

Good Churchmen and true are speaking as opportunity offers against the ultra-Ritualists in the mother country. A distinguished member of parliament—Mr. Hubbard—said on a recent occasion—

We have on the one hand a spirit of scepticism, arising from that amount of learning which makes men presumptuous, but does not make them wise. On the other hand, we are endangered by the efforts of a few injudicious and ardent minds, animated by what is in itself a most desirable quality, a love for Christian unity, and a reverence for Christian antiquity, but who, in their desire to revive and restore that which has once been the practice of the Church, acting upon their own unguided impulse, and without the sanction of authority, have, in many instances, alarmed and alienated their friends, and provoked a reaction of feeling calculated not to extend the beautiful and decent ceremonial of the Church, but to retard its progress, and lead to disastrous results.

Mr. Betesford Hope in a recent speech observed that—

Things up to a late period had been most hopeful. The true doctrines of the Church, the doctrines of the Prayer-book and the Catechism were taking deeper and deeper hold of the popular mind, and alongside of this growth of Church principles, a general appreciation of art was also growing up.

Only let our rulers have the moral courage to let the present excitement run its course, and this so-called Ritualism will, in due time, find its level, and its excesses will die away, while its indirect influence will have tended to raise the general level of external religion.

The *John Bull* says that at the last monthly meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel a resolution was passed pledging the Society to repay the Bishop of Capetown for any expenses incurred in carrying out the visitation of the diocese of Natal in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting in May. It was also agreed that a special appeal for £1,000 a year be put forth (subject to the approval of the president) to provide additional clergy for the diocese of Natal.

On the 30th Nov., the ceremony of dedicating the new Convalescent Hospital at Clewer, near Windsor, took place. The clergy present included the Bishops of Oxford and Newfoundland, the Dean of Windsor, the Provost of Eton College, the Rev. T. T. Carter, rector of Clewer, &c. On each side of the spacious hall leading from the porch to the staircase were arranged forty Sisters of Mercy, who are to have charge of the patients, all clad in their black dresses, and wearing white crimped caps or hoods, and white collars. Large jet crosses decorated their breasts, while at their head was Mrs. Mousell, the lady-superior. The procession walked up stairs to the entrance of the women's ward, which was temporarily fitted up as an oratory, the choir, led by the Rev. S. Hawtrey, chanting "Except the Lord build the house," &c. At the conclusion of the services the Holy Communion was celebrated. After which a procession was formed, headed by the choir; it proceeded down the stairs chanting, to the lower apartment, when the Bishop gave the benediction, holding his pastoral staff in his left hand.

A girl was locked up in Goosnargh church, Preston, England, one Sunday evening a few months ago, having fallen asleep during the service. She was but eight years old, but managed to get out of the church by breaking through the stained glass over the altar.

EDITORIAL NOTICES AND ANSWERS.

Churchmen should not be hard on those of the clergy who were a short time since the intimate friends of the late pervert to the Baptist faith. Still, one and all of them may be taught by this case to realize more completely the earnestness with which they should pray in the words of the Litany to be delivered "from all heresy and schism." Mr. McNut has left the communion of the Church, to be sure, but it does not follow that the few clergy in the diocese who hold the same views that he held while in the Church will follow his example. Rather, let us hope that they will in the future endeavour to believe and to teach *all* the doctrines of our Church.

We shall be pleased to receive brief descriptions of the Christmas decorations in the different churches throughout the diocese.

RECEIVED IN DECEMBER.—Fredericton, per S. R. M., \$22.96, C. G. C. do., \$1; P. W. L., Montreal, \$1; Dr. T., Parrsboro, 60 c.; J. S., Canada West, 60 c.; W. H. T., Queensbury, \$1.50; W. H., Truro, \$1.20.