

ART. VII.—THE MONTH.

ON the 27th of July, Ayooob Khan, advancing from Herat, inflicted a severe defeat on General Burrows. Ayooob's army, of about 12,000, were strong in artillery. Out of a force numbering 2,800, Indian and British, 1,000 were reported killed and missing. The disaster of Khusk-i-Nahud stands almost alone in the annals of British India. At present (August 20) little is known concerning subsequent events. Ayooob, after an unaccountable delay, has commenced the siege of Candahar. A large force, under General Roberts, is advancing from Cabul, and another force, under General Phayre, from Quetta, for the relief of Candahar. According to a convention arranged with Abdul Rahman, the new Amcer, before the disaster on the Helmund, Sir Donald Stewart has withdrawn all our troops from Cabul to Gandamak.

Dr. Tanner completed his forty days' fast.

Mr. Whymper, whose "Scrambles amongst the Alps" is the most charming book of the kind, has spent a week on Chimborazo, at a height of 16,000 ft., and afterwards reached the summit, 4000 ft. higher. He has also conquered Cotopaxi, 19,500 ft., with a thermometer 20 degrees below zero, a terrible wind and a hail-storm.

Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, K.G., has passed away at the ripe old age of 92. Cousin to George Canning, the Prime Minister, Stratford Canning entered the diplomatic service in 1808.

At a meeting of the Additional Home Bishopricks' Endowment Fund, the Archbishop of Canterbury said he thought that the Bishopricks of Newcastle would soon be founded. His Grace hoped that before long "we shall be able to congratulate Sir Richard Cross on the perfect completion of the whole of that scheme, for the arrangement of which, and the carrying it through Parliament, the whole Church of England feel so deeply indebted to him." The late Home Secretary, in a subsequent speech, said that he looked back to no period or act of his official life which gave him more pleasure.

In moving the Education estimates, Mr. Mundella made an able and interesting speech, one worthy of his reputation as an educationalist. The right hon. gentleman defended the special subjects.¹

¹ "As soon as the special subjects were introduced," said the Vice-President, "schools began steadily to improve. It was said that.

The serious illness of the Prime Minister, lung congestion with fever, called forth deep sympathy on all sides. It seems probable that Mr. Gladstone's recovery will be speedy and complete.

The Irish Disturbance Bill was thrown out on a second reading in the House of Lords by 282 to 51. Sixty-three Peers who are ordinarily counted as Liberals, including even Lord Sherbrooke (Mr. Lowe) and Lord Brabourne (Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen), voted against it. The lucid and exhaustive speech of Earl Cairns was in its way simply perfect.

Outrages have been committed in parts of Connaught, and some small bodies of troops have been ordered to Ireland.

The mission of Mr. Goshen to Constantinople does not seem, so far, a success. The Powers have not agreed to follow up the Collective Note with collective action. In regard to the naval demonstration which in some quarters was threatened, Lord Granville has preserved a diplomatic silence. So far as concerns Greece, France, it appears, is not likely to assist Mr. Gladstone's Government; and the Sultan may not be far wrong in supposing that Germany and Austria would also regret a violent re-opening of the Eastern Question.

The Burials Bill has been read a second time in the House of Commons, as was expected, by a very large majority.

At what is described as "the largest, and in many respects the most important synod ever held in Jamaica"—lay and clerical—the Rev. Enos Nuttall was elected Bishop.

Bishop Ryan, we have seen with pleasure, accepted the vacant post at Bournemouth, and the highly esteemed Rector of Stepney, the Rev. Joseph Bardsley, an able administrator, is going to the Vicarage of Bradford.

At the Canterbury Diocesan Conference, Canon Hoare pleaded for some lay representation in the deliberative bodies of the Church.

The death of the Rev. Edward Auriol did not come as a surprise upon his intimate friends. He had resigned his living, and his health had been for some time failing. Among Evan-

children only got a smattering of such subjects. But he was disposed to attribute a much higher value to what was called a 'smattering' of knowledge than many others were. He remembered that forty years ago one of his fellow-pupils, in a class where such a smattering was imparted on the subject of botany, began to take an enthusiastic interest in the subject, and had since risen to a position of the highest eminence. That gentleman was now secretary to the Royal Geographical Society and F.R.S. He referred to Mr. Bates, the author of "The Naturalist of the Amazon." Mr. Yorke, in an able speech, said that "it was very satisfactory to hear from the right hon. gentleman that if he found that the teaching of these ambitious and ornamental subjects interfered seriously with the teaching of the more solid but less interesting matter, he would not encourage it. What many persons felt was that it was not just to provide a high-class education at the expense of the State."

gical Churchmen no man, probably, was more esteemed and respected: he wielded an immense influence, and has rendered great services to the Church. Shrewd, genial, tolerant, whole-hearted, a man of prayer, in the words of Mr. Billing,¹ "he seemed never to think of himself, and to the very last was he employed in the Master's work in his own quiet unobtrusive kindly way." A very touching narrative of his last interview with "dear Mr. Auriol," by Prebendary Cadman, appeared in the *Record*. Prebendary Auriol, we may add, and Prebendary Wright, were much interested in the success of THE CHURCHMAN.

At the afternoon service at St. Paul's on the 15th, Canon Liddon referred to the death by drowning, in Coniston Lake, of the Rev. Henry Wright:—

He said that the clergy and other authorities at that cathedral had had within the last two days special cause for mourning. Since Sunday last two of the prebendaries connected with the cathedral had been called to their last account. One of them, in the fulness of age, had been removed in the course of nature from amongst them. The other, in the prime of life and manhood, had been suddenly and sadly swept away beneath the waters of one of their northern lakes—prematurely removed from his ministerial work in this world, and, in a moment, taken away from his numerous and bereaved family.

From the Rev. Walter Abbott, Vicar of Paddington, a letter appeared in the *Record* on the following day:—

I am sure many of your readers will earnestly desire to receive some detailed information concerning the most distressing accident at Coniston, by which the Church on earth (and especially the Church Missionary Society²) has been deprived of one of her most consecrated sons, the Rev. Henry Wright. The last afternoon of his life I spent with him on the lake, in whose waters the next morning his gentle spirit was breathed away. There, though bearing traces of care and work, he was full of boyish fun, and joyous as he ever was, in the midst of his family. To-day he is gone.

God's thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are His ways our ways.

¹ The Rev. R. C. Billing: Letter in the *Record*.

² The *Record* well remarks:—Eight years ago he gave up his preferment at Nottingham in order to devote his voluntary efforts to the cause of the Church Missionary Society, filling the same post of Honorary Secretary which was filled for many years by the late Henry Venn, and it is no small compliment to Mr. Wright to say that there was every prospect of his proving with matured powers and larger experience a worthy successor of that sagacious and devoted saint. Mr. Wright was singularly simple in taste and single in heart, clear in principle, and generous in his judgments of men. He was a munificent donor to all good works, and spent his large fortune in doing good. His private acts of generous liberality will never be known in this world, so large yet so silent was the stream of his charity."