

THE MONTH.

THE Congress at Cardiff will hardly do for the Church in Wales, we fear, all that was hoped. Yet much that was advanced about the Principality was sound and highly practical. In regard to the Church as a whole, it is doubtful whether the words, "one of the most successful Church Congresses," will be generally accepted. Some of the papers read—such, *e.g.*, as Dean Perowne's on "Home Reunion," Mr. Moule's on "The Christian's Relationship to the World," and Sir John Kennaway's on "Missions"—were truly admirable. The speeches of the Dean of Llandaff (Dr. Vaughan) were happy and effective. At one of the churches, in an "official" opening service, the ritual was of the extremest. It embraced (said a protest) the following :

1. Lighted Candles ; 2. Vestments, including Chasuble, Alb, Tunicle, Dalmatic, Biretta ; 3. The frequent use of Incense ; 4. The use of "Wafer Bread" ; 5. The mixed Chalice ; 6. Hiding the Manual Acts ; 7. The use of the Crucifix and a Banner with a figure of the Madonna in procession ; 8. The attendance of Acolytes, carrying lighted Candles, and dressed in scarlet Cassocks and Cottas ; 9. The elevation of the Elements, and Prostration before them ; 10. The use of the Sacrine Bells ; 11. The singing of the *Agnus Dei* immediately following the Prayer of Consecration ; 12. Ceremonial Ablutions.

The Bishop of Llandaff regarded the protest as "a most proper one." In the *Record* (of the 11th) "An Old Soldier" writes : "This Cardiff Congress event shows clearly what steady progress Ritualism is making in the land under the fostering influence of the 'let alone' system."

At the St. Leonards meeting of the South Coast Clerical and Lay Union the Dean of Canterbury (the President) commended the Protestant Churchman's Alliance.

On the proposed new Brotherhood several letters have been published in the *Times*. A leader on the *Church and People* article has done good.

A valuable speech on the Tithe Question has been made by Lord Selborne, and will, we hope, be published.

In Dr. Cust's able article in the last CHURCHMAN reference was made to the work which has been and is being done by Protestant Damians in leper settlements. In this month's *Blackwood* appears an interesting note from "An Old Cape Reporter," who gives the information which a correspondent has sent ourselves, about Mr. Wilshere. The "Reporter" says :

All honour that can be paid should be paid to that noble and devoted man [Father Damien], who fell a martyr to his devotion to duty ; but the self-denying labours for many years of the Rev. Canon Baker, of Kalk Bay, late Chaplain at Robben Island, should not be forgotten ; and he has, I am sure, from personal observation and the manner in which the poor wretches whose lot he does his utmost to mitigate, a worthy successor in the Rev. H. M. Wilshere, the present chaplain at that "speck in the ocean" where is congregated so much of human misery and suffering.

The Bishop of Durham's words (at his Diocesan Conference) about vows, were wise and weighty. When they speak of "dispensable" vows, said the Bishop, "this is language to which I entertain the strongest objection."