

grimage, or activity for the race, or valour for the fight, except ye seek them at the table of the Lord? All who are gone before you into glory, were joined to their Redeemer, whilst they tabernacled in the flesh. How do you cherish the hope to enter into their spiritual household, to form one of their holy brotherhood, to mix with them in their hallowed employments, and to sympathise with them in their purified tastes, and elevated affections, unless ye be fraternised with God's people here below?

Fellow Christians, much is doing for the Presbyterian body in these Provinces. Your flocks are watched over by faithful shepherds, your interests are advocated in the columns of this Journal, you have the prospect of a Theological Seminary for the education of your future Pastors. These are cheering symptoms—but never can our denomination hope to advance in real godliness, while the evil in question so terribly prevails among us. Never can a Church have in it a true principle of life and health, unless its people are joined to their head through the ordinance of the supper—never can the mind and spirit of Jesus dwell in a community, unless his blood circulate through its veins, unless they account his "flesh to be meat indeed, and his blood to be drink indeed."

W. T. W.

Shelburne, 15th January, 1840.

COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

Averse to religious controversy, and anxious to maintain and to promote peace and good will amongst fellow Christians, we feel not the least inclination to prolong an unnecessary and fruitless warfare with the Editor of the Colonial Churchman. It was not to attack the Church of England, but to defend our own Church, which we considered had been rudely and wantonly assailed in an article, inserted in the columns of that periodical, that we took up the pen; and now when our object has been fully accomplished, we consider that it is time for us to lay it down.

The Episcopal Church in England, in the United States, in Canada, and in Nova-Scotia, (for the obnoxious communication was considered so conclusive and so triumphant, as to gain circulation in all these places,) has been rather inconsiderate and precipitate in predicting the downfall and annihilation of the Church of Scotland. The strenuous advocates of that Establishment have only expressed their own fond wishes, without adhering strictly to the narration of historical facts. Although supported, as they imagine, by the high authority of Lord Dalhousie, who, in the heat of debate, in an unguarded moment, uttered language which his Lordship on mature reflection would never have employed, we can assure all the opponents of the Church of Scotland, both in Britain and in America, that she never was in a more flourishing condition, than at the present moment; that she never had a stronger hold of the affections of her people; and never, at any former period exerted herself so much for the advancement of religion in the world. Indeed we are strongly inclined to believe, that it is her zeal and not her apathy, her prosperity and not her decline, that give so much offence and alarm to some of the adherents of the Sister Establishment; and that it is her extension, not only in Scotland, but in Nova-Scotia, and even in Lunenburg, which has aroused the opposition of the Colonial Churchman. He is perfectly willing to admit, what indeed no person can venture to deny, that the Presbyterian Church is established in Scotland; but he thinks that she ought to be confined within the limits of that ancient and renowned kingdom, and cannot possibly obtain any footing in the Colonies.

Were we disposed to agitate this question at present, we think we could make it appear evident, to every candid and unbiassed mind, that, if there is an establishment at all in the Colonies, the Church of Scotland is as really, and truly established in India, in Australia, and in Demerara, as the Church of England; and that she has as strong a claim to such an establishment in all the Colonies, as the Episcopal

Church can venture to put forth. It would require, however, much more time and space to do justice to this subject than we can now afford; and therefore we would beg leave to refer our readers for further information with regard to the claims of the Scottish Church in British America, to an admirable document on the first page of this day's paper, entitled, "A Memorial to the Marquis of Normanby, from the Colonial Committee, &c." where they will find a mass of evidence, judiciously arranged and condensed within a very short compass, in favour of that Establishment in the British Colonies.

DISTINGUISHED LIBERALITY.

We are happy to learn that the different congregations, connected with the Church of Scotland within the bounds of the Presbytery of Pictou, have collected during the past year, above £200 for the support of the Edinburgh Bible Society. Of that liberal sum £64 have been contributed by one congregation, the congregation of the West and Middle Rivers of Pictou, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Donald McIntosh. Mr. Stewart's congregation at New-Glasgow, and the other congregations throughout the county, have also displayed the most commendable zeal and liberality on this occasion, and have manifested an anxious desire that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified.

It affords us also great satisfaction to mention, that letters have lately been received from Scotland, by one of the Ministers of that Presbytery, intimating that two additional Clergymen may be expected at Pictou early in the ensuing spring, to supply some of the vacant stations in that district, and extend the Missionary operations of the Presbyterian Church in the Eastern part of the Province.

The Secession and Relief Churches.—A meeting was held here on the 26th ult. of the joint Committees of the Secession and Relief Synods, on the proposed union between these two respectable bodies of Scottish Dissenters—the Rev. Dr. Thomson of Paisley in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and the utmost harmony prevailed. After every one had been called upon to state their sentiments, a motion, which had been made by the Rev. Dr. Brown, Edinburgh, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. Auld, Greenock, was cordially carried, and the one or two who declined voting on the occasion, expressly declared that they had a sincere desire to promote the union, and that nothing but conscientious convictions made them differ a little from others, as to the mode or time of effecting the thing itself. The purport of the motion adopted was, that a Sub-Committee be appointed to draw out a few leading principles, as the ligaments of the proposed union, and that they be submitted to the General Committee for their consideration, and if approved of by them, they may be submitted to the respective Synods, and from thence sent down to all the Presbyteries and congregations of the bodies, that every member may carefully examine them, so that the union may be consummated in due time on good principle and in happy feeling.—*Glasgow Argus.*

Clergy Reserves.—We now lay before our readers the Message of His Excellency the Governor General, to both branches of the Legislature of Upper Canada, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves. The Message is accompanied by a Bill for the disposal of the Reserves, and the disposition of the proceeds thereof. By this Bill, it is provided, that the interest and dividends accruing, from the investments of the proceeds of the Clergy Reserves, sold or to be sold, and all rents arising from those Reserves, shall be paid to the Receiver General, and by him paid, under warrants from the Governor, in the first place, to satisfy all such annual stipends and allowances, as have been heretofore assigned and given to the Clergy of the Churches of England and Scotland, or other religious bodies, or denominations of Christians in the Province, and to which the faith of the Crown is pledged, for and during the natural lives of the parties, at present receiving and enjoying the same. It is then provided, that as soon as the said fund shall exceed the amount of the several stipends and allowances aforesaid, one half of the annual fund formed by the sale of the Reserves, shall be allotted and appropriated to the Churches of England and Scotland, in the Provinces of Upper Canada, the Church of Scotland to be held to include the Presbyterians of the United Synod of Upper Canada, and shall be divided between them in proportion to the number of their

respective members. And it is provided, that the residue of the said annual fund shall be divided among the other religious bodies, or denominations of Christians, now recognized by the laws of the Province of Upper Canada, who shall prefer their claims for the same.—*Montreal Gazette.*

On New Year's Day, a meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church, Niagara, for the purpose of contributing to the fund, for establishing the proposed Presbyterian College, at Kingston, at which very liberal subscriptions were entered into, the amount subscribed on the spot exceeding £600. Again, we must express our extreme surprise at the apathy of our Presbyterian Clergy and laity upon this important matter. A heavy responsibility will be incurred by those, whose inactivity has hitherto prevented all movement upon this subject in this city.—*Ibid.*

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—As a general rule we seldom obtrude upon the attention of our readers the interests of our paper; not that we are indifferent to its wide circulation, and extensive usefulness, but because we prefer the patronage which comes unsolicited. During the last week, however, an instance of friendly and unsought co-operation has fallen under our notice, which deserves a record. A clerical brother who presides over a comparatively small country congregation, has sent to our office the names of fifty new subscribers, nearly all of whom paid in advance. This act of kindness was enhanced by the gratifying compliment, that he regarded the *Presbyterian* as a friendly auxiliary to him in his ministerial work. We wish no higher commendation than to know that our labours are useful to the churches.—*Presbyterian.*

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

Our last Abstract brought the proceedings of the Assembly down to Saturday the 18th inst. since which very little business of interest has been transacted. On Monday the House adjourned on account of the trial of Clark and Elexon. Tuesday was occupied in receiving petitions. Wednesday, a Committee was appointed to wait on His Excellency, to enquire by whose authority a guard had been posted at the Court House during the trial on Monday. His Excellency stated that it was not by him. Thursday and Friday nothing worth reporting. Saturday, Mr. McKim introduced a Bill, to repeal the law, obliging those who professed to belong to no religious denomination, to contribute to the support of the Established Church. The Committee appointed to wait on His Excellency, concerning the attendance of the military at the late trial, having reported, as above, were re-appointed to make further enquiries. Mr. McKim presented a Petition from Wallace, praying for Responsible Government. The subject of the Despatches, it is expected, will be taken up to-morrow; and the state of the province on Monday next.

DREADFUL STEAM BOAT DISASTER.

The steam boat *Lexington*, from New York to Stonington, was destroyed on the night of Monday the 13th inst. by the cotton on deck, of which there was a large quantity, catching fire near the smoke pipe. In the confusion and terror that ensued, the boats, three in number, were lowered down, without the vessel's way being stopped, and were consequently swamped, when all who had fled to them for refuge perished. The life boat was also thrown over, but was caught by the water wheel and destroyed. The burning vessel was headed for the shore, said to have been only about two miles distant, but the engine soon stopped, and the passengers began to leave her on boxes, bales, &c. The narrator of the dreadful catastrophe, Captain Chester Williard, and a man named Cox, lashed themselves to a bale of cotton, from which the former was taken off, by a sloop, at 11 o'clock next day, his companion having previously died from the severity of the weather. The pilot of the steam boat and a fireman were also picked up by the sloop, and a fourth person, the second mate, drifted ashore on a cotton bale, with his hands and feet badly frozen, after having been forty eight hours exposed to the rigours of the season. These four are the only survivors, by the latest accounts, of 122 persons.

It is perhaps not the least melancholy feature of this calamitous event, that there seems to have been no person on board sufficiently clear headed, and energetic to give the necessary directions and ensure obedience, otherwise most, if not all of the unfortunate sufferers, might probably have been saved.

FIRE.—A barrack erected, but not finished, at York Redoubt last summer, took fire on Thursday night, about 12 o'clock, and was burnt to the ground. Occasionally flashes, supposed to be of shells and powder, were seen bursting amidst the smoke and fire, from town.—*Recorder.*

For the Remainder of Halifax Head See page 355.