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In the *National Review* appear two very interesting papers, "Canvassing Experiences," by CLARA, Lady RAYLEIGH, and "An Irish Churchman's View of the Rights of the Laity," by Dr. JELLETT, Arch-deacon of Cloyne. We shall return to the latter.

*Church Reform*, by the Rev. ALFRED OATES, Vicar of Christ Church, Ware, is a vigorous and timely little pamphlet.

*Thoughts for Holy Week*, by Bishop OXENDEN (Hatchards), is an excellent little volume.

In *Blackwood*, a good number, Mrs. Oliphant's article on the late Professor Tulloch—including, as it does, two letters from the Queen—will be read with much interest.

In the *Monthly Interpreter* (T. and T. Clark), Canon Rawlinson continues his valuable "Introduction to the Book of Isaiah."

The April number of the *National Church* has its usual share of articles and intelligence. We may be pardoned for quoting a portion of one of its review-notices :

*The Churchman*, Volume XIII. (Elliot Stock), is before us. It contains a remarkable number of high-class papers, among which may be specially mentioned those by Chancellor Espin on Church Reform, by Mr. John Shelley on Free Education, and by Mr. Gilbert Venables on Church Defence. . . . The record of "The Month" in each number is remarkably well done. . . . There is at once a vigour and a reasonableness about *The Churchman* which should make it acceptable and useful to all classes of Church readers.



## THE MONTH.

MR. GLADSTONE'S Home Rule project has at length been disclosed. It is very generally discredited, in the House and in the country, and, we are happy to believe, is doomed. Lord Hartington and Mr. Goschen, agreeing with Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Trevelyan, protested against it. The most influential newspapers have sharply criticized it, and, as a rule, condemned it.<sup>1</sup>

The protest of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, against Home Rule, is most remarkable.<sup>2</sup> The Presbyterians have protested with equal warmth.

<sup>1</sup> To-day (the 12th) the *Times* says: "Happily there is no longer any room for doubt as to the judgment of the country on a project which if the Prime Minister were not habitually secluded from contact with the wholesome air of public criticism, and if he had not separated himself from all his former colleagues except those consenting to be puppets of his will, could never have been laid before Parliament. The central characteristic of the scheme—the establishment of an Irish Parliament with entire control over administration, legislation, and taxation—is now thoroughly understood. The apparent limitations are seen to be illusory."

<sup>2</sup> The Bishop of Limerick moved the first resolution as follows:—"That we, the Bishops, clergy, and laity of the Church of Ireland assembled in this general Synod from all parts of Ireland, and representing more than 600,000 of the Irish people, consider it a duty at the present crisis to affirm our constant allegiance to the Throne, and our unswerving attachment to the legislative union now subsisting between

The communications from the beneficed clergy in Munster, Leinster, and Connaught, published in the *Record* on March 19th, have been discussed in newspapers throughout the country, and have done good service.

The death of Mr. Forster, it is well said, has deprived us of a statesman of rare gifts just at the moment when they were most wanted. He knew well what "Home Rule" meant.

The Bills dealing with Tithe have been referred to a Select Committee. Some just and wise method of putting an end to the extraordinary-tithe "scandals" will, we trust, be found.

Mr. Leatham's Patronage Bill was read a second time, we gladly note, without a division. The Hon. Member's speech was admirable; and the debate, on the whole, was encouraging. There seems to be a growing opinion that as regards the abolition of the sale of next presentations and the restriction of the sale of advowsons, to say the least, something will be done this session.

The death of Archbishop Trench has been followed by many interesting tributes of respect. The Rev. Francis Chenevix Trench survived his younger brother, the Archbishop, a week.

With sincere pleasure we record the appointment of the Rev. J. F. Kitto to the important living of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, made vacant by the death of Prebendary Humphry.

The rejection of Mr. Finlay's Bill concerning the constitution of the Scottish Kirk, by the Parnellite vote in alliance with the Government, called forth a letter to the *Times* from the Duke of Argyll. "Real and genuine independence," says his Grace, ". . . we have got it, and we mean to keep it, and to defend it from Parnellites, from Secularists, from English Nonconformists, and from Anglican Erastians."

The protocol appointing the Prince of Bulgaria Governor of Eastern Roumelia for five years was signed at Constantinople on the 5th. Against the domineering influence of Russia, and the jealousy of neighbouring States, Prince Alexander has contended with spirit, ability, and no small measure of success.

In France the Senate has consented to the banishment of religious teachers from elementary schools.

The Germans celebrated the ninetieth birthday of their revered Emperor with suitable rejoicings.

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Great Britain and Ireland. And we make this declaration not as adherents of a party, or on behalf of a class, but as a body of Irishmen holding various political opinions, following different callings, representing many separate interests, and sharing at the same time a common desire for the honour and welfare of our native land."—Sir Frederick Heygate seconded.