

facilities in procuring missionaries in quiet times, we shall now have men coming forward willing and ready to devote themselves to the missionary work in India, if only this and kindred societies will find them means to advance their Master's cause in that unhappy land. I beg to move the first resolution. (Loud cheers.)

*Extract from a Charge of the Bishop of Oxford, delivered in November last:—*

"Again, suffer me to ask—and I ask it of myself just as much as of you—are our sermons what they ought to be, and what labour and prayer might make them? Now, I am by no means disposed to give an indiscriminate assent to the truth of the popular outcry against our sermons which has of late reached the ears of all. But yet, are they not too often deficient precisely in these qualities which are necessary to make them really effective with our people? For is there not in general the taste of essays or disquisitions about them, and their merit soundness, moderation, perhaps exactness? And is not their fault—that really unpardonable fault to the listeners of every class, and especially to our class of listeners—that of dulness? And is not what we want to reach our people a style of composition the exact opposite of this, one which is intellectual, terse, pointed, dealing in short sentences; using Saxon words as close to everyday life as it can be without being profane or vulgar; being at once impressive in its subjects, its applications, its illustrations, and its assertions? Should it not be rough enough, so to speak, to make it felt through their dull skin of ignorance and inattention? Should it not startle the careless and positively jog the drowsy man ere his slumber is sound? Should it not be pathetic, for who more notices than our common race that which reaches them through the affections? Should it not through illustrations convey truths which the unlearned never receive? Should it not avoid the easy uniformity of a man applying a nostrum, and with the living earnestness of one who believes he has all important truths to convey declare the curse of sin and the blessed remedy provided for it in the sacrifices and perpetual offerings of our Lord, and in the working of God the Holy Ghost? Should you not dwell on and proclaim Christ on His cross, Christ in His work of love, Christ in His Church, Christ in His Sacraments, and Christ crucified: Christ risen, Christ mediating, Christ saving? Should it not embrace all the variety and fire and love which belongs not to a mouth full of phrases, but a heart and mind and soul full of their subject, and that subject eternal life, man lost or man's salvation, and the love of Christ and the working of the Eternal Spirit, and the blessedness of the Church of the redeemed? And should not all these be delivered as if we were in earnest, because we are in earnest? I must leave it to you to determine for yourselves whether you can best speak, then, for Christ from or without a manuscript. I believe generally the best course is to preach once each Sunday a written and once an unwritten sermon—by no means one which has been committed to memory, but one which, though fresh utterings of the moment, is the product of thought and study and prayer; for the written sermon secures exactness and variety, and the unwritten the habit of speaking to our people from the heart to the heart, instead of reading a composition in their presence. It would help us, again, this mode of teaching, if we remembered constantly that for the great mass of our people preaching is and must be the great instrument God used for converting souls; and it is only through this that the dull monotony of a life of worldliness is ever broken in upon by that stirring of the spiritual affections which belongs to God's mercy. It is from my conviction of the great importance of reaching these affections, and especially at such a time, that I would urge you to aim specially at producing this result by short sermons, fuller than usual of affectionate appeals and devotional thoughts, before the administration of the Lord's Supper in the churches. I know the difficulties which indispose some of you to this. You feel that it all tends to a lengthening of the service; but I would rather that you should shorten the singing, or, after reference to me, divide the service according to the declaration made by the Bishops, than that you should not preach, however shortly, before celebration.

### News Department.

Extracts from Papers by Steamer Canada.

ENGLAND.

The following paragraph is going the rounds of the papers. We shall be glad to find there is any foundation for it:—"In connection with the proposed Episcopal changes, the Government bill to be introduced next session will probably provide for the erection of a new Bishopric, of which St. Alban's will be the seat, and from which the new Bishop, whoever he may be, will take his title. The see will be endowed out of the funds which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners have in hand arising out of the recent falling in of Episcopal and Capitular estates, while £1,000 has been subscribed towards the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey on condition that it be made a cathedral, as recommended by Archbishop Cranmer to Henry VIII. The new diocese will be formed out of the present sees of London and Rochester, and will include the important towns of St. Alban's, Romford, Royston, Hounslow, Brentford, Uxbridge, Berkhamstead, Rickmansworth, Welwyn, Hitchin, Bishops Stortford, Ware, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, and the adjacent parishes. The new Bishop will be subject to the arrangement entered into with Parliament on the erection of the see of Manchester—namely, that there shall be no accession to the number of Bishops in the House of Lords; so that when the diocese of St. Alban's is created there will always be two Bishops who will not have seats in Parliament.

An interesting trial was begun in the Court of Chancery on Friday, before Vice-Chancellor Stuart and Mr. Justice Creswell. The question raised is whether the marriage of a British subject with his deceased wife's sister at Altona in Schleswig-Holstein, where by the law of that place such marriages are legal, is valid in England; and consequently, whether, according to the law of England, the children of such a marriage are legitimate. Mr. Brook, of Meltham Hall, near Huddersfield, married his deceased wife's sister at Altona. He had a second family. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brook died in 1855. Mr. Brook left his property among all his children in certain proportions. His son by the second marriage died; and the question is, whether his share of the property goes to his brother and sisters, or to the Crown by reason of the invalidity of Mr. Brook's second marriage. The hearing of the case is not yet finished.

At the Annual Corporation Dinner at Tamworth, last week, Sir Robert Peel made one of his accustomed harangues, hitting right and left and sparing no one but his patron, the Premier. He laughed at Mr. Vernon Smith, who would insist that the rebellion in India was a mere periodical *émeute*, but which had nevertheless sacrificed in three months 270 officers, being more than had fallen during the whole Crimean war. He blamed Sir Charles Wood for sending the troops a voyage of 130 days round the Cape instead of five weeks through Egypt. He blamed the Corporation of London for giving the Duke of Cambridge a sword with the Field-Marshal's bâton on before he had earned it. Lord Canning might be a great man, but he had not yet shown it. Lord Granville made observations at the Mansion House dinner in his favor, but they fell like ditchwater on the assembly. Lord Palmerston also praised him, but then it was a characteristic of the Premier's to stand by those he had appointed. Aged as he was, he could appreciate events, and was a man of vigorous action, and immediately sent out troops to repair the errors of the India company. At the Mansion House dinner Lord Palmerston alluded to public affairs, and he made use of a very curious observation:—

Perhaps it was in joke, for it was a difficult matter to distinguish when he was joking and when in earnest. He said, turning round to the assembly, among whom there happened to be one or two Ministers—the *corps diplomatique* were absent. But first (said Sir Robert) he must tell them that Lord Palmerston was an important man; and it was a remarkable thing that no foreign Minister of any consequence attended the dinner. Though the Austrian and Russian Ministers were in London, there were only present at the banquet the sable representative of the republic of Haiti and the Siamese twins. (Laughter.) And Palmerston, turning round to them, said, "Don't consider, gentlemen, that the 40,000 men we have sent to India is a proof that England is weak. Let anybody," said he, shaking his finger at the *corps diplomatique*, "let anybody come and attack England, and he will see that he will have a dangerous game to play, and

that she is the same as before." Now, this was a most injudicious observation of Lord Palmerston's; for our prestige rested not upon the men we may send out, but upon the spirit and patriotism of the people.—(Cheers.) . . . The Reform Bill would be shelved for another year. The *Times* told them there was only one man in England who wanted reform, and that was Lord John Russell; but there were many more who wanted reform. He did not think, however that the question would come on this session. He thought Lord Palmerston, with his agreeable way of dealing with affairs, would shelve it for another year. He did not think the country would agree with this. (Cheers.) Lord Palmerston, he was sure, would have great difficulties to contend against, but he was a man who had always proved himself equal to the emergency. Lord Palmerston would, indeed, be able to point to brave deeds in India, and they would be the means of giving him the confidence of the country. But there were sycophantic friends who thought that the voice of the country would not be raised. It might be necessary, however, for Lord Palmerston to rally round him his independent supporters, to embody those who would give vigorous expressions to his policy, and he (Sir Robert) for one would be ready and willing to stand true to the sympathies he had long shown him, although he had suffered the misfortune to undergo a temporary separation from the Government of the man whom he had esteemed in politics—a man who, with all his faults, had been equal to every situation in which he was placed—a man who, although placed on the highest pinnacle in the country to which a subject could aspire, had not forgotten the greater duties he owed to the public as a statesman and patriot—who, while he had successfully carried on the wars of the country in foreign lands, knew well how to uphold and vindicate the liberties and rights of his fellow countrymen in every part of the world. Sir Robert concluded amid great cheering.

Mr. Robert Bellamy, the magistrate who was found guilty at the last assizes of having corruptly compromised a case in which two men were brought before him for poaching on his lands, by receiving £1 each from them, telling them that if they did not pay this they would be imprisoned, was brought up to receive sentence before the Court of Queen's Bench on Friday. Mr. Justice Coleridge, the senior Paines Judge, gave the judgment of the Court. He said—

The Court had considered with attention the circumstances of the case, but they could discover nothing to extenuate the gravity of the offence. On the one side there was power, and wealth, and learning, and on the other poverty, and ignorance, and distress; and considering these relative positions, when once a case of extortion was brought before the Court, it was impossible to regard it otherwise than as a crime of great magnitude, and to be visited with severe punishment. In such a case it was the duty of the Court to deal out its sentence with equal severity, as it would do in the case of the lowest person in the country. Indeed, when the Court considered the advantage which was given to the educated over the uneducated, the offence of the former ought to be visited with greater severity than that of the latter. The Court had taken all the circumstances into their consideration, including the state of the defendant's health, and feel bound to inflict a long imprisonment upon him, remarking, however, that in this country there was a power beyond that of justice which the Crown could exercise. The sentence was, that the defendant pay to her Majesty a fine of £200, and be imprisoned in the Queen's Prison for one year among the misdemeanants of the first class, and be further imprisoned till the fine be paid.

Lord Campbell said this Court had no power to dismiss the defendant from the commission of the peace, but he trusted the law officers of the Crown would lay the case before the Lord Chancellor, who would do what was right in the matter. At the commencement of the case affidavits were put in to show that the defendant was suffering from bronchitis, enlargement of the heart, and disease of the kidneys, and that imprisonment would endanger his life.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

It is our painful duty to record another dreadful scene in the *Mispeck* tragedy. On Sunday last the body of a man named Henry Stewart was discovered in the woods in the vicinity of Little River bridge. It was brought to the city early on Monday morning, and a Coroner's inquest immediately summoned. It was conjectured at once that the deceased had been murdered, as the head was completely severed from the body, although others thought that from the length