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take high rank. For a Sunday evening reading in the family circle they are, we think, admirably fitted. One paper by Mr. Jenner appeared in this periodical some three years ago, and we were in correspondence with him about another paper for *THE CHURCHMAN* when he was taken ill and entered into rest.

The *National Review*, No. III. (W. H. Allen and Co.), contains several articles of much ability and interest. We do not intermeddle with party politics, but at least it may be said that Mr. Alfred Austin's criticism of the Prime Minister's policy will not be answered with ease.

A really good book is Canon HULBERT'S *Annals of Almondbury* (Longman and Co.); a worthy notice must appear hereafter.—A cheap edition of Dr. LANSDALL'S *Through Siberia* (S. Low and Co.), the third edition, is one of the very best books of travel in a cheap and convenient form. The work was strongly recommended in *THE CHURCHMAN* when it was issued.

Widow Tanner's Cactus (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), by the Author of "Mary Cloudsdale," lately recommended in these columns, is a capital little gift-book; a good story, with a tasteful cover. The author describes the good consequences that resulted from the gift of a few cactus plants among some London poor.

We have received from Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co. several packets of Sunday-school cards, by far the best assortment which we have ever seen—really good cards, at the same time very cheap and very tasteful. Some of the flower-pictures, with F. R. Havergal's verses on the back, are pretty. Packet No. 114, "Foundation Stones," is very good; so also is No. 17, "Raindrops and Rills." The reward tickets—just a text with a flower or bud, are wonderfully cheap. Sunday-school teachers and other teachers will do well to get some specimens of these varieties; they are sure to order more.



THE MONTH.

THE May Meetings have been, on the whole, exceedingly successful. The reports of most of the Societies are encouraging. Much earnest Christian work is being done both at home and abroad, in a truly Christian spirit; the reliance upon prayer, *qui orat laborat*, is of the highest promise in these bustling days.

At the meeting of the Church Missionary Society, the Archbishop of Canterbury, according to precedent, took the chair. At the British and Foreign Bible Society's anniversary, also, his Grace was present and spoke. The significant speech of the Archbishop of York at the meeting of the Church Pastoral Aid Society, concerning Reformation and Anti-Reformation principles, will, we hope, be published.

The Affirmation Bill was rejected by 292 votes against 289. A "previous question" motion for the "relief" of Mr. Bradlaugh, supported by the Prime Minister, obtained only 165 votes against 271. There are several signs that of late the

Ministry has lost credit in the House of Commons as well as in the country.

To the Deanery of Windsor, vacant by the death of the much-esteemed Dean Connor, the Rev. Randall Davidson has been appointed. Mr. Davidson, Resident Chaplain, and son-in-law of Archbishop Tait, will receive good wishes on every side.

Prebendary Cadman, lately appointed Chaplain to Archbishop Benson, has been returned in the two Metropolitan Archdeaconries; a great gain in the Lower House.

The Bishop of London's representations in regard to the Antiphons at St. Paul's have been successful. The Archbishop of York's letters (and monition) to Mr. Ommaney, of St. Matthew's, Sheffield, can hardly fail to do good.

A motion in Salisbury Synod to send representatives to the Central Council was, in deference to the Bishop, withdrawn. The Bishop explained that he was "not against a Central Council." Undoubtedly, the remarks of the Bishops of Salisbury and Liverpool about the defective constitution of certain Diocesan Conferences deserve most careful consideration.

With much pleasure we notice the promising results of the effort made to form a "Dean Close Memorial" Middle Class School in the West of England. Under the auspices of Canons Brooke and Bell, and the Rev. Talbot Greaves, such an effort should speedily succeed.

At the annual gathering of the Church Association, an excellent address was given by Mr. J. Maden Holt. It will, no doubt, be published. Mr. Shipton made some pertinent remarks upon the duty of Evangelical Churchmen to the Press.

The police investigations in Dublin, carried on with wonderful skill and patience, have at length unravelled the mysteries of the Phoenix Park murders and subsequent outrages; some of the murderers of Mr. Burke and Lord F. Cavendish have been hanged, and other agents of the hideous conspiracy have been condemned to penal servitude for life.

Archbishop Croke has at last been deservedly rebuked by the Pope; and the lawless agitation in connection with the Land League, supported by many Priests, has received a check.

Under the title of *The New Paganism*,¹ Canon Garratt has published a vigorous sermon (Jer. x. 10) dealing with the irreligious and Atheistic tendencies of the times here and on the Continent.

¹ W. Hunt & Co.