more violence to Protestant tradition than has been done by the decision of these extraordinary Calvinists of Hungary."

MOTHER CHURCH.—Christ Church, Washington, is the mother church of Washington city. In 1794 the initiatory steps were taken to organize this parish under the corporate name, which it still bears, of "Washington Parish." It was chartered by the Maryland Legislature, the District of Columbia at that time being a part of our State. Its first rector, Rev. George Ralph, was elected May 25, 1795. The main portion of the first edifice of Christ Church was begun in 1806, completed in 1807, and consecrated October 9th, 1809, by Bishop Claggett, the first bishop of Maryland. The first church building was a barn-like structure, erected in a field where now New Jersey avenue runs. In this frame church Washington, when President, occasionally, and Jefferson regularly worshipped. In the present building the Presidential pew was set apart and was used by President Monroe.

THE rector of Croyland Abbey writes that the workmen employed at Croyland Abbey found the piers of the south arcade of old nave built upon column-stones and capitals of Norman work used as spreading-footings. The portions so found correspond to the existing portion of Joffrid's Abbey (1113). Some of the stones are completely split, no doubt from the earthquake of 1114, as described by Gough, in the "History of Croyland Abbey," p. 49:—"This year (1114) happened so violent an earthquake in Italy and England that the new work of the church at Croyland, on which the roof had not been laid, gave way, and the south wall cracked in so many places that the carpenters were obliged to shore it up with timbers till the roof was raised." The rector of Croyland Abbey is in urgent need of funds to carry on the work of preserving to future generations this ancient Benedictine monastery.

IT DOES MATTER.—It is often said; "It is no matter what a man believes, if his conduct is right." By parity of reason; "It is no matter on what foundation the house rests, if it only stands." There are houses on the sand which

make as fair a show as those on the solid rock till the floods come and the winds blow, but only those on the rock will weather the storm. It is of utmost importance to the right-doing man why he is doing right; for his reasons may be such an opportunity, temptation, evil example will silence and sweep away. And I know of no reasons that may not be thus exposed except those which are embodied in the theories of the Christian faith. Loose views as to the worth of religious truth and of fixed religious beliefs are already having their inevitable results in a correspondingly loose, vacillating and low moral standard. Morality never has subsisted, and never will subsist, without religion. As well might you attempt to raise grapes from a rootless vine.—*Dr. A. P. Peabody*.

THE death has just occurred of the Rev. Peter Edward Bossier, of Clifton, in the 98th. year of his age. He was one of the last surviving clergymen in England whose orders dated from the reign of George III.

YORK.—Convocation of the Northern Province will meet on Tuesday, February 12, 1889.

In consequence of declining health, the Rev. Canon Harper has resigned, the living of the Abbey Church, Selby, Yorkshire, which he has held for nearly forty years.

BANGOR.—The Bishop of Bangor has conferred upon the Rev. Professor D. Silvan Evans, B. D., rector of Llanwrin, the eminent Celtic scholar, a canonry of Bangor, in succession to the late Canon Evans, D. D.

LONDON.—Old St. Pancras Church, which is generally supposed to have been built about 1350, but which occupied the site of a church said to have been the successor of one of early Saxon times, was reopened on Saturday 1st. Dec. after being restored under the direction of Mr. A. W. Blomfield. There was a large attendance of the local clergy, the services being intoned by the Rev. R. A. Eden, vicar. A processional cross was carried, which was the gift of the Duke of Newcastle. The sermon preached by the Rev. Canon Furse. The Duke of Newcastle presided at a little gathering held subsequently, and proposed, "Prosperity to Old St. Pancras." A good many associations with past ages (says a writer in the *Daily Chronicle*), centre in what is now called Old St. Pancras Church. Like St. Martin's Church and St. Giles's Church, it was "in the fields" in reality as well as in name when London occupied a comparatively small area. There has always been considerable interest attached to the ground where the present edifice stands, which was once, we believe, occupied by a Roman camp. So far back as 1180 a church, it is supposed, was built there "of stones and flints." The parish in which the present building stands existed before the Conquest, but for centuries its development in population was quite insignificant. There is a record of the number of houses in it some two hundred years after the death of the unfortunate Harold, and it appears that there were only forty. Even in 1145 but three houses had been built near the