

them to assist in this sacred task, all should be glad to respond to her voice. To sing the Songs of Zion in the house of God, and to contribute to the solemnity and devotional effect of the worship of the Sanctuary, will be felt to be a grateful task and even duty, by all who are possessed of these qualifications, and are invited to employ them in the Church's service. And whether they contribute simply a natural voice and ear to the general concert, or whether by the additional aid of voice and skill, they can assist in "swelling the note of praise,"—from the full-toned organ or melodeon, or by other instrumental music,—they are discharging a sacred duty to the Church, and they promote the honor of their Redeemer. Not only the Minister, (who especially is thankful for such assistance in his sacred work,) but the whole congregation are under great obligations to a well conducted and edifying choir.

But it must also be remembered, that as they are in some measure as "a city set upon a hill," and are especially engaged in leading the rest of the congregation to "sing to the praise and glory of the God of holiness"—double ears are expected from them,—that their whole deportment be one of seriousness and devotion. Any apparent insincerity or feigning, to the work in which they are engaged, strikes the least observing of the congregation as an inconsistency that carries a deep reproach. When we see order and regularity and perseverance in the hours of practice; and devotion and decorum during the time of Divine service, we cannot but regard the Choir as an important and most deserving portion of the congregation. Indeed, so delightful is the effect produced upon the general spirit of devotion by such a Choir, that in looking forward to the Sunday as a day of rest, and to the house of God as a place in which to draw near to the joyous glories of a brighter world, even as the "gate of Heaven,"—we associate its music with his other means of elevating and gladdening the soul. Beside, the voice of prayer and the Word of God, and the refreshing of the Table of the Lord,—we place the notes of praise which are there heard, among the things which inspire the heart to say in such a prospect "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord!"

RICARDUS.

Nov. 27, 1854.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

THE Missionary Sale, under the Patronage of Lady L. MARGANT, in behalf of Mr. Stannag's Schools in St. Margaret's Bay, has realized £80. Mr. S. takes this mode of returning his sincere thanks to Her Ladyship and the other Ladies of Halifax, who have so warmly responded to the Christian feeling at Home in behalf of the destitute shores of this Province.—About one half of the above will go to pay off some arrears due the Schoolmasters for the last two years, and the remainder will be divided among all the Schools as soon as Teachers can be secured for those that are vacant, or to maintain the present ones.

Mr. Stannag also begs to acknowledge the sum of £20—collected by Mr. Kerby, from friends in Halifax, towards the little Chapel about to be erected near the Nine Mile River, on the Chester Road, between Halifax and St. Margaret's Bay.

St. Margaret's Bay, Dec. 8, 1854

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, DEC 9, 1854.

CLERGY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND.

Now that the collections for the College are pretty well out of the way, we hope the Committee, charged with the above named object, will lose no time in recalling to it the attention of Churchmen throughout the Diocese. We believe that when properly digested and presented forcibly to the Church, there will be a very general and liberal response to the call. We have for many years felt a deep interest on the subject, and long ago prepared a scheme, which, from various causes, was left in abeyance. In New Brunswick a Society has been established, which promises large advantages, at a moderate charge upon the income of the Clergyman. By the payment of £1 annually, by himself, and £2 from his Congregation, his widow or family will be entitled to £300 at his death, and this without any capital stock to begin with.

We hope the terms of our Nova Scotia Association may be as moderate, and then the general opinion will be certain. Only, in place of a sum paid down at the decease of the Clergyman, we should decidedly prefer an annuity of proportionate value. We observe that in some of the poorest Dioceses of the United States, they have similar helps for the families of their deceased Clergymen.

We again commend the object to the charities of the wealthy members of the Church, and indeed of all who would allay the anxieties of their Ministers, for those whom they must have unprovided. Annual sermons in each Parish, would no doubt produce at least £200 a year.

THE HALIFAX NAVIGATION COMPANY.

This Association seems to have no trumpeter in its employ, and is a rare exception of noiseless action in these days of glorification. Every now and then we ascertain on inquiry, that the work they have in hand, and it is one of vast importance to this City and to the country at large, is going on well. One little proof of what they have already effected, in one short season, is the transport of a quantity of logs from "Fletcher's Brailly" through the intermediate lakes, down to Dartmouth—which could not have been done by land for five times the value of the logs. This is but the first fruit, of a future harvest—but it is enough to encourage confidence in the enterprise. We understand that the Directors expect to have the Canal in operation next season to the outlet of the Chubonacallie from the Grand Lake, a distance we suppose of more than 20 miles. We believe that the Hon. Mr. Stairs and Dr. Avery are the most active and prominent in the good work. They are both, long and favourably known to this community, as cautious, prudent, soberminded men, of intelligent minds, who would not risk their own means, nor mislead the public to do so, in any project of a visionary nature, unlikely to yield practical and solid advantages to the stockholders and to the community at large. A special meeting of Shareholders has been called for Wednesday next.

The City Authorities have published a scheme for the better supply of the city with water, and for a more effectual system of sewerage, together with Estimates of the probable outlay, and pecuniary returns. The whole subject is one of paramount importance to the comfort and health of the community, and we are persuaded, that for no object would taxation, to any reasonable amount, be more cheerfully submitted to than for this. We cordially wish success to the projectors of these great Civic improvements, and we hope that the most candid and dispassionate consideration will be given to the object and plan by all concerned. In the published statement, the cost of Sewerage is estimated at £22,000, which sum, with interest, it is calculated may be paid off, by moderate assessment, in 17 years. For the due enlargement of the water supply, and the establishment of necessary works, it is calculated that £80,000 would be required, and this sum with interest it is also proposed entirely to pay off, by the schedule of taxes put forth, in 14 years.

Mr. Sutherland is named as the propounder of the whole scheme. We repeat that we trust no niggardly and short-sighted economy will prevent the adoption of this enlightened measure, so intimately connected with the comfort of all, and the sanitary improvement of the poor in particular.

We are glad to see that the Mayor and his Civic coadjutors are active in the punishment of evil doers, especially those who profane the Sabbath, by openly selling the foul poison of soul and body commonly called "spirituous liquors by license." In a late paper there appeared a strong letter signed "A Widow," complaining of this evil in Alchemie street, stating that men and women may be seen parading that street on the Lord's day, drunk, and using horrible language, to the great annoyance of all well disposed inhabitants. She called for protection and for more frequent visits from the Police to that neighbourhood. We have ourselves of late seen more instances of drunkenness in the streets of the city, than usual. There is no effectual cure for it, but to banish the fell destroyer from our land altogether; and we believe all reflecting patriotic and christian men will ere long come to this conclusion.

A contemporary properly calls the attention of his readers to the necessity and the duty of doing what we can to relieve the Widows and Orphans of those brave fellows, who are daily falling, on the hard fought fields of the distant East. A poetical contributor to the Chronicle, a Lady no doubt, stirs up our military friends to leave their beloved and the allurements of Halifax, and press onward to the rescue of their gallant comrades. We doubt not they are paying to be allowed to share their dangers and their toils, and that if the order should come to-morrow, to start for Sebastopol, it would with alacrity be obeyed. What or her volunteer, that the women of the city shall keep "watch and ward" if needful, would be generally concluded in by the ladies, is another question. It may however be fairly presumed, that we shall not be driven to that, but that our militia would at once volunteer to take the regiment post. Six no doubt, it must be if, as we may fear, this sanguinary war is prolonged.

But besides this, our duty is to share in the benevolent efforts of the Mother-Country, directed to aid our last, by alleviating the anxiety of the soldier

by providing for his orphan family. Something has already been done in Nova Scotia by the collection in our Churches—but far more must be done, if only we would meet the cases connected with ourselves.

In 25 years, upwards of 30 regiments, we understand, have passed through this garrison.—none without forming matrimonial connections in the country. Several of these wives and their children are already returned to us, and more are coming.—There is a necessity, therefore, for more funds,—which ought to be kept for a while at least, on the side the water, to meet local calls. The Legislature, we trust, will vote a reasonable sum, after the example of Canada's noble offering of £25,000—and those numerous individuals whom Providence has entrusted with wealth, we hope will swell the amount. It will no doubt be still further increased, when at Christmas, surrounded by our comforts in this peaceful land, we will feel constrained by gratitude to our Heavenly Father for our manifold blessings, to show it by aiding those whose lot it will be to pass that joyous season on hostile ground, or whose wives and children may be mourning the absence, probably the loss of their dear guardians and providers.

SOCIETY P. G. F.—We have not received the Report of this Venerable Society for 1854, but taking up one the other day, we were surprised and sorry to find that the names of all those Clergymen in Nova Scotia, who were on the list in 1834—whose salaries are now paid through the Government, by a compact made in that year with the Society, have been struck off the list of the present year. We cannot account for this summary proceeding, which will be anything but pleasing to those who have so long rejoiced in their connexion with that oldest of Missionary Societies, and who can find themselves by the stroke of somebody's pen, as it were hors de combat. We are thankful to say however, that these men are all still at their posts, working as hard as ever, and considering themselves as much the Missionaries of that Society, as any of the youthful band who now figure in the list of 1854. There is a manifest inconsistency in the affair, in the same Report, which by the list, ignores the existence of these veterans, gives their regular and annual reports of what they are now doing in the Society's service—none of them expressly rejoicing in the fact that he has been their Missionary for 20 years, and who is still in harness, claiming the benefit of the proverb, that "a living dog is better than a dead lion." We sincerely hope that this matter may be rectified in the next publication of the Society, and the old hands be reinstated in their former rank.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The first meeting for the season took place on Tuesday evening last at Temperance Hall. J. G. A. Crofton, Esq. took the chair. There was, as formerly, a large attendance, evidencing the general and undiminished interest felt by the community in the Institution. The Lecture was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Twining, and was excellent in its style and subject matter. The thanks of the meeting were moved by P. Lynch, Esq. in a neat speech. Appropriate allusion was made by the Chairman to the late H. H. Cogswell, who took a deep interest in the Association, and was a liberal contributor to its funds. P. C. Hill, Esq. was announced as the next Lecturer, on Tuesday 19th inst.

COLONIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY

The annual Meeting of the Halifax Association of this useful Society, will be held in the Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening the 12th inst. The day to be taken by the Lord Bishop. Sermons are to be preached to-morrow at St. Paul's, a. m. by the Bishop, and evening by Rev. Dr. Shreve.—and at St. John's, p. m. by Rev. Mr. Dunn. We find the subjoined notice of this Society in the last Times Echo.

COLONIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY.—We are happy to find that, with the sanction of the Bishop, this excellent institution, has taken up an important position in the Diocese. Under the able superintendence of the Rev. M. M. Dillod, a (Nassau and Madel) Street in connection with this Society, has been opened in London, C. W. We are informed that the preparations are now complete for the reception of our persons of either sex, to be trained as school teachers, without any charge, except for such books as they require; and these will be furnished at a very moderate rate. The excellent and devoted Mr. Dillod, under whose immediate superintendence the work will be carried on, is (we heartily rejoice to say) as assured, our readers) eminently qualified for the task which he has undertaken to treat that pure and devoted heart to the best interests of the rising generation for which he has long been distinguished.