

MELTING ON NATIONAL EDUCATION.

On Tuesday last a meeting was held in the Town-hall of persons friendly to the improvement and extension of Education according to the principles of the Church of England.

On the motion of the Earl of Abingdon, the Lord Bishop of Oxford took the chair, amidst the most cordial greetings of the clergy and gentry assembled. It was with great pleasure we saw the attendance of many of both clergy and laity, who must have come from the remotest parts of the diocese, for the purpose of being present. The attendance was very numerous.

The Right Rev. the Chairman said, "We have now not only to do all the good we can quietly, as in times of peace and concord; but we have to arrest and to avert evils we foresee, and with which we are threatened. Schemes of a national system of education are now advocated in which religious instruction seems to be a secondary object—(cheers)—and if religion be taught at all, no matter what the creed of the teacher, a system, in fact, which has been shortly, but happily, designated as a "plan for teaching morality without religion, and religion without a creed"—(Loud cheers.) That the established Church has but a faint prospect of favour and support in the scheme about to be proposed to Parliament is, I fear, too clear. I am sorry to see it announced to us, and from high authority, that the National Society is to expect a very reduced, if any, grant at all this year; and it is with deeper regret that I read (and from the same high authority) the expressed opinion that the aid formerly given by the Government to the National Society for educating our poor upon the principles of the Established Church, was "a system of exclusiveness, and the adoption of a principle at variance with the general spirit of our laws, and with the existing feelings of society." I know not what is meant by society, but my firm conviction is, that the Established Church is dear to the great mass and majority of this nation—(cheers); that she is regarded and respected by many who on points dissent from her; and I am quite sure that no system of education, independent of spiritual instruction and from interference with which the clergy are to be excluded, will be acceptable or even tolerable to the people. (Cheers.) I have already, in a charge to my clergy, stated my opinion that our system of national education was capable of great and essential improvement; that the range of instruction might be extended; and that it is our duty to render the system as perfect as we can; but that it is our especial duty to watch lest the "one thing needful" be omitted, or rendered secondary in the education of our people—(cheers)—that we see they be "rooted and built up in Christ, and established in the faith;" and that they be not through any neglect or mistaken notion of liberality on our part, "spoilt through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, to approve and to extend our system is the object of our meeting this day and in proportion to the hopelessness of our looking for aid where we were accustomed heretofore to find it, and whence we might have expected it, in that proportion must our own energies be increased." (Cheers.)—Oxford Herald.

Duke of Wellington.—The history of the world, perhaps, presents no spectacle so splendid and enviable as that of the Duke of Wellington. After a career of unexampled success as a warrior, and having conquered, in a hundred battles, a durable and permanent peace for his country, the duke might have closed his career under the shade of laurels unequalled in modern or ancient times. But not so.—The Duke of Wellington only retires from the field of Waterloo to become as a statesman no less eminent than as a warrior. With a singleness of mind, a correctness of judgment, and a total absence of all personal or party motives, never does he rise in Parliament but to enlighten every subject which he handles, and to rivet the attention and gratitude of

his country.—And why may we not, and will not posterity ask, is such a man shut out from the councils of his Sovereign, while the affairs of the country are entrusted to persons of whom it is a sufficient condemnation to say that they are in all respects the very reverse of the Duke of Wellington?—Cons Journal.

THE COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

LUNENBURG, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1839.

NEW BISHOP.—We are happy to learn by the May packet, that Newfoundland and the Bermudas are erected into a separate See, and that Archdeacon SPENCER is to be the Bishop.—We rejoice at this arrangement, inasmuch as it will insure to those Islands the benefits of a more constant episcopal superintendence, and will relieve our own Bishop of a very arduous portion of his charge, while the Church in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will thus enjoy the advantages of his undivided care.—His Lordship was well at the last accounts, and may be expected in July or the beginning of August, if not earlier.

REV. FITZGERALD UNIACKE.—We congratulate the Parishioners of St. George's on the safe return of their beloved Rector, who, accompanied by Mrs. Uniacke and the Rev. Mr. Storr, B. A. of Trinity College, Dublin, as his Curate, arrived in the May Packet.

JUST AS IT SHOULD BE AGAIN.—The people of Guysborough, in token of their regard for their Rector the Rev. Charles Shreve, have, in addition to their handsome annual contributions of (we believe) £80, lately furnished him with his year's supply of wood. Such warm testimonials of regard are pleasant to record, and, no doubt, to receive. In another parish, more westerly, a Brother informs us, that having been so unfortunate as to lose a fine cow, one of his parishioners (we esteem him well) immediately presented him with another.

STEAMERS.—We perceive that two Steamers are running this season between St. John and Windsor. When are we to have one from Halifax to Yarmouth? Some friends of ours were stewed up for four days lately in a small coaster between this and Halifax, sighing for the powers of steam, which would have brought them to their homes in 3 or 4 hours. Have we no more CUNARDS to establish a line along our coast, as with praiseworthy spirit they are about to do over the great Atlantic? If no individual can be found with sufficient enterprize to undertake it, why is not a company formed without delay to take advantage of the Legislative grant of £300 a-year? The shares would be taken up in 24 hours, and a steamer, we suppose, might be procured from Great Britain, so as to commence this summer.

WHAT LADIES CAN DO IN CANADA TO HELP THE CHURCH.—The Bytown Gazette says:—On Monday last the ladies belonging to the congregation of the Episcopal Church in this town, assembled to devise the means of procuring an Organ for the church; when they agreed to raise a fund with which to purchase materials to be wrought up into articles of dress and sold to the best advantage, for raising the required amount. We understand above £50 were subscribed at the meeting, and there is no doubt, with the help of female influence, the object will be accomplished.

THERMOMETER.

At Lunenburg, marked at noon—northern exposure in the shade.
Jan. Feb. March. April.
Average.....29.....31.....38½.....51½
Highest.....12.....45.....49.....66
Lowest.....8.....2.....25.....41

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA, HELD AT HALIFAX, MAY 22, 1839.

In accordance with the notice published by the Vice Presidents, this meeting took place at the National School House, on Wednesday evening, May 22d;—a meeting of the General Committee having been held on the day previous at the residence of the Venerable Archdeacon Willis.

Several communications from different clergymen, and others connected with the Society were read, when it was resolved that sums to the amount of £72, in addition to the sum of £203 15s. 9d. already appropriated, should be given in aid of the erection of Churches, and to assist in paying the expenses of lay-readers in settlements where the people can be seldom visited by their clergymen.

At 11 o'clock on Wednesday the 22d, Divine service was performed in the parish church of St. Paul's, when an instructive sermon was preached by the Venerable the Archdeacon, from 1 Cor. 4 ch. 2—"It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful," and the Holy Communion administered. After service, an examination of the National School, conducted by Mr. Maxwell, afforded much satisfaction to all who were present.

At 7 o'clock, the Special General Meeting of the Society was held at the National School-house, where a large number of the Clergy and laity were assembled, the Venerable the Archdeacon in the chair, who after the singing of the 100 psalm and prayer, addressed the meeting, stating the objects of the same. The first annual Report of the proceedings of the Society was read by the assistant secretary, H. Pryor, Esq. in which satisfactory reasons were assigned for the apparent inactivity of the Society, shewing that the absence of the President, in England, placed a difficulty in the way of the Society's early operations. It also went to shew that the object contemplated in the formation of the Society, was not so much to obtain any large amount of money, as to unite the scattered members of our communion, in a bond of love and charity; yet that up to the date of this meeting £332 14s. 10d. had been received, of which the sum of £99 14s. 7½d. had been forwarded from Committees formed in the country.

Beside these sums, the sum of £300 has been received from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and donations in Books and Tracts to the amount of £450 from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The whole amount appropriated, appeared by the Report, to be £275 15s. 9d. leaving in the hands of the Treasurer as available funds, the sum of £56 19s. 1d.

The Chair was then addressed by the Hon. the Chief Justice, Judge Bliss and several others of the members present, in moving and seconding the Resolutions; and the meeting concluded with singing and prayer.

On Thursday the 23d, a Special Meeting of the General Committee was held at the residence of the Archdeacon, at which were present the following Clergymen from the country:—the Rev. J. C. Cochran, Rev. Dr. Shreve, Rev. G. Morris, Rev. A. Gray, Rev. T. Leaver, Rev. H. L. Owen, Rev. J. Stanage, Rev. R. Uniacke; and also the Rev. F. Uniacke, and the Rev. Mr. Storr, who had arrived the day before from England.

Among other resolutions, the assistant Secretary was directed to call upon the different Clergymen, to send from their respective parishes, the names of their subscribers to the Diocesan Church Society; and where it could be done, the amount also subscribed by each person: so that the lists may be published with the Report.

Further sums to the amount of £50 were then granted to Clergymen who had been prevented from attending on the former meeting, in aid of the erec-