

Mr. Creighton.—We never attempted to keep the Rector out of the Chair, we merely wished to have the right of appointing the Chairman ourselves.

Dr. Almon.—I understand Mr. Ritchie to say that a resolution was passed at a Meeting here which the Archdeacon refused to sign, and that therefore the Archdeacon was not a proper person to preside at our meetings. Mr. Ritchie has spoken of the law as settled by the Revised Statutes. I think he was one of the parties who prepared those Statutes. This particular law was not made by the Legislature as all the Statutes were passed together in a body. Mr. Ritchie was the only Churchman on that commission and no doubt drew up that law. If he has drawn it up in accordance with his own views, we know whom to thank for it.

Mr. Ritchie.—The Doctor is entirely wrong.

Dr. Almon.—We have the opinions of Mr. Johnston, and Mr. Fairbanks, that the Archdeacon according to law is the person who should take the Chair at our Meetings. I do not think it is right that at these Meetings, our passions should first be warmed up by the election of a speaker. It should be settled by law, and we should proceed without first discussing who should preside over us. Our Christian feelings are sometimes injured in these discussions.

Mr. Ritchie.—The Dr. is in error. The Commissioners of the Revised Statutes, he says, prepared the Act relative to the Church of England. No doubt he thinks so, but such is not the fact. The Commissioners did not wish at all to interfere with the existing law relative to the Church, and therefore reported the law as they found it, and all the alterations which were made, were made in the House of Assembly. I think the present Act was drafted by Mr. Samuel P. Fairbanks; but that does not affect the question. I did not say that the late Rector was a bad Chairman, but I stated that a certain circumstance occurred which showed that it was necessary that we should have the appointment of the Chairman ourselves. A Chairman appointed by the Meeting is more likely to carry out the views of the Meeting, than when he holds his office *ex officio*. If the Archdeacon had been in the former position, he would have been more careful to remedy the absence of his name from the Minutes, and to make up the deficiency, if it was one. In my opinion, the proper person to certify the Minutes of our Meetings is the Vestry Clerk who keeps the records. It was necessary that it should be done by the Chairman, it could have been done then, as well as two days before. The circumstance reminds me of an objection which was once taken by an astute lawyer to a Conveyance. The lawyer said this Instrument is not an Indenture, as it is not indented. The Judge took out his penknife, scolloped out the Instrument, and handing it to the lawyer said, There, now it is an Indenture. Here the Bishop if he had not wanted an excuse to disregard the resolutions, could just as easily have remedied the technical objection he himself had raised.

Dr. Van Buskirk.—There is another question which should be decided at the same time. I mean the question as to who is to have the right of voting at our meetings.

Mr. Hill.—That question has been already before the Parish. We decided that a party must be either a pewholder, or must contribute £1 towards the funds of the Parish, to entitle him to vote.

The question was then taken on Mr. Creighton's Resolution, when there appeared, for the Resolution, 17; against it, 7: so it passed in the affirmative.

Mr. Creighton then moved that the Churchwardens and the Treasurer be a Committee to prepare the Bill to be laid before the Legislature, which also passed.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHURCH CHOIRS.

On motion of J. C. Halliburton, Esq., a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the choirs of St. Paul's and St. Luke's, for their very valuable services during the past year.

VOTE OF THANKS TO CAPTAIN BRETT.

Mr. Lynch stated that Captain Brett, who was a mere sojourner amongst us, had very kindly placed £20 at the disposal of St. Luke's Church, for the purchase of two chairs for the chancel. These chairs cost between £30 and £40, and Captain Brett had kindly made up the whole sum required, and he thought the thanks of the Parish were due to him. A vote of thanks was accordingly passed unanimously.

CLEANING OF ROOM.

Mr. Hill.—We have been in the habit of meeting here year after year, and no sum has been paid for heating or cleansing the room. Mr. Willis has recently rendered an account for past services in that way. I informed him that the Churchwardens had no authority to pay him, but that they would bring the matter under the notice of this meeting.

Mr. Townsend thought that the Committee of the National School should receive any sum that was voted on that account, as they had a pretty large bill to pay every year for the cleaning of the Room.

It was then decided that the Churchwardens should be invested with a discretionary power to pay the sum required.

LEGACY FROM THE LATE JOHN ROBINSON, ESQ.

Mr. Haro thought that some acknowledgment should be made of the sum received from the Estate of the late Mr. John Robinson.

Mr. Pryor enquired if it were known how it was bequeathed. If no specific purpose were pointed out by the Will, he would move that it should be applied towards increasing the salaries of the Curates.

Dr. DeWolfe seconded the motion, and stated that

he understood the sum was bequeathed generally, and without any limitation as to the particular purpose to which it should be appropriated.

Mr. Binney.—I have always doubted whether we had any right to expend sums bequeathed in this way. I think that they ought to be invested, and the interest alone expended. If the large sums which have at different times been bequeathed to the parish had been invested in this way, we should now be in a very different position.

Mr. Ritchie.—I think some investigation should be made of the manner in which money and lands have been left to the parish. I think it is worthy of consideration whether we should not appoint a Committee to ascertain what bequests have been made to the Church, and also to see for what particular purposes, and on what considerations the bequest under consideration was granted.

Mr. Binney.—I should be willing to pay the half of this sum myself, if necessary, to the immediate use spoken of, if all future bequests are invested for the benefit of the Church.

Mr. Lynch.—I think it would scarcely be advisable to increase the salaries of our Curates on account of this bequest. If you do it this year, you will have to do it next year.

Mr. Pryor then agreed to withdraw his resolution.

On motion of Mr. Creighton, the Meeting then (quarter to six o'clock) closed by singing the Doxology.

News Department.

Extracts from latest English Papers.

A letter, dated from Claremont, Jan. 25, by the Duke de Nemours, gives the following account of the rupture of the proposed fusion of the Orleans Princes with the Count de Chambord:—

The fact is that when, in a spirit of conciliation, I went to M. le Comte de Chambord, I only did so upon the formal assurance that this step did not involve any engagement on our part. In expressing to him then our sincere desire to see France call him one day to the throne, and our wish to devote all our efforts to obtain such a result at a fitting opportunity, I was far from offering him our blind and undefined co-operation. Its conditions were, of course, to be determined by a previous understanding. These conditions, on our side, would have been resumed in three principal points, which our convictions, as well as the respect due to the past history of our family, forbid us ever to abandon:—

1. The maintenance of the tri-colored flag, which is now, in the eyes of France, the symbol of the new state of society, and the expression of the principles consecrated since 1789.

2. The re-establishment of a constitutional government.

3. The concurrence of the national will in the re-establishment of this form of government, and in the recall of the dynasty.

Of these three points one only was entered on by me with M. le Comte de Chambord during his visit to Nervi, and the result of our conversation was such that I felt myself called upon to inform him that, so long as this matter remained undecided, all community of views between him and ourselves was impossible. Since then this state of things having to our great regret remained unaltered, and the bare notion of a previous understanding being rejected by M. le Comte de Chambord, it has become incumbent upon us to put a stop to attempts, at present useless, in favor of an agreement.

The French Government intend to visit finally the now common assumption of "count," "baron," "viscount," as a prefix to the names of persons who have no claim to nobility.

M. de Rochow, who killed M. de Hinkeldey at Berlin in March, 1866, and who has been for the last nine months imprisoned in the citadel of Magdeburg, has just been set at liberty, the King of Prussia having remitted the remainder of his sentence.

It is said that foreign travel has had its usual effect upon the Empress of Austria; and it is noticed at Vienna that she has lost much of the timidity she displayed before she went to Italy.

A private letter from Jassy states that the Austrian occupation cost Moldavia, up to the 1st of November, 1856, for seven years, no less than seven millions two hundred and ninety-four thousand, six hundred and ninety-one piastres; this sum by no means representing the whole amount expended.—In Wallachia the expenditure was on a still larger scale.

Sir John Dodson, the Dean of the Court of Arches, has appointed Monday, April 20th, and following days, for hearing the appeal in Archdeacon Denison's case, from the court held last year by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Bath. In the event of an adverse decision by the Dean of Arches, it was the

intention of Archdeacon to prosecute a further appeal before a Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

M. Colignon, a French engineer, has been appointed to construct the Russian Railroads; he is preparing to leave France for St. Petersburg.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna is reported to have made a fruitless attempt to introduce the Jesuits into the suburbs of Alser and Rossau. To the astonishment of his Grace, the Rectors of the two suburbs mentioned refused to permit the followers of Loyola to preach in their churches, "because their parishioners were not so desperately wicked as to require such violent language as the Jesuit missionaries were in the habit of addressing to their audiences."

We are sorry to hear that the Earl of Zetland is alarmingly ill. His lordship is at his seat, Ask Hall, near Richmond, Yorkshire.—*Leeds Mercury*.

Admiral the Hon. Sir Richard Saunders Dundas, K.C.B., who commanded the fleet in the last Baltic campaign, is gazetted a lord of the Admiralty in succession to Admiral Richards, now a Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital. Admiral Dundas takes rank at the Board after Admiral Boscawen and before Admiral Eden.

Death has removed from among us Rev. Dr. William Scoresby, the Arctic navigator. Few men of our time have taken a more lively interest in the progress of science. Dr. Scoresby, since his return from the scientific voyage to Australia, had been living at Torquay, broken in health. He died on Saturday last; and will be long remembered as an active and useful servant of science.—*Athenaeum*.

NAPLES.—The state of this unhappy country does not improve. The *Times* correspondent writes—

I have strong and recent reasons for believing that the fate of the Montesarchio prisoners is now worse than it was, and that they are treated with greater severity. Some of the German papers assert that all that has been said on the subject is false, and that they never have worn chains. It is again affirmed now, without fear of contradiction, that they wear their chains up to the present time. Still the treatment of these unfortunate men is only an incident in the history of the land, and I am very far from pointing it out as the grievance the removal of which would change the aspect of the country.

The police are more unbridled and arbitrary in their action than they have been at almost any previous period of their history, but it would be tedious to enumerate instances of it.

As regards the administration of affairs, you may imagine how they are conducted from a circular of the Minister of Finance to the *employés*, in which he complains of their inaction, of the pilferings practiced, and in which he stigmatises them as "*ladri*." Indeed, every branch of the Administration has fallen into disorder from that system of favoritism which is necessary for the support of an unjust and unpopular Government.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* publishes the following interesting details of the military organization of the Chinese:—

The military forces of China are estimated at more than 800,000 men. In their army rank is hereditary. A soldier can retire from the service only when his son is in position to replace him; if he has no son of his own, he is at liberty to adopt one. It is allowable to enter the service at as early an age as fifteen. Gunpowder has been in use among the Chinese from time immemorial; nevertheless, the Chinese artillery is far from being as perfect as that of Europe. The balls originally used by the Chinese artillerymen were made of clay dried and hardened.

In times of peace the soldiers are dispersed over the whole Empire, and, in addition to their pay, they are at liberty to cultivate the portions of land that are allotted to them. They are generally employed by the State in public works, or making roads, and in repairing the tanks of rivers. Their arms consist of sabres, swords, pikes, muskets, bows and arrows. The Russian traveller, Timbowski, who visited a large portion of the Chinese Empire, states that the soldiers are clothed the same as the other inhabitants, with the exception of the tunic, which they wear over all, and which is always of the same colour as that of the flag under which they serve—that is to say, yellow, red, or blue, with or without border. In times of war they receive helmets of iron, cuirasses that are quilted and padded, and shields of bamboo wickerwork.

From the very commencement of a campaign the Chinese endeavour to get possession of the hostile commanders, either by force or by stratagem. On-Tse, the author of a treatise translated by Amiot, recommends that the drums and the cymbals should