

and sent him on his way to the outskirts of the town I cannot refrain from adding one sentence on the prohibition which has been issued against our own troops sharing in the spoil, whilst *carte blanche* has been allowed to the French. Our camp is swarming with those last, offering for sale every conceivable description of plunder, and getting high prices for their goods, &c.; whilst our own men, who have equally shared in all the danger and toil of the siege, are prevented from acquiring as much as an empty bottle."

It may not be uninteresting at the present moment to give a statement of the Russian fleet at Sebastopol previous to the invasion of the Crimea by the allies. It consisted of the following ships:—

Ships of the Line.—Twelve Apostles, 120 guns, Paris, 120; Three Saints, 120; Grand-Duke Constantine, 120; Vladimir, 120; Sviatoslaw, 84; Rostslaw, 84; Selaphol, 84; Three Hierarchies, 84; Tro-Sviatitilia, 84; Varna, 84; Gabriel, 84; Empress Maria, 84; Tchesme, 80. *Frigates.*—Cagul, 60; Koulesgi, 60; Kavarna, 60; Medea, 60. *Corvettes and Brigs.*—Calyppo, 18; Pylade, 18; Polemy, 20; Thowar, 20; Enear, 20. *Smaller Vessels.*—The Nearch, Stroulla, Orlando, Drohk, Ziabiaks, Latorga, Sinaglega, eleven transports, and sixty-four gun-boats. *Steamers,* 12—6 large and 6 small. Among the first are the Vladimir, Hesarabis, and Gromostetz, which were remarkable for their power, and the range of their guns.

"In all, 108 sail, mounting 2,200 guns. The existence of this imposing fleet continually threatened Turkey. Created at an immense cost, it has been destroyed without having achieved anything, from the time of its building, but the disgraceful murder of 4,000 Turks at Sinop. Admiral Nachimoff, who commanded on that occasion, is dead. Never did ships meet with a more ignominious end—sunk by their own commanders, without the glory of a fight!—the admiral killed, with an unenviable reputation attached to his memory!—the crews shot down whilst working the guns of Sebastopol!—this is a terrible blow for Holy Russia!"

The speculations as to the next step assume every possible shape. Few think Prince Gortschakoff will remain on the north side, and declare that he meditates another attack on the Tchernaya; or again—and the rumour takes various shapes—that he has offered to surrender the Crimea if he is allowed to march out with all the honours of war. This is stated very generally in the Paris papers, but the Berlin correspondent of the *Pays* sends a despatch stating that the Emperor of Russia has not sent the fall of Sebastopol to the King of Prussia by a private telegraphic despatch. The Emperor stated that he was still firmly resolved on accepting no conditions of peace that could be considered derogatory to Russia as a great Power. A letter in the *Dezeta* repeats the report of this despatch, and says that it contains textually the following words:—"Russia never makes peace after a disaster." The *Water Gazette* takes a similar view:—

"All the letters from St. Petersburg confirm the fact that the Russian Government will not quit the Crimea at any price. Fresh regiments are to be sent to the Crimea; an army of fifty thousand is to be concentrated on the Tchernaya, and the defensive works at Perekop are to be strengthened. Moreover, a large park of artillery is being formed at Warsaw, very probably destined for the Crimea. The fortifications of Keff are being actively proceeded with, and will speedily be completed."

TURKEY.

It is reported via Constantinople, that the Russians had again attacked Kars in two columns; that they had been repulsed, and had lost several hundreds of dead on the field. Provisions were said to be plentiful, but forage short.

PORTUGAL.

The solemn inauguration of the young King, as Dom Pedro V, took place on the 16th inst. at Lisbon—

"At 8 a.m. there was an extraordinary session of both Chambers at the Cortes, and soon after nine Dom Pedro V, accompanied by the King-Regent and the royal family, entered. The King-Regent then pronounced an allocution to the assembly, in which he laid aside his office and presented his son to the assembled Peers and Deputies. The Holy Evangelists were then given to the King by the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, who was supported by two noble youths, and the following form of oath was administered:—"I swear to maintain the Catholic and apostolic religion and the integrity of the kingdom, to observe and to cause to be maintained the political constitution of the Portuguese nation, and all the other laws of the kingdom, and to promote the general good of the nation, as far as in me lies." The King then addressed the assembly, and in a long oration gave assurance of his loyalty to the terms of his oath, and that naught on his part should be wanting to render his reign of benefit to his people. The royal standard was then unveiled, and the Patriarch, in a long address, congratulated his Majesty on his accession to the throne, and at the end proclaimed three times in a loud voice that Dom Pedro V was become King of Portugal. After the officers of the Crown had made their reverences to his Majesty and the royal cortege brilliantly equipped and accompanied by nobles and foreign Ministers, proceeded to the cathedral, where a grand Te Deum was sung. The keys of the city were then presented to the young King, in a magnificent temporary pavilion, by the President of the Municipal Chamber, which terminated the ceremonial.

"All that Lisbon owns of rank and beauty were congregated within the old conventual walls of the Cortes; and when the King was proclaimed the air was rent by acclamations. The Commercial-square was beautifully decorated with hundreds of flags and trophies. At night, when illuminated with transparencies and jets of gas, its appearance was dazzling. In the evening the King went in state to the theatre of Donna Maria II."

The *Daily News* correspondent says all parties are on the tenter-hooks of expectation, and anxiously bend their eyes to catch some of those forecast shadows which mark the coming events of the new reign; but his Majesty, although possessed of undoubted parts and capacity, sedulously keeps his own counsels, not even admitting his father, Don Fernando, to be the confidant of his intentions. It is said that he has besides great firmness and decision of character; and this, coupled with an impression that he has already framed a line of policy, causes all parties to watch the issue of events with attention.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, OCT'R. 20, 1855.

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY.

We have published to-day an account of proceedings, which will be deemed highly interesting by all classes of our readers. The Diocesan Assembly or Church Synod in Nova Scotia, is now a recognized fact, and with a proper appreciation of its holy character, cannot fail to produce all the good which its friends have expected from its institution, and to disappoint the forebodings of others, who deem that such a governing body in the church is not required, or that it contains within itself the germ of mischief. The best institutions may be perverted to improper uses by evil designers; but so long as the Church is true to itself, and the separate orders watchful, and while it preserves its three-fold character in accordance with the constitution of primitive Christianity, so long departed from, and only about to be resumed in these latter days, we may reasonably expect a blessing; and not the deprivation of it, to follow the Assembly's deliberations. Already, we rejoice to hear, a modification of opinion has been expressed by some who were opposed to the Synodical reformation, or who had feared its probable working, and we may infer from their minority of sentiment a general consent to its principles, and that the prevailing disposition at its next meeting will be rather to take advantage of its ends than to mar its usefulness by keeping aloof from its privileges. There is, however, no necessity at the present time to pursue the subject. It will be sufficient to state that all the principles of Episcopacy have been maintained, while all the liberty essential to the good government of the Church by the consentient voice of Bishop, Clergy and Laity, has been preserved. It only remains to supplicate the Great Head of the Church for a blessing upon her future labours as so constituted, and that they may contribute to the enlargement of her borders, to her growth in holiness, and to that unity of purpose, as well within herself as with other Dioceses that may imitate her example, that shall cement her brotherhood, fortify her against aggression, and make her strong to do the will of her Master.

NEW YORK DIOCESAN CONVENTION.

The New York Diocesan Convention assembled on Wednesday, Sept. 26, and continued in session until Friday evening, Sept. 27, when it adjourned *sine die*. Various reports of Committees were presented, connected with the interests of the Diocese, and subjects of importance to the Church discussed, and satisfactorily disposed of. Among the reports of Committees, the following may be quoted, as proofs of progress in well doing:

Report of Trusters of Episcopal Fund on Provision for Parish Clergy.—The total disposable funds remaining since the date of last report, is \$67,500, which is invested on bond and mortgage: \$63,000, at 7 per cent, and \$4,500 at 6 per cent. The total amount of accumulating fund is \$13,000.43, all invested at 7 per cent, with the exception of \$200. Amount of accumulating fund invested in bond and mortgage, as by last report, \$12,500. Receipts during the past year have amounted to \$3,412.84, and the payments to \$837.03.

Report of Committee on Education.—The united funds arising from church collections, and an appropriation from its own treasury, supported, in whole or in part, forty-nine students, either actually engaged in, or preparing for a theological course. Of this number, 100, 150 have been resident members of the General Theological Seminary, three have been pursuing theological studies under the special charge of Presbyters of the Diocese, fourteen have been resident in college, preparatory to the Seminary, and eight educating in Trinity-School, in this city. The above

patronage of education for the Ministry has been obtained by an expenditure of \$5000, less than one-fourth of which was collected in the Diocese. The Committee, therefore, would call upon the churches of the Diocese to the aid of the Society.

Missionary Committee.—The total receipts disposable in 1853, were \$4,600.40. In 1854, they were \$6,076.60, including a legacy of \$2000 from Mr. John Noble. In 1855, the receipts have been \$6,119. There are sixty-nine missionary stations in seventy-seven counties. In 1853 there were forty-four missionaries; in 1854, fifty-four; and in this year, there are over fifty-one. The total expenditure of 1854, up to the first October, was \$3,823.23.

Committee on Aged and Infirm Clergymen.—The receipts from 142 congregations in the Diocese, and from donations, amounted to the aggregate sum of \$4,742.28. Interest on funds invested, \$1,332.16. Balance on hand at last Convention, \$3,291.64. Total, \$9,366.08. Paid to clergymen admitted to the benefit of the fund, \$2,025. Invested on bond and mortgage, \$5,000. Investments heretofore reported, \$21,150.

Treasurer's Department.—The payments for the past year were \$2,457.14, and the receipts \$3,719.01.

A very important report upon a motion to admit all clergymen as members of the convention, and entitled to vote, proposed to exclude deacons, and to provide that no clergyman should be allowed to vote who was not a twelvemonths' resident, gave rise to much discussion. The subject was laid over.

The Committee of Inquiry touching the provision made for the support of parish clergy, had reported a series of Resolutions, based upon investigations that went to prove that they were very inadequately provided for. The following Resolutions were passed upon this subject:—

Resolved, That this Convention has learned with profound regret that the scanty provision made for the clergy generally in the rural districts, and for a smaller number in the cities, is insufficient for their decent and comfortable support, thereby subjecting them and their families to anxiety, embarrassment, and want, necessarily withdrawing them from the studies and duties pertaining to their sacred office, and compelling them to engage in literary, professional, or secular pursuits; that this Convention regard such a state of things as in the highest degree unjust to the reverend clergy, unworthy of the Laity, and as threatening fearful and permanent disaster to the Church, from its tendency to diminish the number of future candidates for the Ministry, and to impair the energies, influence, and usefulness of those already admitted to Holy Orders.

Resolved, That this Convention earnestly commend the fitness and the duty of a more just and generous provision for the clergy, to the immediate and careful consideration of the congregations of the Diocese, and suggest to the several vestries and congregations the importance of procuring a glebe and parsonage in every parish, where they do not now exist, of insuring the life of the rector, and thus providing for the support of those he may leave behind him; of increasing the salary where the wants of the pastor and the ability of the congregation render such increase practicable and proper; and of providing quarterly in advance for the payment of the rector to the treasurer of the vestry.

Resolved, That the Provisional Bishop be hereby respectfully requested, if he approves the action, to prepare a pastoral letter upon this subject, to the congregations of the Diocese, and address the same to the rector or minister in each parish, or to the wardens, in case there be no rector or minister, that the letter may be read on a certain Sunday, to be named by the Bishop; and that the congregation be forthwith advised of the proceedings had by the congregation when convened.

The Report of the Committee, with the resolutions as amended, were afterwards referred back, upon the motion of Mr. Tyng, to the committee, with instructions to prepare an act of incorporation, if in their judgment expedient, together with a plan for the establishment of a fund to add to the salaries of the rectorial clergy.

Late American papers notice the arrival of Dr. Kane, who, about three years ago, went on an Arctic expedition for the discovery of Capt. Franklin. Having failed, after being two winters in the ice, in the contemplated object, and also in meeting the vessel despatched from England, Dr. Kane abandoned his brig on the 17th May, and set out on his return South, the party bringing with them four of their sick comrades, and travelling over ice and land a distance of 316 miles, until they reached Cape Alexander, where they embarked in open water. During this time they depended upon their guns for food. Arrived at Cape York, they used their spare boats and sledges for fuel—and embarking on the open sea of Melville Bay on the 6th August, reached the North Danish settlements of Greenland, in excellent health, after a journey of 1300 miles and a constant exposure of 81 days. From the settlement of Upernavik they took passage in a Danish vessel for England, and touching at Denmark Strait, Harston's Searchlight expedition, which finding the ice of Smith's Sound unbroken, and bearing through the Esquimaux of Dr. Kane's departure, had retraced their steps. Dr. Kane and a portion of his