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THE CHURCHMAN

A Monthly Magazine

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OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND*

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volumes appear to be quite up to the high average so long maintained ; full of interesting and wholesome reading. Very attractive in every way ; handsome gift-books. In the Annual for Boys a friendly critic notices especially " Escaped from Siberia," " Adventures in the Euxine," and " The White Chief in the Umzivubu Caffres." Two other books, dainty little gift-books, have reached us from the same firm : Kate Greenaway's *Language of Flowers*, and *Almanack for 1885*.

From Messrs. Collingridge (148, Aldersgate Street) we have received, as usual, the Annual of *Old Jonathan*, a good and very cheap parochial book, and *The City Diary*.

The *Hand and Heart Annual* (7, Paternoster Square), a good Temperance book, merits a word of hearty praise.

Messrs. Campbell and Tudhope (45, St. Paul's Churchyard) have sent us some capital Cards for Sunday-school children and for general use. *Words in Season* are highly finished Fern Cards ; *Sure Pathway*, *Wells of Salvation*, *Our Salvation*, are Scripture Cards ; very tasteful and very cheap.

A companion volume to *The Jackdaw of Rheims*—the very handsome gift-book noticed in the last CHURCHMAN—is *The Lay of St. Aloys* (Eyre and Spottiswoode). " The Lay of St. Aloys," a legend of Blois, by T. Ingoldsby, with the old letters, and new illustrations of ERNEST M. JESSOP. Exceedingly amusing ; full of spirit and artistic point.

Too late for a worthy notice in our present impression has reached us *A City Violet*, welcome as a new book by the author of " A Nest of Sparrows " (Seeley). A dip here and there shows it is not an unworthy companion of that admirable Tale.

THE MONTH.

THE declaration of the Royal Assent to the Franchise Bill was made on Saturday the 6th;¹ and both Houses adjourned to the 19th of February. The Bill had been read a second and a third time almost without debate ; and, in the House of Commons, the Redistribution Bill was read a second time without division. Private conferences between the

¹ " For Mr. Gladstone," says the *Standard*, " as he stood with the other members of the Lower House who had obeyed the summons of Black Rod, it marked the completion of the first part of a work which he must regard as the crowning achievement of a great career. We are not concerned to ask how far the difficulties with which he had to contend were created for him by his own followers, and whether in every stage of the dispute his own course was a worthy one. If there were errors at the outset and midway, they have been atoned for by the calm wisdom and self-control by which at the close an honourable settlement was secured."

Premier, Lord Hartington, and Sir Charles Dilke, and the leaders of the Opposition, Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote, brought about this happy result.

The Redistribution Bill, in the opinion of many, discourages the principle of minority representation. The counties will have more representatives; but in certain counties borough residents will materially affect the representation.

More than five millions are to be spent in improving the Navy. Are the Government proposals adequate?

The Ultramontane leaders in the German Reichstag are clever and persistent. Prince Bismarck has met with a rebuff; but he is not of a yielding disposition.

We heartily wish success to the "George Smith Fund." The unwearied exertions of Mr. Smith, of Coalville, in regard to Brickyards and Canal Boats, should be duly recognised.

On Sunday the 7th, the venerable Vicar of Islington preached as usual before the opening of the Cattle Show.¹

Discussion upon agricultural depression has, for the rural clergy, just now, a special interest. An eminent agriculturist, Mr. Jacob Wilson, on the 9th, said :

He did not believe that agriculture in this country could be successfully pursued if the growth of wheat was entirely abandoned, for in certain strong and poor soils no other cereal crop could be substituted for it, and the cultivation of a winter corn crop enabled the labour of the farm to be more equally distributed during the year than would otherwise be possible. Then, if increased facilities were given for packing and conveying straw to large towns, its value would be greatly increased, and a further profit might be made in the ensilage of green crops when that process had been made more systematic. Then more personal skill and knowledge would have to be brought to bear in dairy-farming and cattle-breeding and feeding. With regard to exterior aids to the tenant-farmers, there was the mitigation of the burdens of local taxation, the principle of which had been more than once affirmed by the House of Commons; and he was glad to say that the landlords throughout the country had lightened the burdens of the tenant by the readjustment and reduction of their rents.

In the papers has appeared the following :

We understand that the Rev. William Bernard Huson (known in clerical circles as "Father" Huson), who has for several years past been a leading member of the "Cowley Fathers," residing at the Mission

¹ A morning paper says : "Sunday was one of comparative rest for the hard-worked officials, most of whom, with Mr. R. Leeds, Chairman of the Agricultural Hall Company, at their head, attended the annual service held in the hall for the herdsmen and other attendants, when the Rev. D. Wilson, Vicar of Islington, preached, as is his wont, a practical sermon to them, taking his text from 1 Tim. i. 15, 'This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.' Sir Brandreth Gibbs (through indisposition) was missed from this service for the first time."

House, has recently been received into the Roman Catholic Church.—*Oxford Times*.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, in a sermon at Clifton, referred to religious apathy. The unconscious state of enmity to the Cross generally began, he said, with indifference and apathy to the subject of the Atonement :

When he put to his brethren, the clergy, at solemn and periodical times, the question whether there was anything in their individual parishes which impeded their ministry, the reply he obtained was that there was nothing more particularly to complain of than general apathy and indifference. That answer he received very often. When this state of indifference stole into the heart it gradually and silently disclosed itself, until often there began to be positive enmity, and the poor helpless one who commenced with indifference passed into an attitude of actual hostility. He asked them earnestly to try more to realize the blessed doctrine which was in that chapter (Phil. iii.) disclosed to them—the blessed atonement of the Lord.

The published reports of the London Mission have been, as a rule, deeply interesting and full of encouragement. Prebendary Wilson has written: "I am thankful to be able to say that my impression is most favourable." Similar testimonies have been borne by the Rev. J. F. Kitto, and other Presbyters of experience and judgment.

Due tributes of respect have been paid to the memory of the Rev. Edward Girdlestone, senior Canon of Bristol.

"With all the dignity of high desert, and all the warmth of mutual appreciation," says the *Times*, "the Archbishop of Dublin has placed his resignation in the hands of his Synod of a load of office which, after twenty-one years of continued strain, he is no longer able to bear." Dr. Trench retires amidst a universal chorus of sympathy and esteem. The *Rock* says :

His Grace will be followed in his retirement by the affectionate regard of his clergy and brother prelates. He has placed the poverty-stricken Church of Ireland under a fresh obligation by refusing to accept a penny of the £2,500 a year to which he is entitled. Ever since Disestablishment, indeed, he has devoted £1,000 a year of his not very munificent income to the funds of the Church. It is pleasant to have to call attention to these good deeds of a prelate with whom we have not been always able to agree. The stormy controversies which attended the reorganization of the Irish Church are now, however, happily things of the past. The Church is firmly established upon the basis of Protestant principles, and we would fain hope has still a great work before her, though deprived of the recognition of the State.

The death of our honoured friend, the Dean of Gloucester, was announced on November 26th. The Dean had recently entered upon his eighty-eighth year; but he retained his mental and literary powers unimpaired, and continued to take the deepest interest in matters pertaining to the Church of England, and to the work of Christ at home and abroad. An

accomplished scholar, a graceful and suggestive writer, an eloquent preacher, a very generous donor—Dean Law was, above all, a spiritually minded follower of Christ. The Dean took a hearty interest in *THE CHURCHMAN*; and his last contributions to this Magazine were an article on "The Life of Bishop Melvaine," and a review of "*The Communicant*."¹ The "In Memoriam—Henry Law," by Canon Carus (*Record*, Dec. 5th), thus concludes:

During the last few winters he was quite unable to bear the climate of Gloucester, and so he used to reside for some weeks in the milder and drier air of Bournemouth. There it was my great privilege often to meet him and enjoy his conversation, which was always full of holy and elevating thought. Bournemouth, however, was no place of cessation from work, for in truth he was never idle, but always working for the Lord, either by his compositions or his correspondence, or his kindly intercourse with his friends. His great and constant theme was "Christ is All," and in a very remarkable degree he seemed ever to realize and enjoy fellowship with Him. And so on his dying bed, when suffering from extreme exhaustion, he would still express his love to His Saviour, though in feeble and broken accents—"O Jesus, how I have loved Thee!" "O Lord, how I adore Thee!" His last work consisted of "Meditations on the first three chapters of the Epistle to the Ephesians," which he finished as he was completing his eighty-seventh year. It exhibits all the freshness of the intellectual power of his earlier works, and the devotional character of his remarks have now a touching interest as the last utterances and aspirations of his holy life. How truly does he now understand the force of his own words at the conclusion of his work: "All the longings of the heart will for ever be satisfied when we awake with His likeness. Then shall we realize, as we cannot here and now, the depths of truth in the Apostle's prayer, that we may be filled with all the fulness of God."

At one of the Deptford Sunday Afternoon Lectures for the people, the Rev. Charles Bullock dwelt on the poverty of scepticism. Mr. Bullock quoted Carlyle's "mournful cry"—"Oh, that I had faith!"

A very remarkable paper ("Communicated") has appeared in the *Record*: "Sir Matthew Hale on the Royal Supremacy."²

¹ Another contributor to *THE CHURCHMAN*, Canon Hume, D.C.L., a leading Liverpool clergyman, an eminent antiquarian, has entered into rest. An article, lately written by Dr. Hume, lies in our drawer.

² The Rev. Sir Emilius Bayley writes: "Your correspondent deserves, I venture to think, the best thanks of all English Churchmen for having brought to light the valuable treatise of Sir Matthew Hale upon the Royal Supremacy, and for the lucid remarks with which he has introduced it to your readers. Sir Matthew Hale was certainly not infallible, but he was a great lawyer and a sound Churchman, and his work upon the rights of the Crown ought to go far to settle the vexed question of the Supremacy, and to pave the way for legislation upon the lines recommended in the report of the Ecclesiastical Courts Commission."