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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.

VOL. VIII }
No. 29.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1887.

{ \$1.50
PER YEAR

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

SUNDAY LABOUR.—The Bishop of Gibraltar most earnestly commends to the consideration of shipowners and directors of steamship companies a memorial from six Church Societies interested in the moral and spiritual welfare of the merchant seamen of Great Britain, inviting co-operation in discouraging and diminishing Sunday labour on board their ships in foreign ports. This unnecessary Sunday work in ports abroad has been greatly on the increase under the British flag in recent years, and not only deprives the crews of their day of rest, hindering attendance at Divine worship, but is made a plea for the cessation of Sunday services by the captains when the ships are at sea, thus depriving officers and men of a bond of union and mutual sympathy highly conducive to good discipline, no less than to the spiritual life of Christian souls.

NEW BISHOPS.—At a Meeting of the Bishops of the P. E. Church of the U.S., in Philadelphia lately, the Rev. A. Leonard, of Kansas, was chosen as Bishop of the Missionary jurisdiction of Nevada and Utah, and the Rev. Jas. E. Johnston, of Alabama, for Western Texas. Both Priests are well known in the Church for their ability and high character.

NEW MISSIONARY JURISDICTION.—Alaska has been created a Missionary jurisdiction of the Church in the United States. It is believed that the oversight of this new field will ultimately be entrusted to one of the Bishops of the Pacific Coast; though at present it is left in the care of Bishop Williams, of Connecticut, presiding Bishop of the Church.

INTERCESSION DAY.—The observance of St. Andrew's Day as a day of Special intercession for Missions, has been recommended to the several dioceses of the Church in the U.S., by the Bishops in Council assembled.

RE-ASSURING.—The Bishop of St. Andrews in his recent charge to his Synod, said: I see no more reason for doubting that Presbyterian Scotland will receive Episcopacy, when the proper time comes, than I see reason for disbelieving that it has already received, in many instances, and will go on to receive, the use of organs and floral decorations. There was a time, and that not long ago, when it hated these latter no less than the former, and if the hatred has now been turned into love in the one case, I do not see why it may not be turned into love in the other, in which the reasons for the change are far stronger. On the other hand, Presbyterian Scotland is ceasing to love ugly churches, extempore prayers, long sermons, and pseudonymous Fast-Days, and I do not see why it may not cease to love parity in the Church, when, by its exuberant loyalty, it shows that it has no love for it in the State.

A GOOD WORK.—A movement similar to that which has aroused such interest and produced such results in the great Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, has been initiated in the General Theological Seminary at New York. It is proposed to form a Church Students' Mis-

sionary Association for the United States and Canada, for the purpose of arousing the missionary spirit among the young men of the Church. There are 19 theological seminaries, 18 universities and colleges of the Church, nearly 50 recognized Church schools, besides many Church societies and other educational institutions. The plan is to hold an annual Convention for prayer for mission work, for discussing plans, needs, and methods, for hearing addresses from missionary bishops and workers in all departments of Church work; and for the acquisition of knowledge concerning the Church's fields and plans. The working out of such a scheme would not only awaken interest in missionary work, but would direct the attention of those preparing for Holy Orders to the field where special help is needed. The preliminary convention will be held at the General Theological Seminary on Friday, January 13, 1888, and the following day. The plan has the cordial approval of the Dean and Bishop.

ST. CHAD'S GOSPELS.—The Dean of Lichfield has lately placed in the cathedral library a collection of the famous "St. Chad's Gospels," by Dr. Scrivener. The M.S., which is believed to be not later than 720 A.D., was bought by one Gethi from Cingal in exchange for his best horse, and dedicated to the altar of St. Theow, or Tello, who was Bishop of Llandaff, and died about 580. A.D. It was still at Llandaff in the ninth century, but had passed to Lichfield probably before 960, A.D. It is an Irish Codex written (not very accurately) on stout vellum, in semi-uncial characters, and contains St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. Luke down to iii, 9. As in other Irish Codices (e.g. the "Book of Kells" and the "Lindisfarne Codex," or "Book of Durham," in the British Museum), Matthew i, 1-17 is regarded as a preface, and v, 18 forms an illuminated title page.

A HINT.—We take it for granted that every churchman is anxious to see the Church progress, if only for the material reason, that he does not like to belong to a losing side, or to be a member of a moribund body. The life of the Church is shown in the lives of its members. A churchman is narrowly watched by all with whom he comes in contact. His actions and his words must correspond; there must not be the shadow of a doubt resting a moment on his character, or the system in which he is trained is condemned. It happens in the present age that attendance at the service of the Church is the great test of the outer life of its members. Empty seats are a sign of decay—and in reality, empty seats in church on Sunday are a sign of the decadence of much that is lovely and admirable in human nature. It is a bad thing when young men begin to look at church-going as they look at their club or society—that is, as something that will go on very well without them.—*Anglican Church Chronicle*, Honolulu.

MISSION SEAMEN.—The Church Mission to Seamen in the Port of New York, supports four Mission Stations, with their chapels, clergy, lay workers, reading rooms, sailors' Homes, &c.; has under its care over twelve thousand sailors while they are in port, the visits to the reading-rooms aggregating 30,000 each week;

and does an effective temperance work for a class greatly needing it. Sixteen thousand visits have been made by its officers this last year to ships and sailors' boarding-houses.

EXCELLENT REPORT.—The sixteenth annual report of the Women's Auxiliary of the P. E. Church of the U.S., stated as the summary of the year's work, that \$19,245.61 had been appropriated to domestic missions; \$16,057.81 to foreign missions; special gifts to domestic missions sent through the treasury of the Auxiliary, \$13,356.13; to foreign, \$8,307.33; and other special gifts, amounting to \$40,313.47, making a total of \$97,340.35. Two thousand eight hundred and forty-eight boxes, of the value of \$154,362.55, were sent to mission fields, making a grand total of \$251,702.60.

MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTION, U.S.—The number of contributing congregations to the Dom. and For. Missionary Society of the P. E. Church of the United States last year was 2,200. The previous year the number was 2,376.

The receipts show a *per capita* contribution to the work of the Society, if equally divided among all the communicants reported in the United States, of 68 cents. Taking the receipts by dioceses it shows the highest *per capita* contribution to be in the Diocese of Rhode Island where the average to a communicant is \$2.12, and the lowest *per capita* contribution to be in the Diocese of Quincy where the average to a communicant is six cents.

Ten dioceses show a *per capita* contribution above 54 cents, and ten dioceses show a *per capita* contribution below 16 cents.

The dioceses referred to are the following:
Ten Highest:—Rhode Island \$2.12; New York \$1.62; Massachusetts \$1.40; Pennsylvania .95; Southern Ohio .75; Central Pennsylvania .72; Pittsburg .71; Western New York .63; New Jersey .59; Ohio .55.

Ten Lowest:—Quincy .06; Fond du Lac .08; Springfield .09; Indiana .09; Iowa .10; Alabama .11; Texas .13; Minnesota .14; Florida .15; Louisiana .15.

A good old man was much annoyed by the conduct of some of his neighbors, who persisted in working on Sundays. On one occasion, as he was going to church, his Sabbath-breaking neighbors called out to him sneeringly from the hayfield. "Well, father, we have cheated the Lord out of two Sundays, anyway?" "I don't now that," replied the old gentleman—"I don't know. The account is not settled yet."

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