

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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"BY THINE AGONY AND BLOODY SWEAT,
 BY THY CROSS AND PASSION,
 BY THY PRECIOUS DEATH AND BURIAL,
 GOOD LORD DELIVER US."

"Woe His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."—1. Peter ii. 24.

FRIDAY OF HOLY WEEK.

THERE have been many names given to this day, the earliest being as was most natural connected with the Jewish Passover, and the event which occurred on this day. One of the earliest names therefore given to Friday in Holy Week is "the day of preparation," or as some would translate "the day of the Passover," thus indicating the connection of the day of the Atonement for the sins of the whole world with the Jewish Passover when Israel was redeemed out of Egyptian bondage. Others again, leaving out of sight the parallel to Jewish history, fastened their thoughts more on the actual event of the day in connection with our Lord's life and work; accordingly this Friday is also known as "the day of our Lord's passion," or "Passion day." In the early English times this Friday was known as "Long Friday," called so perhaps on account of the long fastings and offices then used.

But the name by which this Friday has been best known for many centuries among English speaking Christians is "GOOD FRIDAY," called so "from the blessed effects of our Saviour's sufferings, which are the ground of all our joy; and from those unspeakable good things He hath purchased for us by his death." So much for the name.

FROM the earliest times Good Friday has been observed with great solemnity. "Indeed, this day was one of those two great days which all Christians in general thought themselves obliged strictly to observe." "Even those who kept no other Lent, religiously observed this day and the following."

It was a day when fasting was strictly kept and a general attendance at Divine Service was practiced. Work also ceased on this day, except works of charity.—*Lilienthal: Lent Past and Present.*

"I see the crowd in Pilate's hall,
 I mark their wrathful mien;
 Their shouts of 'crucify' appall
 With blasphemy between.
 And of that shouting multitude
 I feel that I am one;
 And in that din of voices rude
 I recognise my own.
 I see the scourges tear His back,
 I see the piercing crown,
 And of that crowd who smote and mock
 I feel that I am one."

THOUGHTS ON THE PASSION.

BY Y. O. M.

I.

The Discourse in the Upper Room.

"Let not your heart be troubled"—words of peace

Broke the still silence of that upper room.

When shades of night in ever deepening gloom
 Grew darker till the hour of calm release.

No cry of pain escaped Him, though He knew
 The crushing weight of that dread Agony;

And tho' He saw, as only He could see,
 The swift desertion of the chosen few.

No thought of self—for others all His care,
 Only the sweetest, tenderest words of love,

The promise of the Father's Home above,
 The shelter of the great high-priestly prayer,

To Him whose love outweighed that Agony,
 All selfishness is alien utterly.

II.

Christ Bearing the Insults of the Soldiers.

O Love unbounded, that could stoop so low
 To bear the shame, the spitting, and the scorn;

The tender Frame with pain and fasting
 worn,

Tortured and torn in agonizing woe.
 O Master—and Thou bearest silently

The mocking and the insults of the crowd,
 Thy patient Head in meek acceptance bowed,

The dregs of brutal malice poured on Thee.
 O shame, thrice shame upon us, whom He

bought
 With untold agony upon the Tree.

To chafe at this world's sights or contumely,
 To give our wretched rights one anxious

thought,
 Teach us, dear Lord, low at Thy Feet to fall,
 And welcome shame—for Thou hast borne it

all.

III.

Christ Silent Before His Accusers.

O teach us, Lord, Thy silence; Thou whose
 word

Could call ten thousand angels to Thine aid,
 Mid the fierce taunts of those Thyself had

made,
 And longed to save—no harsh reproach was

heard.
 And we, alas! so hasty and so weak,
 So rash to utter and to stay so low,

When Thou would'st have us patiently
 forgo.

Help us to learn Thy silence, calm and meek.
 When angry thoughts within us roam at will.

And sharp retorts are trembling on our
 tongue

By those hard taunts that no reproaches
 wrung,

Bid the storm cease—yea, whisper "Peace, be
 still."

From sins of word, O Master, keep us free,
 And keep us silent when it pleaseth Thee.

—*The Churchman.*

ECCLIESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Trinity Church Association, New York, is about to enlarge its mission on Fulton Street, at an expense of \$60,000.

A MARBLE altar has lately been placed in the Chancel of St Paul's Church, Kinderhook, Albany, by Mrs. Peter Bain, in memory of a deceased sister.

It is said that the *Church Electric* is not to be transferred to New York as was expected, but will hereafter be issued by the Young Churchman Co., of Milwaukee.

ON March 8th, the Bishop of Western New York ordained to the Diaconate Mr. J. S. Wilson who had formerly been a Congregational minister and who was confirmed a year ago.

IN the parish of the Holy Trinity, Lincoln, Neb., in six years the number of actual communicants has increased from 105 to 306, notwithstanding the removal from the parish of 146 others.

THE Confirmations throughout the diocese of Chicago show a considerable increase in numbers. The missionary work of the diocese is also demanding the full energy and time of its General Missionary.

A NEW Church Club has been formed in Philadelphia by the laymen of that city with the object of promoting social intercourse among the lay Communicants of the diocese of Pennsylvania and furthering the interests of the Church.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee of the diocese of Springfield last month Mr. H. C. Eastman was recommended for Ordination to the Diaconate and Mr. Charles Evans, lately a Presbyterian minister at Reno, Ill., as a candidate for Holy Orders.

IN the diocese of Western Michigan there are now nine chapters of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and five chapters of the Daughters of the King. Though late in getting a foothold there organization seems now to have a growth which insures perpetuity.

THE Connecticut branch of the Woman's Auxiliary has as its motto: 'I am but one but I am one; I cannot do everything but I can do something. What I can do I ought to do; and what I ought to do by the grace of God I will do.' A good motto for EVERYONE.

FRIDAY A HOLY DAY.—I beg respectfully to ask my reverend brethren of the clergy why it is that so large a part of those who sit before me allow the continual desecration of Fridays, as the chosen time for their social entertainments in their parochial festivities, when the strong and clear voice of the Prayer Book, to which they have sworn themselves unto obedience, unquestionably runs the other way! God's ultimate blessing, surely cannot largely rest on