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THE
CHURCHMAN

A Monthly Magazine

*CONDUCTED BY CLERGYMEN AND LAYMEN
OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND*

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THE MONTH.

IN the House of Commons on the 27th of February, the Government obtained a majority of 14, 288 voting for Sir Stafford Northcote's resolution, and 302 against it. In the House of Lords, however, the vote of censure was carried, and by a majority of 121, only 68 peers voting with the Government. The language of Lord Salisbury's motion was a little stronger than Sir Stafford Northcote's. Mr. Forster and Mr. Goschen criticized the conduct of the Government, and voted in accordance with their speeches. A few other Liberals voted with the Opposition. On the morning after the division the *Times*, remarking that it was doubtful whether the Ministry could survive the defeat, said :

The disgraceful treatment accorded to General Gordon, and the cynical coolness with which Ministers have ignored or made light of what is felt to be a national reproach, have no doubt operated to disgust candid men of all parties. But apart altogether from that shameful episode, their whole conduct of national affairs, not only in the Soudan but in Egypt itself, and in our foreign and colonial relations generally, has been of a kind which deserves the most uncompromising censure. Technically they have escaped, though only by the skin of their teeth, but morally they are defeated, discredited, and condemned.

There have been serious misunderstandings between Lord Granville and the German Chancellor. Prince Bismarck (said the *Pall Mall Gazette* on the 3rd) "is far and away the most powerful man in the world. His word is law from Moscow to Paris. Yet in some way or other we have contrived to excite in this dictator of the Continent sentiments which he finds it difficult to express even in the large license of his White-books." But the mission of Count Herbert Bismarck was apparently a decided success; and Lord Granville's apologetic speech has removed the soreness created by White-books and Blue.

The advance of Russian forces on the boundary of Afghanistan, in the direction of Herat, has excited serious misgivings.

General Brackenbury, when almost in sight of Abu Hamed, retreated to Korti; General Buller was also ordered to retreat; the concentration of Lord Wolseley's force, under the circumstances, seemed absolutely necessary.

The news of the death of Sir C. Stewart was received with general regret.

A "supplementary estimate," on the 11th, contained a grant of £20,000 to the family of General Gordon.—A Mansion House Fund for a memorial to General Gordon has been established.—In St. Paul's, in the Abbey, and in many cathedrals, memorial services¹ have been held.—At Norwich,

¹ In the *St. James's Gazette*, on the 14th, we read : "Most of those who

on the invitation of the Bishop, "A Service of Humiliation for our Sins, with prayers for our nation in general, and especially for our soldiers and sailors in Egypt," was held in the nave of the Cathedral.

At Suakin, about the same time, landed the 15th Sikhs, and a battalion of the Guards. The English and Indian forces of the Empress-Queen are thus once more meeting together. The line of railway from Suakin to Berber, or to somewhere else, is expected to be finished by autumn. A volunteer contingent from New South Wales left Sydney for Suakin on the 3rd.

The new President of the United States, in his address, made no striking announcement. It seems, however, that the Democratic Party (which has not been in power for twenty-four years), has abandoned Free Trade principles.

Dr. Walsh, President of Maynooth, has been elected to the Roman Catholic Archbishopsric of Dublin. Whether he will make as firm a stand against the lawlessness of extreme Nationalists as did his predecessor Cardinal McCabe, remains to be seen.

The Rev. Canon Garratt has commented, in pungent terms, on the fact that an atheist, Mr. Bradlaugh, has been elected President of the Ipswich Radical Association.

A memorial to the Bishop of Liverpool against the continuance of the proceedings which have been instituted by Dr. Hakes against the Rev. J. B. Cox, Incumbent of St. Margaret's, Liverpool, signed by 138 clergymen, was presented. In the reply of his Lordship, we read :

You will doubtless remember that I have had nothing whatever to do with the institution of this suit. The only point which has come before me for decision has been whether or not I should prohibit it. You ask me to "stay the proceedings, if possible." Your request comes too late. The case has already been referred to the Provincial Court of York, and has passed entirely out of my hands. . . . I earnestly desire, as much as any of yourselves, to prevent strife and contention among Churchmen. I dislike all Ecclesiastical lawsuits, however necessary they may sometimes be. But I must remind you that in such cases as the one you have brought before me the peace of a diocese is not so much disturbed by the promoters of the suit, as it is by those who give occasion for legal proceedings by persistent disobedience to the law, and by refusing to obey the repeated admonitions of the Bishop.

were present in the churches yesterday, or who have read the accounts of the impressive ceremonials this morning, will feel that these great gatherings of his countrymen in prayer were the commemoration and the monument Gordon himself would have approved, had his wonderful humility and self-abnegation permitted him to judge himself worthy of such remembrance. For money he had the contempt which is common to many less pure minds than his. He had even schooled himself, though the struggle was perhaps hard, to that rarer virtue which is indifferent to fame."

At a meeting of the Central Council of Diocesan Conferences attention has been directed to the subject of Church Defence.

The Church Missionary Society has received intelligence of the death of King Mtesa.

At a meeting of Wellingtonians, presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury, a Wellington College Mission Committee was formed. £150 a year is guaranteed for a Mission clergyman in a poor district in the East End.

At the opening of the new wing of the Church Missionary House, in Salisbury Square, some deeply interesting speeches were made. Mr. A. Beattie, in the name of the subscribers, presented to the committee a portrait of the venerated President, Lord Chichester.

At the Jubilee meeting of the Church Pastoral-Aid Society, held in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, speeches were made by Mr. Deacon, the Bishop of Sodor and Man, Mr. F. Bevan, Mr. Clarke Aspinall, Canon McCormick, and Bishop Hellmuth. In the course of his speech Canon Hoare said :

We hear of missions, mission-halls, schoolrooms, cottage lectures, schoolroom lectures, etc., by laity and by clergy. Now I stand here myself as a man who was actually presented by my churchwarden at the visitation of the Archdeacon, and brought up before all my brother clergymen for censure. Now what for ? What was this that so humbled me ? It was for what was considered by my churchwarden the offence of giving religious lectures in my own school ; and the Archdeacon said it was a very grave matter and must be referred to the Bishop. That was the state of things not quite fifty years ago. I shall mention another case. There is a large parish in the town of London, not in the city, and the rectory of that was offered to a dear friend of mine. I went with him to call upon the outgoing rector, and the outgoing rector spoke of the charms of his parish, and at length said that "It has this great advantage, that I have brought it into this beautiful order, that although there are 20,000 people in the parish it is brought into such a state of order that there is not the least occasion to keep a curate." Can you imagine a state of things more fatal for these 20,000 people ?

The Rev. H. M. Butler, D.D., Head Master of Harrow School, has been appointed, we are pleased to record, to the Deanery of Gloucester.

The Rev. F. Paget, who was ordained Deacon in 1873, succeeds Dr. King in the Regius Professorship of Pastoral Theology.

In the *Contemporary*, Mr. R. A. Watson makes a most slashing attack on what he terms, "Professor Drummond's New Scientific Gospel." He thinks the gist of Professor Drummond's book "is fitted to create scepticism rather than confirm faith," and "takes leave to call Professor Drummond's theory neither science nor theology, but a bastard Calvinism, of which Scotland ought to be ashamed, and the sturdiest Arminian may well say the old is better. Certainly the Calvinism of John Calvin is a vast deal better—for where is Christ in this religion ?"