

is not quite probable; but we prefer to say that as a suggestive and pleasing tale, with gentle influence, this is admirable. We know a lady who has read it aloud to two juvenile audiences (one consisting of village boys), and both enjoyed it greatly.

A review of Captain CONDER'S *Heth and Moab*, a very interesting book (R. Bentley and Son) is deferred to the February CHURCHMAN.—From lack of time is postponed a notice of Dr. STOUGHTON'S *Memories of the Spanish Reformers* (R. T. S.), and of Mr. BICKERSTETH'S *From Year to Year* (Sampson Low and Co.); but we heartily commend these two volumes as choice New Year gifts.

* * * *Some friends have written to us concerning the circulation of THE CHURCHMAN, a matter in which they tell us they take a real interest. To our lay friends we have replied, "Make the Magazine known to your clerical neighbours." To our clerical well-wishers we have given, mutatis mutandis, the same counsel. "Take a little trouble about it" is, just now, a most important rule, in regard to the Press, for all Churchmen who value evangelical truths. It may be well to state here that, so far as we know, THE CHURCHMAN never stood so well, in all respects, as it does now.*



THE MONTH.

AT the beginning of December was published an important Memorial to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York on the Report of the Ecclesiastical Courts Commission. It is a purely clerical Memorial, and emanates from a Committee of which the Dean of Canterbury is Chairman. Drawn up with skill and great good judgment, this document has already (December 10) received the signatures of Bishop Perry; the Deans of Ely, Ripon, Gloucester, and St. Asaph; Archdeacons Perowne, Cust, Martin, Jacob, Bardsley, Smart, Hornsby, Evans, Birch, Richardson, and Fearon; Dr. Perowne (Master of Corpus), Dr. Swainson (Master of Christ's); Professors Lumby and Mayor; Canons Carus, Saumarez Smith, Bell, Hoare, Spence, and Tristram; Prebendary Daniel Wilson, Prebendary Boulton, and of many other representative men. The Memorial runs as follows:

We, the undersigned clergymen, desire to state our conviction that the Recommendations made by the Ecclesiastical Courts Commission are in general harmony with the relations of Church and State as settled at the Reformation, adequately recognise the Royal Supremacy, and suggest changes which, if adopted, would tend to promote the peace and well-being of the Church of England.

We earnestly hope that it will be found practicable to submit a measure based on those Recommendations to the judgment of Parliament at an early date. But we respectfully urge—

- (1) The necessity of guarding the rights of the laity from real, or apparent, infringement by the uncontrolled exercise of the Episcopal veto.
- (2) The necessity of preventing questions fully argued in, and determined by, the Court of Final Appeal from being reconsidered whenever they happen to arise in subsequent cases.

In an ably written and judicious article on this subject, the *Record* remarks that "the memorialists will very possibly be told that they should have left Convocation to speak for them, or at least have waited until its voice had been heard. But Convocation, especially in its present unreformed condition, does not either constitutionally or actually represent the Church for legislative purposes." The clergy ought to speak, and it is better that they should speak now. Convocation, "being deprived of the advantage of real representation inside its walls, may derive considerable assistance from a definite expression of opinion outside."¹

To the articles in the November and December *CHURCHMAN*, by "A Layman," the *Record* pays a well-merited tribute: "We desire cordially to recognise the marked ability and knowledge displayed in them." Judging from letters which we ourselves have received, the "Layman's" criticisms on the Episcopal veto will be endorsed by many thoughtful influential laymen outside, as well as within, the Evangelical School.

About a year ago the Bishop of Rochester put forth his appeal for raising £50,000 as a Church Building Fund for South London. £42,123, we gladly note, has been subscribed; three churches have been built and consecrated, and others are in process of completion.

At a great gathering in Sheffield the Archbishop of York made an admirable speech on behalf of the Church Pastoral Aid Society. Such Incumbents as Canon Blakeney, the Vicar of Sheffield, have been doing quietly, year after year, a great work for the Church among the honest and warm-hearted men of the North.

The Very Rev. Maurice S. Baldwin has been elected, we record with pleasure, as a successor to the Right Rev. Dr. Hellmuth in the See of Huron.

Mr. Chamberlain, by his pronouncements in favour of a sweeping reform, and against the Established Church, must sadly embarrass, one would think, his colleagues in the Cabinet.

The Poet Laureate is now a peer.

The conviction of O'Donnell for the murder of Carey is a satisfactory vindication of justice.

A great disaster in the Soudan—the end of which nobody can foresee—has at least stopped the recall of British troops from Egypt.

¹ Clergymen desiring to sign the above memorial are requested to send their names and addresses to the Rev. J. W. Marshall, St. John's Vicarage, Blackheath, S.E.