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We have received from Messrs. W. Hunt & Co. (12, Paternoster Row), too late for notice in our present impression, a copy of *The City*, a sermon preached by the Lord Bishop of LIVERPOOL before the University of Oxford on November 14. Would to God such sermons were oftener heard in our beloved Universities! We also earnestly recommend *First of All: a Thought for 1881*, by Bishop Ryle.

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### THE MONTH.

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**A**FTER five days' argument in the Queen's Bench, before Lord Coleridge, Mr. Justice Field, and Mr. Justice Manisty, the Judges unanimously decided that Mr. Dale's many objections to the various steps in the proceedings taken against him are one and all ill-founded. Mr. Dale is once more in prison for wilful and obstinate contempt of the orders of the Ecclesiastical Court. Mr. Justice Manisty concluded his remarks by saying:—

I cannot help expressing an earnest hope that this case may be the last of its kind, and that clergymen, whose duty it is to practise obedience to the law, will consider whether, instead of thus persisting in disregarding the law, they ought not, as clergymen and good citizens, to make a conscience rather of resigning their benefices and becoming Nonconformists if they cannot comply with the law. I regret to see that a wide-spread spirit of resistance to the law appears to exist, and to be sadly on the increase. And it behoves not only the Judges, but the clergy, as ministers of religion and as good subjects, to do their utmost to uphold the law, and enforce obedience to it, as the basis and foundation of all the rights which we enjoy.

The application of Mr. Enraght was on the same day similarly dismissed.

A judicious and straightforward course is being pursued by Bishop Ryle with regard to Ritualistic illegalities. After several letters to an Incumbent, his Lordship (we quote the published correspondence) thus concludes:—

I decline to license another curate for you, unless you will undertake in writing to do nothing in your services which, after trial, has been declared illegal by recent decisions of Judicial Courts for the settlement of Ecclesiastical Questions. If you had promptly complied with my reasonable wishes, expressed at our interview, things might not have come to this pass.

The condition of Ireland waxes worse and worse. The Government, however, have decided to wait till Parliament opens before applying for coercive measures.

In wishing our readers a happy New Year, we are pleased to be able to state that the circulation of *THE CHURCHMAN* has yet further increased. The times are critical. We are glad to know that our efforts to make the new magazine a worthy representative of the Evangelical body are appreciated.