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A. P. WATTS
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"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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ECCLIASTICAL NOTES

JUBILEE HYMN—By the Bishop of Exeter:—

O God, our fathers' God and ours,
Before Thy throne we bow the knee:
Pour down Thy mercy's richest showers
Upon our Sovereign's Jubilee.

We bless Thee for her blessed past,
For holy thoughts of things that were
For love that must for ever last,
And all Thy love to us in her;

For years of sunshine, calm and bright,
And storm clouds always rainbow spann'd;
For her sweet home, which shed its light
On all homes of our fatherland.

And with our praises one strong prayer
From morn to night, from night to morn,
Breathes on the universal air
And to the Throne of thrones is borne.

God save the Queen, save, bless, defend
The Mother Queen of land and sea,
God save the Queen, world without end,
Till earth keep Heaven's great jubilee.

—Family Churchman.

THE LATE LORD IDDESLEIGH.—In the Parliamentary career of Lord Iddesleigh nothing was more noticeable than his desire to support the cause of the Church and of Christianity on every occasion when the faith was attacked, or when any effort was made to curtail or cripple the Church's power for good. When a bold stand had to be made (e. g., in the case of Bradlaugh) it was Sir Stafford Northcote who did not for an instant shrink in making it. In the same way, the deceased statesman was always ready to support in Parliament any scheme which had for its aim the better enabling of the Church to do her work in the world, and to do his utmost for the protection of her interests.

Apart from this public adhesion to the communion in which he had been baptised, Lord Iddesleigh was in his private life a *devout and earnest Churchman*, and, like his distinguished friend on the other side, he was always ready to act as lay helper to his parish priest, by reading the lessons in Church and by giving him any aid which he needed in other ways. It is, we take it, one of the chief glories of the Church of England, one of the most convincing proofs of her claim to the position which she occupies, that the greatest of English statesmen, who are, in their work in the Senate, to be found on opposite sides, are united in holy fellowship and in community of aim and purpose directly they cross the threshold of God's House. All the attacks made upon the Church, all the outcry as to her lack of sympathy with the needs of men, all the libellous charges levelled against her as an enemy to progress, receive the most unanswerable of contradictions when we are able to point to men like Mr. Gladstone and Lord Iddesleigh, who are proud to take part in her public worship and to reverently participate in her most sacred ordinances.

And to this may be added of the now completed earthly labors of the Minister whom England has been mourning that his religion was no mere public profession; but the religion

of every-day life, coloring his actions, inspiring his words, guiding his conduct. The high eulogy bestowed upon him by the Bishop of Exeter and Archdeacon Farrar will be read with deep interest as a proof of the depth of his personal convictions; and their words ought to lead us to thank God and take courage in the future of the Church and nation when we are able to put on record such testimonies to the purity and unselfishness of the life of men in high places.—C. E. in *Church Bells*.

ROMAN MISSIONS.—The Roman Church does its missionary work cheaply. A Belgian paper has published the amount of the sums collected by the Roman Catholics for missionary purposes since 1822, when the Propaganda Fide was established. The sum total amounts to £8,800,000, from which the Vatican created 260 apostolic prefectures, with 9 bishoprics. At present India has 26 Bishops and Archbishops and 1,200 priests; China and Japan, 50 Apostolic Vicars and 1,400 missionaries; Africa, 2 Archbishops, 12 Bishops, 17 Vicars and 16 apostolic prefectures; British America has 30 Bishops and 2,000 priests; Australia, 23 Bishops and 900 priests. The total of \$8,800,000 subscribed for the really great missionary efforts of the Roman Church in sixty-four years is less than the amount collected in Great Britain alone for Protestant foreign missions in ten years. Yet our organisation is confessedly inadequate, and the administration of our subscriptions wasteful in a high degree. Rome wastes nothing, and is always in advance, not in arrears, of its work.

MOST BASELESS DELUSION.—"The most baseless of Methodist delusions," says the *Methodist Times*, is that the use of the Anglican Liturgy is the cause of their dwindling Methodist congregations. The "anti-Liturgy craze," it appears, originated in Southwark Chapel, where a rapidly decreasing and unpunctual congregation was thus admonished to amend its ways, but with fatal effect, for the decrease only became more rapid and the unpunctuality more pronounced. Let us hope that the authorities of Southwark Chapel will restore the Liturgy and bring back—in time—the wandering flock.

BAPTIST TESTIMONY.—We have not, says the *Southern Churchman*, the love of dignity and reverence which characterised our ancestors. The spirit of levity grows apace, affecting all classes and things. Our Church is conservative and preserves in its noble Liturgy and its faithful reading of God's word a lofty piety and dignity, which acts as a check on the evil tendencies of the times. A subscriber, a few days ago, in writing to us, says:—"I have always been a Baptist, but consider your mode of worship much the best, and but for old age would change membership. The matter of responding by the lay members I very much admire, as it undoubtedly causes the members to take more interest in the service, consequently there is much less dozing in church than is often witnessed in the Baptist congregations."

BISHOP HANNINGTON'S SUCCESSOR.—Bishop Perrott Parker (the successor of Bishop Han-

nington) was welcomed at the Freetown Settlement of freed slaves on November 27 with all the demonstration and liveliness of the African nature. Banners and arches had been prepared, and as he sprang ashore he was greeted, we are told, by a shouting, laughing and happy crowd. Advent Sunday was by an auspicious coincidence his first Sunday in his new diocese. After this he paid a brief visit to Zanzibar, but did not see either the Sultan or Bishop Smythies, the latter being absent on the Continent of Africa. There is no mention at present of his going forward to Uganda. Probably his plans in that direction would have to await the development of Mr. Stanley's itinerary. Mr. Stanley, we hear, is adopting the Congo route, and the Bishop will probably accompany his expedition as far as M'Wanga's country.

THE PRESS AND THE BIBLE.—The Bishop of Truro, speaking at the Bible Society meeting at Truro recently, said he thought it was a matter for deep regret that in a large majority of the speeches delivered on public platforms in England, and in an increased majority of newspapers, solemn passages of Holy Scripture were continually used simply to point a jest or to add a little piquancy to an article into which they had been introduced. No person, he proceeded, who for a week reads the daily newspapers, I deeply regret to say—for no one has more respect than I have for the Press, no one feels more the important agent it is in this England of ours, and how well its force and influence are used in the main—no one can do so without feeling this to be the case. I venture to say this is a very cruel thing. It is cruel to all of us. It is almost impossible when we fly to our Bible for comfort and guidance in the manifold trials and difficulties of our life to escape from the recollection of the context of the passage as it was quoted. In some articles to which I have referred the whole joy and beauty and fragrance of the passage is taken away from us for ever. It possibly may have occurred in the middle of some article on the scandal of the day, and the whole surroundings are such as would make us wish to obliterate entirely from our minds the passage of Holy Scripture which has been employed. I do hope that every man and woman in this England of ours will face this question. If only the people of England would accustom themselves to use their Bibles reverently, to use the Holy Word as well as the Holy Name reverently,—this very thing which has been, I believe, done more from want of thought than from any evil purposes whatever—this evil habit of our journalists and politicians would soon disappear.

ANOTHER LOSS TO NONCONFORMITY.—The Rev. W. Mann Statham, who succeeded Dr. Raleigh as Minister of Harecourt Congregational Chapel, Canonbury, has, it is announced, after mature consideration, resolved upon taking orders in the Church.

ADVICE STILL NEEDED.—The following was Benjamin Franklin's advice to his daughter on his departure to Europe:—

"Go constantly to Church, whoever preaches. The act of devotion in the Common Prayer Book is your principal business there, and if