

THE MONTH.

IN Convocation resolutions have been passed in favour of the Tithe Rent-Charge Bill. The "5 per cent." clause will probably disappear.

The House of Laymen has approved of the Church Patronage Bill, as amended.

Small progress has been made with the Criminal Law Amendment Bill in Committee. Several applications of the Closure were found necessary.

The Church Missionary Society held its annual meeting at Exeter Hall on May 2nd. A large company, including the Bishops of Exeter, Gloucester and Bristol, Liverpool, Rochester, and Sodor and Man shared in the proceedings, which the *Record* describes as "unquestionably one of the grandest in the long history of the Society." Sir J. Kennaway, the President, made an appropriate speech. Brief reference was made to the Jerusalem Bishopric question.¹

The British and Foreign Bible Society, Home and Colonial School Society, Colonial and Continental Church Society, Church Pastoral Aid Society, have held successful meetings, as have numerous other bodies.

¹ The *Record* (May 6th) says: "With the weather unpropitious, and with men's minds largely preoccupied with worldly things, the May Meetings of the week have been conspicuous for the largeness, the enthusiasm, and the patience of the audiences gathered. The memory of the oldest subscriber to the Church Missionary Society could recall no fuller room, nor any occasion upon which the interest was more fully sustained than on Tuesday morning last. Nor was it merely the charm of eloquence that did this. The two speakers who were most applauded were Canon Westcott, who apologised for being more accustomed to the lecture-room and the class than to an audience such as that before him; and Sir Monier Monier-Williams, who, in a remarkable speech, twice or thrice paused as though he had missed a sentence, or were feeling his way towards his next paragraph. It was apparent throughout that men and women had come together, not to be stirred for a moment by brilliant rhetoric or picturesque detail, but to stand face to face with solid facts, to learn from men of intellect, of experience, and of spiritual power in what way God's will may be most perfectly obeyed and the cause of Christ's kingdom advanced. If, too, we turn from that gathering of Tuesday morning to the evening meeting, or to the Bible Society's anniversary on Wednesday, we have the same evidence before us. For although there were not wanting at each the fire and glow of some perfect oratory, the majority of the addresses at both meetings were delivered in the quietest manner."

The Archdeacon of Dromore has sent to us a letter in reply to Dr. Plummer (May CHURCHMAN, p. 428). By an accident, we are sorry to say, the letter has reached us too late for insertion. In brief, the Archdeacon regrets if he has inadvertently misrepresented Dr. Plummer.