

THE MONTH.

PARLIAMENT met on the 9th. The result of the Irish legislation of last Session, according to the Queen's Speech, "is satisfactory. Agrarian crime has diminished, and the power of coercive conspiracies has sensibly abated." Local Government in England is the main subject for this Session. A measure "for modifying the procedure by which tithe rent-charge is collected" is promised, but the Glebe Lands Bill forms no part of this year's programme. The Tithes Bill, it is to be hoped, will be carried without delay.

In the first division, the majority of the Government was 95.

The *Guardian* contains some account of Bishop Bickersteth's energetic labours since his arrival in Japan. The general Mission outlook is "brighter than it has ever been before."

The operation of tracheotomy was successfully performed upon the German Crown Prince, at San Remo, on the 10th.

The treaty made some years ago between Germany and Austria has been published, and the frank comments of the German Chancellor may preserve the peace.

The *Record* severely criticizes the action of the Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral in regard to the new reredos.

The Right Rev. W. Walsham How, D.D. (Bishop Suffragan), is to be the first Bishop of Wakefield. The *Globe* remarks that his work in London "has been successful beyond hope, and the regret which will be felt at his removal will be deep and universal." It was hoped and believed in the North that a Yorkshireman would be appointed.—The Ven. Sir L. T. Stamer has been appointed Bishop-Suffragan or the Diocese of Lichfield.

The Cambridge correspondent of the *Record* (the 17th) writes :

The four days' mission to the University, conducted by Mr. Webb-Peploe has proved to be a time full of encouragement and of signs of blessing. The afternoon addresses on Spiritual Life in Trinity Church were very largely attended, more and more so day by day, and right helpful they were, both in teaching and in appeal. The evening meetings, for University men only, in the Guildhall, were large, but not remarkably so, on Friday and Saturday; but on Sunday the great room was quite full. At the very least 1,000 men were present, a full third of the University, and truly they heard the eternal truth spoken.

The Rev. C. A. Stevens, Vicar of Portslade, as some at all events of his friends expected, has been again successful, the Court of Appeal deciding that a clergyman has the right to deduct the cost of collecting tithes from the amount for which he is assessed for income tax. The hearty thanks of rural Incumbents are due to Mr. Stevens.

The spirit of politics, says the *National Church*, is destroying the life of Nonconformity in Wales.¹

¹ Touching the vernacular press of Wales, the *National Church* writes : " At length—late enough in the day—the veil has been torn aside, and the world is beginning to know (and presently will know more fully) what the vernacular press is ; that, in language most coarse and violent, it is responsible for sentiments which are not merely dishonest, but seditious and even blasphemous. It has further come to light that the men who are responsible for it are—save the mark—professed ministers of religion, the very class who seek by the disestablishment of the Church to have more of the religious training of the people placed in their hands."