

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.

RECENT EXPLORATION AND SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION.—The Director of the Geological Survey of Ireland, Professor Hull, F.R.S., delivered the annual address of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute in London, on the 28th of May, on which occasion the Institute's new President, Professor Stokes, President of the Royal Society, took the chair.

The author of the address then gave an account of the work, discoveries, and general results of the recent Geological and Geographical Expedition to Egypt, Arabia and Western Palestine, of which he had charge. Sketching the course taken by him (which to a considerable extent followed the route ascribed to the Israelites), he gave an account of the physical features of the country, pointed out evidences of old sea margins 200 feet above the present sea margins, and showed that at one time an arm of the Mediterranean had occupied the valley of the Nile as far as the First Cataract, at which time Africa was an island (an opinion also arrived at by another of the Institute's members, Sir W. Dawson, and that, at the time of the Exodus, the Red Sea ran up into the Bitter Lakes, and must therefore have formed a barrier to the traveller's progress. He then alluded to the great changes of elevation in the land eastward of these lakes, mentioning that the waters of the Jordan Valley once stood 1,292 feet above their present height, and that those of the Dead Sea, which he found 1,050 feet deep, were once on a level with the present Mediterranean Sea margin, or 1,292 feet above the present height. The great physical changes which have taken place in geological time were evidenced by the fact that whilst the rocks in Western Palestine were generally limestone, those of the mountains of Sinai were amongst the most ancient in the world. The various geological and geographical features of the country were so described as to make the address a condensed report of all that is now known of them in Egypt, Palestine and Arabia Petraea.

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE SOCIETY.—The Earl of Carnarvon presided at the annual meeting of the Christian Evidence Society at Exeter Hall. The report again announced diminished income. The Committee most earnestly pressed upon the ministers of religion, teachers and parents the vital importance in the present day of communicating to the young the reasons for believing Christianity. The Chairman congratulated the meeting upon the general satisfactory report, which recorded a steady and increasing work, of victories gained in many fields of religious disbelief, of individuals convinced—even *Atheistic Clubs closed*; all of which was matter for sincere congratulation, and the more so because it had been won by steady, persevering, continuous work and good solid reasoning. After an earnest appeal for funds, the Chairman said that there was good evidence to show that the Society's work was telling upon the mass of infidelity and ignorance which it desired to repress. He himself had reason to think that the most aggressive form of infidelity had shown a certain amount

of subsidence during the last year or two. Whether it was that men were alarmed at the extent to which their wild theories were pushing them; whether they were frightened at the evidence of the practical evils—not merely in a religious, but in a civil point of view—to which those infidelities led, he could not say; but he did believe that there was a turning point in the tide. And for that reason he hoped that every one who felt strongly upon the matter would not allow that favorable moment to pass, but that they would in every way, whether by money, or time, or labor, or interest and influence over others, lend their best help to the work of the Society.

THE SEE OF ST. PATRICK.—On the occasion of his enthronement, the new Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland said:

It is true the high position to which, however unworthily, I have been elected, has been stripped of many of its earthly surroundings, but I inherit still the proud traditions which cluster around the seat of St. Patrick, with the *unbroken continuity of Apostolic orders*. Here, on this spot, was the cradle of Christianity, and from it sprang the ancient Church of Ireland, independent of any foreign potentate whatsoever, which, faithful to her Divine commission—"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature"—spread the light of God's Holy Word by its mitred missionaries over the greater part of the Saxon England and Scotland, extending the cords of her tent even over the Continent of Europe. Her seminaries, history records, were the seats of learning, "the quiet habitation of sanctity and literature," and, though kings are no longer her nursing fathers or queens her nursing mothers, her energy, devotion, and faithfulness reflect unimpaired the historic lustre of her missionary triumphs; for the promise was and still remaineth, "Lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." I rejoice with you that the whole Church population of Ireland, numbering over six hundred thousand, have ever been loyal to the Throne and a law abiding people. If perilous times are in store for our distracted country and our Church, let us sink our minor differences, "forbearing one another in love," and hold united together for our Queen, our common country, and our common faith, "for our Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity in itself." In quiet confidence and in prayer we can commit our cause to God, and leave the issue in the hands of Him who can judge between us and our enemies, for the "battle is not to the strong."

THE ANGLO-NESTORIAN MISSION.—Most interesting was the ceremony witnessed in the private chapel at Lambeth Place, on Wednesday morning, when the Archbishop of Canterbury sent forth with his blessing the Revs. A. J. Maclean and W. H. Browne to their work among the Nestorian Christians in Persia. This body, which has existed since very early days, is theoretically heretical; but practically the clergy are too ignorant to be active heretics. The work of the mission will be to give instruction in dogmatic theology, and to present the English Church in its real character as an *Ecclesia docens*, and teaching the truth as

enshrined in those Ecumenical Councils which are recognized by both East and West, and free from the ignorant superstitions of the Oriental Orthodox Church on the one side, and the modern accretions of the Latin Church on the other. The work, which is one bearing the peculiar impress of our national enterprise, is worthy of all the support in prayers and alms which Catholics can give.

THE NEW BISHOP OF CLOGHER.—On Friday, the 4th instant, the Synod of the Diocese of Clogher met in Clones, under the presidency of the Lord Primate, to elect a Bishop for the re-endowed and now independent See of Clogher. The choice of the electors fell on the Ven. Charles Maurice Stack, D.D., Archdeacon of Clogher, Rector of Monaghan and Diocesan Nominator. The new Bishop graduated in Trinity College in 1848, proceeded to be M.A. in 1858, B.D. and D.D. 1875. He took a second-class at his final Divinity examination in 1848, and received Holy Orders in the same year.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE E. C. U.—The English Church Union held its twenty-seventh anniversary on the last Wednesday and Thursday in May. The opening address was delivered by the President, Lord Halifax. The meeting, which was very enthusiastic, was also larger than usual. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:—President, the Viscount Halifax. Vice-Presidents: Clerical—The Dean of Durham, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Taunton, Rev. Canon Carter; Lay—The Earl of Devon, the Earl of Glasgow, the Earl of Limerick, J. A. Shaw Stewart, Esq. Council: Clerical—The Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester, Rev. Canon George Body, Rev. R. W. Randall, Rev. J. E. Vaux; Lay—Professor Bentley, Lord Edward S. Churchill, John Walter Lea, Esq., Admiral D. Robertson-Maddonald.

A MUNIFICENT BEQUEST.—The *Denver Times* thus announces the following bequests of over \$200,000 (£40,000) for Church and charity in Ireland,—"The recent death of Robert N. Moore in Southern New Mexico will cause his memory to be cherished in his native land. Last October Mr. Moore came to this city, and while here had his last will and testament drawn up by John C. Keegan, Esq., the attorney. In his will he made many bequests, among which may be enumerated the following:—£25,000 to establish and maintain in Ireland a "home" for poor and indigent members of the Protestant Church; £3,000 to assist indigent members of the Protestant Church; also £3,000 to aid widows of ministers of that faith; £3,000 to aid and educate ministers orphans; £5,000 to be used in purchasing Testaments, Bibles, and religious tracts for free distribution among his Irish fellow-countrymen; £3,000 to repair and renovate the Protestant Church at Kildare, Ireland; £1,000 to erect a belfry and purchase a bell for Christ Church, Dublin; £2,000 to be given to the trustees of Steevens' Hospital, Dublin; and £1,000 each to the Protestant Bishops of the Dioceses of Tuam and Meath. The above sums are to be distributed by them among their poor and worthy curates. He also made smaller bequests to