

active functions in such manner as your Majesty, by your royal license, may permit at no distant day, may be productive of much advantage. We know, indeed, that apprehensions have been entertained, that in such case Convocation might address itself to the discussion of controverted questions of doctrine, and a spirit of strife and bitterness thereby be endangered fatal to Christian charity, and dangerous alike to existing institutions and to our visible unity. We therefore humbly pray your Majesty to receive this our solemn declaration of our hearty acceptance of the doctrinal formularies and liturgical offices of our Reformed Church, and our assurance that we regard them as inestimable blessings, and are resolved, by the help of God, to transmit them unimpaired to posterity. And, further, that we not only recognise, but highly prize your Majesty's undoubted supremacy in all cases, ecclesiastical and civil, over all persons, and in every part of your Majesty's dominions, as it was mentioned in ancient times against the usurpations of the See of Rome, and was recovered and reasserted at our Reformation; and that whenever we may deem it necessary to pray your Majesty to grant your royal license in order to our deliberations, it will be our steadfast endeavour to maintain those principles, and to preserve unimpaired the doctrine and discipline of our Church. In connexion with this great subject, we feel that your Majesty may expect from us the expression of our renewed protest against that fresh aggression of the Bishop of Rome by which he has arrogated to himself the spiritual charge of this nation, thereby denying the existence of that Branch of the Catholic Church which was planted in Britain in the primitive ages of Christianity, and has been preserved by a merciful Providence to this day. Against this last usurpation of the Roman See, as well as against many which have preceded it, we desire, on this our first occasion of addressing your Majesty since its occurrence, solemnly to protest in the face of Christendom, and to lay this protest before your Most Gracious Majesty."

The Archbishop observed it might be proper to state two or three months may elapse before the address, according to precedent, could be presented to her Majesty.

The House then proceeded to consider a petition which was presented by the Bishop of Oxford from the Bishop of Cape Town, who claimed his right to attend the sitting of Convocation, as a Bishop subordinate to the Bishop of Canterbury.

The Bishop of Oxford said that was a question which affected the interests of the whole Colonial Church, for in the colonies the Bishops were countenanced by the Renshaw Bishops, and it was important they should be recognised as Bishops of the Church of England. He believed the Bishop of Cape Town, having a mission from the Archbishop of Canterbury in the distant part of her Majesty's dominions, had a legal remedy through the Court of Queen's Bench, and unless his Grace took the matter up he should advise the Bishop of Cape Town to seek such remedy.

The Vicar-General observed that the new Bishops who had been cited to the Convocation, at York, had been created by Act of Parliament, while the Bishop of Cape Town had been created by patent. It would, therefore, be necessary to compare the patent with her Majesty's writ to give an opinion.

On the motion of the Bishop of Oxford, it was agreed, "That his Grace the President be prayed to refer the petition of the Bishop of Cape Town to his learned Vicar General, with instructions to him to report to this House at its next meeting, his opinion upon the legal claim advanced in the same."

A resolution of the Lower House relative to the election of Proctor was then considered.

The Prolocutor of the Lower House was summoned, and Mr. Dyke, the Registrar, read the act of prorogation, adjourning Convocation to Wednesday, the 16th of February, then to meet in the Jerusalem Chamber, at Westminster.

The Lower House had met at ten o'clock in the Jerusalem Chamber. A long and animated discussion took place upon several points.

The Prolocutor then proceeded to the Upper House with the address.

Upon his return Archdeacon Hare inquired whether any answer was returned by the Archbishop as to the resolution, for appointing a committee of *gravamina et reformanda*. (Hear.)

The Prolocutor said there was no answer returned.

Archdeacon Thorpe moved a vote of thanks to the Prolocutor, which was carried unanimously. The House then separated.

ARRIVAL OF THE BISHOP OF SYDNEY IN ENGLAND.—The Bishop of Sydney, the metropolitan of the Australian dioceses, reached Southampton in the Royal Mail steamer *La Plata*, on Nov. 18. But the yellow fever had broken out on board during the voyage; and passengers were not permitted to land until after a favourable report of the state of the crew had been made by the medical officers. The correspondent of the *Times* makes the following statement:—"Pratique having been given to *La Plata*, about noon on Saturday, Nov. 20, the vessel hauled down the quarantine flag, got under weigh, and steamed out into open water, where the ceremony of committing to the deep the bodies of two unfortunate men who had died, was performed with due solemnity; the funeral duties being impressively performed by the Bishop of Sydney in person. After this, *La Plata* headed towards Southampton, and entered the docks about four o'clock, the passengers' baggage being immediately landed and cleared by the customs and dock authorities. The cargo and bullion will be discharged on Monday. It is worthy of special remark that, although the bulk of the passengers landed on Friday, so soon as permission was

communicated to them, the Bishop of Sydney, who was also a passenger, refused to leave the ship, until the unfortunate invalids on board had either recovered or should be removed to more suitable quarters on shore. The venerable prelate was most assiduous in his attention to the sick on board, continually visiting them in their affliction, and administering the spiritual consolations of religion at all times throughout the voyage. The Bishop also attended Captain Allen in his last moments, and performed the last offices of religion to most of those who fell victims to the yellow fever on the voyage, thus winning the admiration and esteem of all on board. Mr. Wiblin, the quarantine officer of the port, was detained on the *Plata* from Thursday morning to Friday night, and was most unremitting in his exertions for the welfare of the numerous invalids, alleviating the sufferings and attending to the wants of the unfortunate men who lay ill on board."

Early in the present year, the Rev. R. Bickert, Rector of St. Giles' in the Fields, established a class for enquiring Papists, which up to the present time has been the means of leading upwards of 30 persons publicly to abjure the errors of Romanism. Two of them have been put in training for Scripture readers, one of them for Ireland.

IRELAND.

MISSIONARY MOVEMENT.—At a preliminary meeting recently held in the diocese of Down, Connor, and Dromore, for the purpose of promoting missionary enterprise, the following proposals were agreed to:—

1. That in order to extend and encourage a missionary spirit among the members of the Church, and to combine and systematize operations in aid of missionary objects, a diocesan board of missions shall be formed, under the presidency of the Lord Bishop.

2. That the objects of the board shall be to furnish information on the subject of Church missions—to promote the formation of local missionary collections, and the holding of missionary meetings—and to increase the collection of funds in aid of such missionary societies in connection with the Church as may appear deserving of support.

3. That while the board shall be a recipient of contributions general and special, and a centre of friendly regulation, giving (as far as practicable, order and impulse to missionary effort throughout the united diocese, it shall neither interfere with the existing arrangements of the different Church societies already in operation, nor control the free-will offerings of God's people, as regards the allocation of contributions to specific objects.

4. That the proposed board shall consist of the Lord Bishop as president, and a competent number of the Clergy and lay members of the Church throughout the united diocese who shall be appointed at a public meeting to be held for the purpose.

SCOTLAND.

We learn from the Scottish Ecclesiastical Journal, that "on Wednesday, the election of a Bishop of St. Andrew's took place, when there appeared nine votes for the Rev. C. Wordsworth, Warden of Trinity College, and eight for the Right Rev. R. Eden, Bishop of Moray and Ross. The Warden of Trinity College, however, has resigned his right of voting in order that there may be a fresh election."

There are two remarkable features, as it strikes us, in these elections. In the first place, the candidates are allowed to vote for themselves. By the exercise of this right the Warden of Trinity was elected, i. e. he gave a casting vote for himself. He has however withdrawn that vote, and thus made a new election necessary. We were also struck with the singular fact, that in proposing the names of the candidates, both the mover and seconder followed their nominations by somewhat elaborate commendations of their respective candidates.

DIocese OF MADRAS.

FAVOUR DISTRICT.

VISITATION OF THE BISHOP.—The following notice of the visit of the Bishop of Madras to Tinnevely, we introduce as bringing before us one of the many confirmations held by the Bishop throughout the Tinnevely districts. They caused much interest to the Native Christians, and, we trust, have been productive to them of much spiritual benefit.

Feb. 4.—The Bishop, and the Secretary of the Madras Committee of the Church Missionary Society, arrived at Nalloor this morning at 10 o'clock. The candidates for confirmation, belonging to the three districts of Nalloor, Surrandic, and Pavoor, assembled in the Church. The service commenced at eleven, and the Bishop confirmed 313 persons. The Rev. Messrs. Schaffler, Barrenbruck and myself, being present, each of us took some part in the service. The Bishop's excellent address was translated by Mr. Barrenbruck. We thought it calculated to be exceedingly useful to the people; and being desirous that the benefit should be permanent, we asked him if he would kindly allow it to be printed, and circulated among our people. It has accordingly been written, and printed in Tamil, forming a tract of twelve pages. It has been circulated among the native Christians in the province, who have received it with much eagerness and pleasure. With the blessing of God, it will be an instrument of much spiritual good.

I regret that I was not able to take full notice of the examination of the candidates for confirmation, but I found that the demands on my time would not admit of my doing so. I am per-

suaded that the replies of many would have been read with considerable interest, and would have exhibited an amount of Christian knowledge amongst the people, much greater than that which they are generally supposed to possess. I feel assured, also, that our work of faith, in seeking for our people the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit, has received a peculiar blessing from God. Many, who had previously been instructed with great care, but with apparently little effect, have subsequently exhibited a clearness of view, with respect to the work of redemption and the office of the Holy Spirit, which is quite a surprise as well as a delight to me. Some persons who had been careless for years, and who had learnt nothing for a considerable time, notwithstanding many efforts to teach them, became suddenly aroused, and were diligent in acquiring Christian knowledge. Again, many others who have walked disorderly, and who had consequently been for a long time a great grief to me, forsook their evil deeds, and have ever since manifested a "newness of life," which encourages me to hope that the change has been wrought by the spirit of God. These last persons indeed, were not amongst the confirmed; but the benefit of the special instruction to the candidates for confirmation has been very great.

THE JERUSALEM BISHOPRIC.—In an address delivered by Dr. Gobat at the Malta Protestant College, on the 5th inst., the Bishop stated that the terms on which the Anglican Bishopric at Jerusalem was founded, having been submitted to diplomatic consideration between the Courts of England and Prussia, with the full concurrence of the highest ecclesiastical authorities in England, any seceders from the communion of the Christians of the East, comprised in the Bishop's diocese, may now be received into communion with the Church of England in Jerusalem, provided they make a declaration before the competent Turkish authority, of their wish to be placed under the Bishop's jurisdiction, which secures for the proselyte the protection of England, Prussia, and the Sublime Porte.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER AFRICA.

New York, December 17th.
The steamer *Africa* has arrived with three days later news.

MINISTERIAL BUDGET.

The financial statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was the great event of the week. It was submitted to the Commons on Friday night; it appears the surplus income on the year will be about £1,400,000.

Ministers propose to reduce the hop duty by one-half, also the duty on Tea; there will be no change in the Sugar. The duty on malt will also be reduced one-half; these are most important boons to the people. The Budget occupies 16 columns in the *Times* which speaks favourably of it.

RENUNCIATION OF THE HERESIES OF POPERY AT ST. PAUL'S, BERNARDSLEY.—Fifty-eight more persons have renounced Popery in St. Paul's, Bernardsley, since the last published account—viz. 15th September last. Several of these last converts are well-educated persons; amongst them were two ladies—one had been a convert to Popery. It may be added that great numbers more are meditating withdrawal from the Popish communion.

THE MADIAT PERSECUTION.—The deputation of Tuscany, headed by Lord Roden, sent to intercede with the reigning duke for the liberation of Francesco and Rosa Madiai, condemned to the galleys for forsaking the Romish Church, and for possessing and reading the Bible, has been denied an interview, but it is thought the petition will be granted. The circumstance has awakened great sympathy among the Protestants of Europe. Even France manifests sympathy with these persecuted Madiais.

The Guardian thus speaks of the passive state of the people in France, in relation to the election for Emperor, and the active condition of the Church:

"France herself thinks little of the rights of either. She is passive, and somewhat sullen—not dreaming of resistance, but extremely unwilling to go to the poll. The force is becoming too gross. To conquer this pardonable apathy no stone is to be left unturned. The Church is pressed into the service; and the Bishops, obedient to the Minister of Public Instruction indite canvassing pastorals to be read by their clergy from the pulpit. "Simulate," says one zealous prelate, "the natural indifference in your flocks, guide their ignorance, direct their votes." The Bishop of Rennes has fairly earned the reward that doles out awaits him. A Cardinal's hat for the Bishop of Rennes!"

While they are willing thus to glorify such a man as Louis Napoleon, these are the terms in which the Duke of Wellington is referred to. We quote from the Westminster correspondent of the *Catholic Mirror*:

"Before this reaches America old W. Wellington will have been buried. His funeral is to be conducted on the true John Bull principles—such as I have described above—and that sapient individual seems more than half inclined to worship him as a Protestant Saint. Several columns of to-day's *Times* are filled with announcements and offering autographs and other relics of the Duke for sale; and also plans to view his funeral procession. St. Paul's—which was once supposed to have something of a religious character—is now to be called "the Shrine of Wellington and Nelson?"

THE DUKE'S CONCERN NOTE.—We do not recollect of having met with any notice of the

circumstance that his Grace the Duke of Wellington kept beside him packets of lithographed letters, which he could dispatch when he did not feel inclined to write in answer to the swarms of scribblers who chose to trouble him, for no other reason than that they might become possessed of a fragment of his much-prized handwriting. Such, however, must have been the fact, and it is one which in an eminent degree shows the business habits as well as the courtesy of the Duke. He felt himself bound to answer the letters of his correspondents, therefore his notes in reply; but as his time would have been far too short to have written to every one, he had forms at hand for particular occasions. In proof of this we have beside us at this moment one of these lithographed notes, dated London, June 15th, 1848, which was addressed to the gentleman from whom we had it, in which the name of him to whom it is addressed is written by the Duke. The body of the letter, of which the following is a copy, is a fac-simile of his Grace's writing:—

F.M. the Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. ——. He begs leave to remind or to inform Mr. — that the galleries of the two Houses of Parliament are the resort of respectable persons introduced thereto by the Members of those Houses respectively, by the rule or sanction of the House. It must be understood that a Member who desires to introduce a stranger into the gallery of the House of which he is a member, must be acquainted with such stranger so far as to know that he is respectable. If this is not the case, it is obvious that it would be very unsafe for respectable persons to attend the debates in Parliament in the galleries.

No inconvenience can be felt from acting upon this understanding. The Members of both Houses live in society as others do; they are, or may be known to all, and, at all events, it is scarcely possible that a respectable man should not be acquainted with some person acquainted with a Lord of Parliament or a Member of the House of Commons. Under these circumstances, the Duke hopes that he will be excused for declining to give an order of admittance to the gallery of the House of Lords to any gentleman of whom he has no knowledge whatever.

London, June 15, 1848.—*Glasgow Herald*.

FRANCE.—The Proclamation of the Empire took place on the 3rd inst. amidst the most enthusiastic greetings. Among the first acts of the new Empire were the appointments of Generals Sherroff, Nagram and De Calaling of France, and the grant of a free pardon to all persons found guilty of offences through the press and to 290 political convicts. On Thursday at one p. m., Louis Napoleon made his public entry into Paris as Emperor amid the loud acclamations of the people, the National Guard and the army. The formal proclamation will be made at the Hotel de Ville. At 10 o'clock, a. m., the votes were counted. After the result was announced, the Emperor addressed the Chambers as follows:—

Messieurs—The new reign which you this day inaugurate derives not its origin, as many others recorded in history have done, in violence—from conquest or fraud. It is what you have just declared it to be, the legal result of the will of the whole people who consolidate in common that which they have founded in the midst of agitation. I am penetrated with gratitude towards the nation, which three times in four years sustained me by their suffrages, and which each time has only augmented its majority to augment my power; but as that power increases in extent and vitality the more does it need enlightened men such as those who every day surround me—independent men such as those I address to guide me by their council, and bring back my authority within proper limits, if it could ever quit it. I take from this day, with the Crown, the name of Napoleon, the 3rd because the will of the people has bestowed it upon me—because the whole nation has ratified it. It is then to be inferred that in accepting the title, I fall into the error imputed to the prince who returning from exile, declares null and void all that has been done in his absence. Far from me be such a wild mistake. Not only do I recognise the governments which preceded me, but I inherit in some measure all they accomplished of good and of evil for governments which succeeds one to another, are, notwithstanding their different origin liable for the various predecessors, but the more completely that I accept that which has been transmitted to me with inflexible authority, the less has it been permitted to pass in silence over the glorious reign of the head of my family—over the regular, though ephemeral title of his son whom the two Chambers proclaimed. In the last burst of vanquished patriots. Thus the title of Napoleon the Third is not one of superannuated intention, which seemed to be the result of good sense and truth. It is the homage rendered to a government which was legitimate, and to which we owe the brightest page of our history. My reign does not date from 1815. It is dated from the very moment when you announced the satisfaction of the people. Receive then gentlemen my thanks for that which you have given to the manifestation of the popular will, thereby rendering it more evident by your supervision and imposing by your declaration. Aid me all of you to at arm in the land upset by too many revolutions. A stable government which will have for its basis religion, probity and love for the suffrage clause. Receive here my oath that no sacrifice shall be wanting on my part to elevate the prosperity of my Country, and whilst I maintain peace I will yield in nothing which may touch the honour or dignity of France.

The Empire will be proclaimed on Saturday the 25th.