

## The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, FEB. 25, 1854.

## LENT.

ON Wednesday next, according to the Church's calendar, will commence that season of Lent, which, from the earliest period of the Christian Church, has been considered as a time of more than ordinary humiliation before God. It is well known that according to the rules of our Church, it is a season of abstinence, a practice which, if removed from the superstitious character assigned to it by the Church of Rome, is worthy of the attention of every serious Christian. The Church of England exercises no tyrannical sway over her children in this or in any other matter. While she recommends the observance as a means conducive to spiritual improvement, and while she teaches us to pray for such abstinence, that our flesh being subdued unto the spirit we may in all things obey His godly motions, she yet attempts no iron bondage over our consciences, she sends us to no priest to tell us what we shall eat or what we shall drink—she comes not into the market with her "indulgences." But she tells us that the "kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost." She reminds us that "God is a spirit and must be worshipped in spirit and in truth." The whole tendency of the Church's teaching is to take us off from the "form of godliness," and lead us to "the power thereof." Her times and seasons, her fasts and feasts, her holidays and her means of grace, are all designed by the Divine aid to inspire us with hopes of glory, and fit us for the spiritual worship of the Sanctuary above.

The solemn service appointed for Ash Wednesday is well calculated to usher in a season of humiliation and repentance. It is called "a Communion and denouncing of God's anger and judgments against sinners," gathered out of Deut. 27 ch. and other places of Scripture, and the "AMEN" to be pronounced, is not, as sometimes misunderstood, equivalent to a cursing of others;—but a simple affirmation of the solemn and inspired truth, to which it is appended, a "verily"—"so it is." In the words of the Office, its intention is, "that being admonished of the great indignation of God against sinners, we may the rather be moved to true and earnest repentance; and may walk more warily in these dangerous days; fleeing from such vices, for which we affirm with our own mouths, the curse of God to be due."

In our sister Church of the U. States, this serious season is generally selected, especially in the cities, for the Confirmation of the young. And so we observe that the Clergy in the two Parishes of this city are busily engaged in preparing for that solemn and most interesting rite. May the Holy Spirit be with and bless them in these labours, and may the public profession of Religion which their classes are about to make, be in every case accompanied by the sincere and hearty devotion of the soul to God. So that when the Bishop shall by and bye lay his hands on their heads, it may be a Confirmation indeed, of each precious soul in a "perpetual covenant that shall never be abolished."

ANOTHER LABOURER.—The Rev. Henry Deblois, B. A., of King's College, has gone for the present to Bridgewater, Co. of Lunenburg, as assistant Missionary. Mr. Deblois went out recently to the West Indies, where he was ordained by the Bishop of Antigua, with the view of remaining in one of the Islands, but the climate not agreeing with his health, he was obliged to return to the North. On his passage he was wrecked as before stated, on the coast of N. Carolina, and after suffering great hardship while clinging to the rigging, during which the stronger men around him perished, he was taken off by a Pilot Boat, and saved. He has now returned to exercise his ministry in his native land, and we earnestly pray that the life so wonderfully spared, may by the Lord's grace, be consecrated to active and useful service in that important district to which he has been sent, and where years ago we urged that another missionary should be stationed. We have pleasure in subjoining the following card:—

"Revd. Mr. Deblois begs leave to acknowledge through the medium of the *Church Times*, the receipt of the handsome sum of FIVE POUNDS, in order to aid him in procuring a suit of Canonicals."

At the first meeting of the new Board of Governors of King's College, held on Friday the 17th in-

stant, the Revd. James C. Cochran, A. M. was unanimously elected Secretary of the Board, in the place of J. C. Halliburton, Esq. resigned, who at the same time was appointed Treasurer.

The warlike intelligence brought by the *Canada* last week, has been still further corroborated by the telegraphic reports since received via New York, which communicate the actual departure of the Russian Ambassadors from London and Paris, and also the taking up of some of the Cunard Steamers to convey British troops to Constantinople. It is stated also that 80,000 French troops are about to move in the same direction. Numbers of Poles and Hungarians have entered the Turkish service, and English and French Engineers are said to be aiding in strengthening the fortifications of the Crescent city. Each week may now be expected to bring us more exciting intelligence, and it is to be feared that with the returning Spring the fury of a desolating War will once more be let loose on the European world, when and how to be stayed "no mortal spirit can toll."

We are happy to extract the following notice of one of our youngest soldiers, from the *Capo Breton News*:—

Plaster Cove, January 31st. 1854.

To THE EDITOR OF THE C. B. NEWS.

Dear Sir,

On Sunday last we were gratified by the performance of Divine Worship at Ship Harbour, by a Clergyman of the Church of England. The Rev. W. G. T. Jarvis, stationed at Arichat, has been instructed by the Bishop to visit Plaster Cove, once a month. Such an appointment, while it affords no small testimony of the watchful care of our good Diocesan over his Flock every where, cannot but be highly pleasing to Churchmen, in this locality; and that it was duly appreciated, was evident from the attendance, which would have done credit to many larger places, on this first occasion of the Rev. gentleman's visit.

Though the day was bitterly cold, yet persons were to be seen from many miles around, who came no doubt with longing ears and anxious hearts to hear and unite their voices with that of the Church; and therein their did not fail. One might suppose that being so long without the Services of the Church, they would become careless of the nature and spirit of her Liturgy; but the responding voices heard around, was proof that those soul-stirring strains of devotion, were not without their usual effect of engaging the attention, and warming the whole heart. In the present instance they were as drops of water to the parched ground. The entire Service was conducted with propriety and devotion, and spoke the satisfaction derived from it by the Churchmen here who longed for its appearing. There were two Services—one commenced at eleven o'clock in the morning, and the other in the evening.—Several children were baptized. The Sermons which followed each Service were listened to with great attention—were free, logical, convincing, and beautiful—and speak highly of the talent and energy of this young disciple of Christ's, lately enrolled under the banner of his Ministry in the bosom of the Church of England, and whose beginning portends that he will be a bright star in the Church's crown. We sincerely hope that these precious visits may ever be protracted—never discontinued, but rather increased, until the wings of the Church shall be permanently unfolded here, which it is hoped may not be too far distant.

Yours sincerely,

COURTEOUS.—We cut the following from a late No. of the *Christian Messenger*, and are much gratified by the kindly sentiments therein expressed towards King's College, and especially to him who for many years was its only Instructor. We think we know the hand which penned these lines, and we are sure that his Tutor, to whom he bears such honorable testimony, ever felt for him the strongest and most parental regard.

We observed by a late No. of the *Church Times*, that at a meeting of the Incorporated Alumni of King's College, Windsor, the complement of Governors of the Institution prescribed by the Act, has been filled up by the election of eight gentlemen, in addition to the four life Governors nominated by the Statute. We are sincerely glad to observe these signs of vigorous action going on in this old and highly respectable Seminary. With all the evils and disadvantages under which it has had to contend ever since its inception, King's College has effected great good, and deserves well of the Country. Its first, and one of its most efficient teachers, and who ought to have been its first President, the Rev. William Cochran, D. D., laboured long and zealously for its advancement, and for the cause of Education in the Country, and that without party or sectarian spirit, as we ourselves can testify.—We owe much to his instruction, and always feel pleasure in bearing testimony to his worth. We are assured that the real friends of Education throughout the Province, whatever department of Christians they may belong, will be gratified in witnessing the brightening prospects of King's College, as composing part of the general body that is hereafter to elevate and maintain the character of our Country in the scale of mental and moral improvement.

said"—the Lamb slain from the foundations of the world"—as the trespass offering for all sin in all time;—upon this central point the focal theme and touchstone of "Moses and the Lamb", the song in heaven of "harpers harping with their harps";—as for all that has been written with the sunbeam of Scripture by the finger of God in the light of "his Son"; into this illuminated centre where all the divine rays of Revelation converge, the author of "Elpis Israel" is as decidedly an uncircumcised and infidel Unitarian Jew, as ever were the men who reviled the Saviour upon the Cross, wagging their heads at him, and saying, "If he be the Son of God, let him come down from the Cross and we will believe in him." It is to very little purpose indeed, that Dr. Thomas would tell us about the "Elohim" whom he makes "creature delegates and messengers for the work of "creation,"—to lay down the foundations of the world, and then erect, build up, and put in order the vast fabric. It is in vain that he teaches us, that Jesus was but a preferential, a Joshua select from the Elohim—to take up the throne and purpose of Revelation, just where the other Elohim and Moses and the prophets left it;—that the Saviour of mankind, in short, is nothing more than the great captain and commander in chief of the Israelites, to lead them on to temporal conflict and to victory. It may be all very true that, the Emperor and Empire of the Russe, may be about to be the Russo-Assyrian lever of Providence, for the final development and consummation, the closing scene of the stupendous "Millennial" drama. But when Dr. Thomas in a deliberate and elaborate exercise of his literary powers through the Press, gravely tells us that the Saviour of mankind, in the full meaning of the words, abstract and concrete—is, though in an enlarged sense, limited and circumscribed as a creature, so that it may be said of Immanuel: *there has been when he was not!* Into this nutshell it is, that, like a gnawing worm, at the kernel, the arch-heresy of the Unitarian infidel lies, and which the eye of faith, when taught by the simple letter of the word, detects at a glance as the fatal point where the Jew stumbled and fell. To which her no less simple yet truly majestic reply is: *Man has sinned and God has suffered! No sin offering!—no pardon. No lamb!—no sin offering! No God!—no lamb!*

ALUMNUS VINDESORIENSIS.

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

MR. EDITOR.—As the Report of the Society will shortly appear, permit me through the medium of your paper to suggest the propriety of publishing the names of the Missionaries paid by the Society, with the amount received by each placed opposite his name, and their respective stations given. It would also be gratifying to see published every year, one letter at least from each Missionary, that we may understand how they are getting on, whether they have converted any souls to God, in a word, that we may know the kind of persons we have engaged in the work. I am aware, sir, that this would add some little to the expense of printing, and the labour of our excellent Secretary, whose gratuitous labours on behalf of the Society cannot be too highly prized, but it would add very much to the interest of the Report, gratify a large number of subscribers, and perhaps fully repay the outlay and trouble by an increased interest in the Society on the part of Churchmen throughout the Province.

Yours,

A SUBSCRIBER.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

GUARDIAN ANGELS.

Guardian Angels at our birth,  
By Thee, O Lord, are given;  
Who, while they minister on earth,  
Behold Thy face in heav'n. a

Guardian Angels when we stray,  
Our wand'ring steps restrain,  
Sword-arm'd they meet us on the way,  
To turn us back again. b

Guardian Angels while we sleep,  
Encamp around the scene;  
And silently their vigils keep,  
The earth and heav'n between. c

Guardian Angels when we die,  
Our deathless spirits bear  
To their retreat within the sky,  
And then enthroned them there. d

In scenes of woe, in hours of pain,  
Our Guardian Angels share,  
With them we join the enraptured strain,  
They strengthen us in pray'r. e

O may we do Thy blessed will,  
O Father, Saviour, Friend,  
That we with Guardian Angels still  
Th' eternal ago may spend. f

W. D.

a Matt. xviii. 10. b Numbers xxii. 21. c Gen. xxviii. 12. d Luke xvi. 22. e Luke xxii. 43. f Mark xii. 25.

It is a gratifying fact, that at the present time (and we believe it has been so for months past.) there are not more than three persons confined in the Gaol of this City, and these three are implicated in one offence. Considering the free scope that Intemperance (the great purveyor for Gaols, and Bridewells and Poor Houses,) still has in our midst, there is probably not a city on this Continent of the same population, of which a similar account can be given.