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## The Month.

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SINCE we went to press last month the situation in the Transvaal has been changed almost beyond recognition. The brilliant strategy of Lord Roberts has resulted in a complete alteration in the military situation. Kimberley has been relieved, Bloemfontein occupied by the British forces, the siege of Ladysmith has been raised, Cronje and his army have been captured, and everything (so far) points to a speedy termination of the war. Yet much has still to be done. The Transvaalers will not probably yield as easily as the Free-Staters have done, and it is pretty certain that the march to Pretoria will not be the *promenade militaire* that some people imagine. The final result of the campaign is morally certain: the subsequent independence of the belligerent States is no longer even thinkable, and this Lord Salisbury has clearly indicated in his statesman-like reply to President Krüger's appeal for "cease fire." Blood and treasure have been spilt without stint in this war, and it is not the intention of the English people to leave the work half done. It is war to the finish this time. We do not propose to repeat the experiment of twenty years ago, and, by an ill-timed show of clemency, invite future disaster. We are fighting for honour, for Empire, and for the liberty of the subject; and, with God's help, the honour, Empire, and liberty of England will be established on a basis that will prove even more enduring than ever. The glory of the war will finally be seen to have its roots in our resolution to secure justice between man and man; and justice we mean to abide by come evil report or good report.

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Lord Roberts' despatch to the War Office, after his victorious entry into Bloemfontein, was noteworthy. It began with the words "By the help of God." The recognition of a Divine hand shaping Imperial destinies is too often forgotten in our official life. Lord Roberts is not one of those who,

"Calling, call not God to guard."

He is the lineal successor of the heroes of the Indian Mutiny—men like Outram, Havelock, and Lawrence. And such men were not ashamed to acknowledge God in all their ways, knowing that He would indeed direct their paths.

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The Queen has received an ovation within the past month, during her brief stay in London, which was, in its enthusiasm, extraordinary—even in *her* case. Her drives through the Metropolis were in the nature of a triumphal progress, the people realizing the significant nature of her presence in the capital of the Empire, and delighting in the hundred and one evidences of her queenly dignity and womanly tact.

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Next month the Queen will visit Ireland. It is just fifty years ago since she was there. Here, again, as well as in the creation of Shamrock Day, she showed her rare skill in knowing when to seize the psychological moment.

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In a lecture delivered at the Chapter House, St. Paul's, Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, the new surveyor of Westminster Abbey, stated that the old stonework of the Abbey was fast crumbling to pieces, owing to the fumes of the works on the other side of the river. He illustrated by

slides the damage done, showing the white patches on the exterior and interior of the Abbey; and these patches, he asserted, were the direct result of the fumes causing pieces to fall away.

**NEW BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL.**—Principal Chavasse, of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, has been appointed Bishop of Liverpool. Mr. Chavasse graduated from Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he took a First Class in Law in 1869. He was ordained in 1870. In 1873 he was appointed to the vicarage of St. Paul's, Upper Holloway, and in 1878 he returned to Oxford as Rector of St. Peter-le-Bailey. He has been Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter since 1885, and in 1898 he was selected to give the annual course of lectures on pastoral theology at Cambridge. Mr. Chavasse has been Principal of Wycliffe Hall since 1889, when he succeeded Canon Girdlestone. Mr. Chavasse has been a strong supporter of all sound home and foreign missionary work, and has been specially and intimately associated with the C.M.S. and C.P.A.S. When told of the appointment, Bishop Ryle expressed himself in terms of unmixed gratitude. Speaking at the annual meeting of the Southport Auxiliary of the C.P.A.S., Canon Honeyburne read a letter from Bishop Ryle, who said: "I must write you a line to tell you how deeply thankful I am for the appointment the Crown has made in the case of Chavasse. It is just the best that could have been made, and will be a blessing for the Church in years to come. I trust that you and all Southport friends will give him your very best support in everything."

**PRESENTATION TO BISHOP RYLE.**—Bishop Ryle, at Liverpool, was recently presented with an illuminated address and a piece of plate from the clergy and laity of the diocese. The presentation took place in the library of the palace, Abercromby Square, and was made by Archdeacon Taylor; only the Bishop and Miss Ryle were present besides. The plate was a solid silver waiter weighing 140 ounces, bearing the symbols of the four Evangelists and the following inscriptions: "Presented (with an address) by clergy and laity of the diocese to John Charles Ryle, D.D., first Bishop of Liverpool. Consecrated June 11th, 1880. Resigned March 1st, 1900. February 28th, 1900." A few hundred pounds remaining will be added to the fund for providing suitable accommodation in the new Church House for the theological library of 3,000 volumes which the Bishop has given to the diocese.

The new Rector of Devizes is the Rev. James G. Watson, who for the past fifteen years has been one of the Association secretaries of the Church Missionary Society.

In their fifty-second annual report the Ecclesiastical Commissioners state that the income derived from their estates has, in general, been steadily maintained, while some items of revenue show a material increase. The common fund account received during last year a net balance of £1,179,000 from rentals, and a further £192,000 from dividends and interest, making a total of £1,371,000. The principal disbursements are: Payments to clergy, £879,000; to Bishops, £125,000; to chapters, vicars choral, and others, £159,000. A sum of £186,000 has been appropriated to the further augmentation of benefices, and £85,000 out of mineral receipts has been added to the reserve in respect of annual grants charged upon the common fund previously to 1887. The Commissioners are of opinion that, having regard to the improvement in certain items of their revenue, they will, as we mentioned recently, be justified in making an appropriation of £200,000 for the augmentation and endowment of benefices for the current year.

The War Fund at the Mansion House has reached about £800,000, and the Indian Famine Fund to upwards of £150,000.

Last month it was announced that the income of the Church Pastoral-Aid Society was less by £4,000 than it was twelve months ago. We are now pleased to state that two legacies have been reported to the committee—one of £2,000 and another of £5,000. The former has already been received, and the second will be paid to the treasurer before the close of the society's financial year.

Archdeacon Prescott, D.D., has been appointed by the Bishop of Carlisle as Chancellor of the diocese, in succession to the late Chancellor Ferguson.

The annual sermons on behalf of the British and Foreign Bible Society will be preached in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday afternoon, May 1, by the Bishop of Marlborough, who exchanges with Prebendary Snowden; in Westminster Abbey on Sunday afternoon, April 29, by Canon Gore; and in City Road Wesleyan Chapel on Monday evening, April 9, by the Rev. J. H. Goodman.

The new Vicar of St. Mary's, Charing Cross Road, is appealing for £5,000 to rebuild the nave of his church, lately destroyed by the London County Council as a "dangerous structure."

The London City Mission has recently received payment of a legacy of £40,000, which will enable the committee to largely increase their staff of missionaries.

#### LITERARY NOTES.

The second volume of *Encyclopædia Biblica* will probably be issued by A. and C. Black some time in May.

The last volume of the great *Dictionary of National Biography* (edited by Sidney Lee) will be published during the present year by Smith and Elder.

#### NEW BOOKS.

*Church and Faith; being Essays on the Teaching of the Church of England.* By DR. WACE, Dean FARRAR, DR. WRIGHT, Rev. R. E. BARTLETT, Principal DRURY, Canon MEYRICK, Professor MOULE, Chancellor SMITH, MONTAGUE BARLOW, Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, Bart., E. H. BLAKENEY, J. T. TOMLINSON. With Introduction by the BISHOP of HEREFORD. *Second edition, revised.* Pages xxii, 485. Price 7s. 6d. net. London and Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons, 1900.

*The Spirit of the Incarnation.* By the Rev. W. L. WALKER. Price 9s. T. and T. Clark.

*The Hebrew Tragedy.* By Lieut.-Colonel CONDER, R.E., D.C.L. Price 3s. 6d. Blackwood.

*St. Luke's Gospel.* By Rev. A. WRIGHT. Price 7s. 6d. Macmillan.

*Evolution.* By F. B. JEVONS, Litt.D. Price 3s. 6d. Methuen.