

P. HOBSON, M.A., Vicar of Starestead Abbots. The expositions are short, simple and suggestive; and the hymns, as a rule, are well chosen.

We have received the second volume of the Bishop of LINCOLN'S *Church History* (Rivingtons). The first volume brought us down to the Council of Nicæa, A.D. 325; the present portion of the work goes on to the Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381. On certain points in the History—e.g., especially with regard to Ancient Liturgies—we should express ourselves in somewhat different terms; but the characteristics of the honoured Prelate's writings are well known. When the third volume comes before us we shall endeavour to write a worthy review.

In Professor MILLIGAN'S Lecture on *Ancient Greece*, "Faiths of the World," Lecture VI. (W. Blackwood & Sons), we read:—

It has been said by an eloquent writer of the day,¹ that what concerns us at the present time is to learn how to face the problems of the world with Greek serenity. If we have nothing more to face them with, we shall sink before them, as Greece did.

Messrs. Longmans & Co. have published a new, cheap, edition of *Endymion*. All Lord Beaconsfield's novels, probably, will be issued in the same form.

Messrs. Cassell & Co. have published the first monthly part of Canon FARRAR'S *Life of St. Paul*, an illustrated serial edition. The work is to be completed in about 30 parts. Type, paper, and illustrations good.

The February magazines of the R.T.S. are exceedingly good. The *Boys' Own Paper* keeps up well.

A New Introduction to Dogmatic Theology, on the Basis of the Thirty-nine Articles, by the Rev. E. A. LITTON, we are glad to hear, is in the press, and will be issued shortly by Mr. Elliot Stock. A work of this kind, we have long felt, is greatly needed; and, certainly, no theologian was better fitted for it than Mr. Litton, a scholar and thinker of the highest rank.

THE MONTH.

PARLIAMENT was opened on the 7th. The debate on the Address terminated on the 17th. In the earliest hours of the session "a crushing defeat was inflicted upon the Government." By a majority of 58 votes the House of Commons reaffirmed the Resolution which it passed last session refusing to allow Mr. Bradlaugh to go through the form of repeating the Oath of Allegiance. Sir Stafford Northcote's motion was carried, or rather Mr. Gladstone's attempt to evade it by the previous question was defeated, by a majority much larger than that of

¹ Symonds, "The Greek Poets," second series, p. 381.

last year, the latter having been only 33.¹ The division list is—

Ayes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	286
Noes	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	228
Majority	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	—58

The result was received with loud and repeated cheers. Mr. S. Morley, with other Liberals, refused to obey the Government whip.

The Irish policy of the Ministry has been sharply criticized in the House of Commons. A particularly able speech was made by Mr. Gibson on the 10th.²

The Right Hon. Cecil Raikes has been returned for Preston, Sir John Holker having been made a Lord Justice. Many who care little for party politics will be glad to see so good a Churchman as Mr. Raikes in the House of Commons once more.

Meetings have been held in many important towns to give expression to the feeling excited in this country by the atrocities recently perpetrated on the Jews in Russia. At the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor took the chair; the Earl of Shaftesbury,³ the Bishop of London, Canon Farrar, Cardinal Manning,

¹ A remonstrance, signed by 100 members of the Upper and 120 Members of the Lower House, has been published. It concludes thus:—"While differing in many opinions and beliefs, the undersigned concur in declaring their conviction that the preponderant good sense and sound feeling of the nation is adverse to any alteration in law or usage tending to dispense with the recognition, by Parliament, of the supreme authority of God."

² The right hon. gentleman, *e.g.*, in blaming the Government for "doing nothing," said:—"There is no doubt that the Land League was an intimidative organization. But, in spite of all that was occurring, matters were allowed to go on, and not a single thing was done until the 20th of October. It is true that a proclamation was issued, pointing out the illegality of 'Boycotting,' but that was only two or three days before the issue of the proclamation declaring the Land League to be illegal. Matters went on then until a remarkable, and, what I think, an unfortunate day arrived—that is, the 20th of October last. On that day the proclamation of the Land League was made, that being the very day that the Land Court opened. (Opposition cheers.) . . . The fact is, that the moment the Land Bill was introduced, the agrarian outrages in Ireland doubled in number, and that that figure of increase was maintained until the 20th of October. We have it now, upon the authoritative statement of the right hon. gentleman, the President of the Board of Trade himself, as we had it before from the inexorable logic of facts, that until the 20th of October the Government, as an act of policy, did not resolutely apply themselves to put down the Land League: (Loud cheers.)

³ The venerable Earl concluded an effective speech by moving, "That in the opinion of this meeting, the persecution and the outrages which the Jews in many parts of the Russian dominions have for several months past suffered, are an offence to civilization to be deeply deplored."

and others spoke. It is pleasing to see a Cardinal come forward to rebuke the intolerance in bygone days of the Church of Rome; but we have not forgotten the Mortara case.

A letter from the Primate with regard to emigrants has excited attention. The S.P.C.K. has published No. I. of *Colonists' Handbooks*, a pamphlet on Canada. Information from Government sources is given, with "useful counsels to emigrants." This capital pamphlet has a good map.

Several letters have been published in the *Record*, concerning a system of middle-class schools on church principles decidedly "lower" than those of the Woodard Schools. Will Evangelicals do anything?

The Rev. J. M. Strachan, M.D., is the new Bishop of Rangoon.¹

The Rev. F. J. Holland, minister of Quebec Chapel, has been appointed Canon of Canterbury.

At the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury certain members of the Council of the Church Association had an interview with his Grace with reference to the Rev. S. F. Green. It was inquired, whether the promoters of the suit or their advisers were likely to take any steps to move the Court of Arches with a view to the possible release of Mr. Green from prison. In reply, after consideration, the Council stated:—

2. That though the Council are most anxious to manifest the respect which they entertain for the opinion of the Archbishop and to comply with his wishes, they feel considerable hesitation in addressing the Bishop of Manchester with reference to Mr. Green's case, as from the decided terms in which his Lordship rejected a former communication from the promoters of the suit, they cannot but entertain very grave doubts as to the probability of any sufficient guarantees being obtained for the future conduct of Divine service in St. John's Church, Miles Platting. The Council accordingly beg leave to represent to the Archbishop their strong conviction that a proposal for the release of Mr. Green, involving conditions on his part, ought to originate with his friends, and that it is scarcely within the province of the Council to advise the promoters of the suit to impose conditions upon Mr. Green, in order to secure his release from a penalty incurred by his persistent disobedience of the lawful commands of a competent tribunal.

¹ The bishopric became vacant by the resignation of the Right Rev. J. H. Titcomb, D.D., whose health had been injured by an accident in travelling in the diocese of Rangoon. Dr. Strachan, who is an ordained medical man, says the *Record*, is a very able and excellent missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts at Madras, where he is also the Secretary of the Society. Dr. Strachan has recently been on a voyage round the world, and has given an interesting account of his journey in *Mission Field*, the organ of the S.P.G., speaking warmly of the Church Missionary Missions in many places.

In the *Oxford Times* appeared an account of the proceedings at Wiclif Hall, Sir John Kennaway, M.P., in the chair.¹

The Mackonochie case has undergone another change. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has reversed the decision of the Dean of Arches, by which, under the special circumstances of the case, he refused to pass sentence of deprivation on Mr. Mackonochie, and remitted the suit to the Dean of Arches to be redetermined.

A meeting of the Church Reform Union has been held at Nottingham. Letters were read from the Duke of St. Albans and Professor Seeley; and Mr. Albert Grey, M.P., with others, spoke. The Bishop of Lincoln made a vigorous speech at another meeting in Nottingham. In this important town, eleven new districts, with Mission Clergy, are at once required.

The Cambridge Mathematical Tripos of 1882 possesses a peculiar interest. "Herman of Trinity" has the honour of closing the line of Senior Wranglers, which began in 1748 with "Bates of Caius."

In a lecture recently delivered at King's College to the theological students, says the *Globe*, attention was called to the great deficiencies of our educational system in matters relating to public speaking, and more especially to that branch of it which has to do with preaching:—

The lecturer undertook to say that the chief reason which now exists for empty churches is the lack of accomplished preachers, capable of attracting the interest of their congregations. . . . We fear it must be at once admitted that there is a good deal of truth in the theory thus brought forward. Church-going people are perhaps attracted more than they were some years ago by other features in the service, by the particular shade of ritual adopted, and by the character of the music. But, making all allowances for the greater diversity which exists in these matters, and for the increasing taste for a more elaborate and ornate form of service, it is still certain that for a vast proportion of churchgoers, both men and women, the principal test remains as it was half a century ago—the quality of the sermon.

The fall of M. Gambetta has been succeeded by the installation of a Ministry under M. de Freycinet. The chief difficulty to be overcome before the new Premier was enabled to complete his Cabinet, was the reluctance of M. Léon Say to accept a

¹ Canon Ince said:—"He thought that the council of the institution, and Oxford generally, might be congratulated on having started, first of all, under the guidance of such a Principal as Mr. Girdlestone—(loud cheers)—and he thought it was not possible for the council to have selected a man more thoroughly adapted for the post, under the peculiar circumstances of Oxford at the present time."—Mr. John Deacon, treasurer of the Theological Halls at Oxford and Cambridge, said they valued, as the Regius Professor valued, the Principal who had been over Wiclif Hall since its commencement.

portfolio. The fact that he ultimately consented to be the Minister of Finance is hailed with general satisfaction.

The Egyptian difficulty is, probably, less serious.¹

The trial of Guiteau began on the 14th of November. He was condemned to death on Jan. 30, but has appealed.²

The subject of Local Taxation has been brought before the Premier by a deputation, and has been discussed in the columns of the *Times*. In a valuable letter, the Rev. Frederick Spurrell, Rector of Falkbourne, proposes to alter the whole system of rating:—

Let there be one basis of assessment for every rate and every tax. Let that basis of assessment be the Government income-tax, and let every person of every class, merchant and officer, tradesman and professional man, shareholder and fundholder, and not merely the clergy and the farmer, pay their proper share of the so-called "poor-rate" upon their income-tax assessment.³

At the time when Mr. Forster's Education Act was passed, we had great fears with regard to the additional burden which would be thrown upon many farmers. With poor's-rates, highway-rates, tithes, and so forth, a struggling farmer finds £30 school-rate a serious infliction.

¹ M. Gambetta's fall, in this respect, was fortunate. The declarations made by the representatives of Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy, to the Sublime Porte, showed how an Anglo-French occupation of Egypt would have been regarded by the other Powers of Europe.

² The facts connected with the firing of the shots at President Garfield on the 2nd of July last were undisputed. Equally indisputable was the fact that the wound which he then received was the cause of his death on the 19th of September, after eleven weeks of protracted suspense and suffering. The only question which the jury were required to decide was as to the mental condition of the culprit at the time when he committed the assassination.

³ Mr. Spurrell says:—"Few people have any idea of the pressure of local taxation upon the clergy, arising partly from the same causes which also press unduly upon occupiers of land, and have been without doubt part of the general agricultural depression. Incomes derived like rent-charge from the land are rated out of all proportion, many times more than any other incomes, to what is called the poor-rate, and the greater portion of the people of England pay a mere infinitesimal portion of it. But why should not every person of every class, and not merely clergy and occupiers of land, pay their proportion, and so equalize taxation? What is poor-rate? Is it a mere parochial rating, so that the richer inhabitants of a parish should support their poorer neighbours and workpeople? Is it a remnant of the old feudal system, confirmed by Queen Elizabeth's first poor-law, of parishes providing for their own? Not in the least. The poor really receive a very small part of every poor-rate. Every imaginable county necessity and expense is included in that monster called 'poor-rate.' Out of it the expenses, besides relief of the poor, are paid of police, coroners, lunatic asylums, militia, highways, vaccination, courts of justice, school-rates, and other things. Government, it is true, repays a small portion of some of these charges; but, as all these enumerated institutions exist for the good and protection of the whole community, every person ought to pay his share of these expenses; whereas now the great mass of people, even with large incomes, pay a small

It is announced that in April the *Record* will be published as a weekly paper, price 4d., with such modifications in respect of shape and size as this change will render advisable. In making this announcement, the *Record*, in a very able and interesting article, says:—

We have the satisfaction of knowing that we are responding to the expressed wishes of very many of our readers, and that we shall supply a need really felt by many others. It is conceived that a weekly paper is the most suitable form for a journal such as the *Record* has long become. We adopt the change the more readily because it enables us to do what for many years has been our wish, although hitherto unattainable, namely, to make the *Record* so materially cheaper as to bring it within the reach of a much larger class. . . . With regard to the future policy and principles of the *Record*, it is hardly necessary to say that we shall not consciously deviate by one hair's breadth from the old lines of sound Protestant Evangelical Churchmanship upon which we have so long travelled.

The Bishop of Rochester has presented the Rev. Canon Richardson, M.A., Incumbent of Camden Church, Camberwell, Joint Hon. Secretary to the Rochester Diocesan Society, to the Archdeaconry of Southwark. An admirable appointment, full of promise.

William Cecil, fifth and only surviving son of Richard Cecil, died at the Rectory, Longstanton St. Michael, Cambridgeshire, in the ninetieth year of his age.¹

The Convocations have discussed the Miles Platting case, the Board of Missions,² Convocation and Cathedral Reform, Church Courts, and other matters.

rating upon their houses only, and the clergy and land occupiers pay a very large extra amount upon their incomes, as well as upon their houses. So far, the clergy have companions in a joint grievance, and until personal property is made to contribute a proper proportion, there is a peculiar joint heavy depression and suffering. But the clergy are suffering more severely than the occupiers of land."

¹ Mr. Cecil entered first at Trinity College; afterwards, through the advice of his friend the Rev. Charles Simeon, he migrated to Magdalene. He took his degree in 1814, was Seventeenth Wrangler, and became Fellow of Magdalene. In 1823 he was appointed by his College to the living of Longstanton St. Michael. He lost his sight about six years ago, but continued to take part in the services of his church. Mr. Cecil, says the *Record*, inherited many of the qualities of his distinguished father. He was endowed with great intellectual power and decision of character, and possessed a rare musical genius. But the great feature of his character was his firm adherence to the grand principles of the old Evangelical school.

² The motion of the Bishop of Lincoln was carried unanimously, as follows:—"That a general committee of both houses be appointed to consider the subject of the Board of Missions, and that his Grace the Archbishop of York and the Northern Province be invited to nominate a committee of their houses to confer with a joint committee; and that this resolution be communicated to the Lower House, and to his Grace the Archbishop of York."