

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, SEPT. 1, 1855.

ON MAKING THE RESPONSES.

AMONG the various Churches in different parts of our Province in which we have occasionally passed a Sunday, we scarcely recollect more than four or five in which the responses were made, with that fullness and distinctness which we have long believed, and must continue to believe, necessary, to render the service of the Sanctuary in a high degree impressive. In some few congregations the voice of the clerk is still the only one heard, responsive to that of the Minister; while in others, a low, murmuring whisper from a few individuals, principally females, serves to mark more distinctly the pauses in the clergyman's voice, rather than to fill them up, with the swelling accents of thanksgiving and prayer.—We have been particularly struck with the very imperfect, and unimproper manner in which the service is conducted even in the City, and in our populous towns; and often while standing in the midst of a congregation consisting of some hundreds of people, have felt ourselves most unpleasantly disappointed, and a chill cast over our devotional feelings, by the scarcely audible responses of so great a multitude, collected for the ostensible purpose of worshipping God in the beauty of holiness. It has occurred to us to enquire on such occasions how it is that the responses have been so much neglected, or almost wholly in some instances abandoned to the clerk? We have turned to the rubrics prescribing the order of the service, and so far from perceiving any authority for this most unseemly innovation and neglect, we find "a general confession to be said of the whole congregation after the Minister, all kneeling." "The people shall answer him, and at the end of all other prayers, Amen." "Then the Minister shall kneel and say the Lord's Prayer; The people also kneeling, and repeating it with him, both here and wheresoever else it is used in Divine Service". These rubrics conclusively prove to us, and the conviction is strengthened by the whole structure of the service,—that our worship was designed to be strictly social. We have ever regarded it in this light; and accustomed as we have been in days gone by to the loud responses of a whole congregation, it is always with feelings of disappointment that we now hear them made in a whisper barely audible.

Doubtless there are many in every congregation who view the subject in the same light that we do, and would rejoice to see this slovenly custom banished from the Church. Nothing is more easy, if some of the more zealous members of the Parish would set about a reformation in earnest. Let them talk over the subject in a friendly meeting,—let them enter into an agreement to take the lead, on the next Lord's day, in making the responses in a full and audible voice, and the rest of the congregation will soon follow. Some degree of diffidence is doubtless one of the most frequent causes of the evil of which we complain; this will be removed by the course we have just recommended, as each one will be sure of being supported in his endeavours to improve the style of worship,—and above all, let the subject be frequently and forcibly presented from the pulpit, until the object is fully attained. All would then speak eagerly, and have reason to rejoice in the happy effects of their exertions, not only in giving a more decent and impressive character to the worship, but in the far more important consequence of elevating the tone of devotional piety in every congregation. Oh, what a change would then take place in our Public Worship!—who would need to complain of want of heart and life in our solemn services? Surely then, if by chance,—as we might deem,—there come in one, that believeth not, or one unlearned, he would be convinced, indeed, and falling down upon his knees, would report that God was with us of a truth." Responding well, is a habit easily formed, if the rector be assisted by a few of the influential members of his parish; and the habit once acquired, is not soon or easily lost. Nothing sets forth our beautiful liturgy to such advantage, or contributes so much to recommend it to the approbation of strangers. This, we acknowledge, is but a secondary consideration; but we see no reason for excluding it altogether, in endeavouring to persuade our readers to do justice to their incomparable liturgy.

The Bishop intends (D. V.) to hold an Ordination on Sunday, Sept. 23d—and all Deacons intending to present themselves for Priest's Orders are requested to communicate their wishes without delay to the Archbishop. It is not intended to hold an Ordination on the Sunday before Christmas-day.

The R. M. Steamship *Canada* arrived on Wednesday morning last, in 10½ days from Liverpool, bringing English dates to the 18th inst. The news is very important, and gives more encouragement than what we have for some time back been receiving. An attack by the Allied Gun and Mortar boats on Swallow, in the Baltic, resulted in that place being entirely demolished. A brilliant victory has been gained on the Tchernaya by the French and Sardinians, assisted by English Cavalry, over the Russian force under the command of General Liprandi, amounting to 60,000 men.—The loss of the Russians is estimated at between 4 and 5000 men, with 4,000 prisoners—the loss of the Allies very small. The bombardment of Sebastopol was to recommence on the 17th.

Her Majesty, Prince Albert and suite, embarked at Portsmouth on the 17th, on a visit to the French Emperor. Parliament was prorogued by commission on the 14th ult. The prospects of harvest were very encouraging. The latest news will be found in other columns.

The R. M. Steamship *America* arrived yesterday morning from Boston. From late American papers received by her, we have the movements of the Allied French and English fleet in the Pacific, and full particulars of the destruction of Pétropawlski, of which but few columns contain the most important. Advice from Mexico state, that the Revolutionary party have triumphed, and that General Santa Anna had abdicated and fled. With the exception of the above the news is unimportant.

The Clergy and the Representatives of the Laity of the Diocese are requested to take notice, that Tuesday, October 11th, at 10 A. M., is appointed for the Meeting of the Diocesan Assembly, to consider the Report of the Committee appointed at its last Meeting to "prepare rules and regulations for the Church Assembly." The Session may be continued from day to day at the pleasure of the Assembly.

The body of John Talbot, of Little River, who was accidentally drowned in the Strait of Canso about a week previous, was picked up on the 16th inst. He had been in a boat a short distance from the shore, catching lobsters. While thus employed, he accidentally fell out of the boat into the water, and before assistance could reach him, was drowned, and carried off by the current. His remains were interred at McNair's Cove on the 18th, an inquest having been duly held.—*Com.*

DESPATCH FROM GEN. SIMPSON.

Before Sebastopol, Aug. 4, 1855.

My Lord.—I have the honour to acquaint your lordship that on the night of the 2d instant, between ten and eleven o'clock, the enemy made a sortie in considerable force by the Woronzoff road. The strength of the enemy is computed to be about 2,000. Their object was to destroy a heavy iron chevaux de frise, made across the Woronzoff-road, between our right and left attacks, and being further supported by heavy columns in rear, to take advantage of such circumstances as might present themselves.

They came on with loud cheers and bugling, and were received with great gallantry by our advanced picket, under the command of Lieut. R. E. Carr, of the 39th Regiment, who withdrew his men, firing at the same time upon the enemy, to the main body, under the command of Captain Leckie, 39th Regt.

A heavy and well-directed fire was opened upon the enemy by the party under Captain Leckie on the Woronzoff road, as also by the guard of the trenches on the right of the fourth parallel, under the command of Captain Boyle, of the 89th Regiment, and Captain Turner, of the 1st Royals, which in about ten minutes, caused the enemy to retire from an attack which, if it had not been so well met, might have been a serious affair.

The enemy left four men killed, and some wounded were carried away. We had only one man slightly wounded in this affair.

I have the honour to transmit the returns of casualties from the 30th July to the 2d August.

I have the satisfaction of informing your lordship of the return to this army of Captain Montague, of the Royal Engineers, from being a prisoner of war. He expresses himself highly grateful for the kindness with which he was treated by the Russians during his captivity.

It is with deep regret that I have to communicate to your lordship that Lieut. General Sir R. England is the last of the general officers who left the United Kingdom in command of a division; he has resided at his post throughout the trying heats of Bulgaria, and the severities and hardships of the winter's campaign in the Crimea; and great credit is due to this officer for the constancy and untiring zeal of his exhibition in carrying out arduous and difficult duties on all occasions.

I have, &c. &c. JAMES SIMPSON, General Commanding The Lord Panmure, &c., &c., &c.

HALLOW CHAPEL will be opened for Divine Service, (D. V.) by the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, tomorrow (Sunday) evening, at 7 o'clock—Spots free.

Monday being the anniversary of the birth of Prince Albert, the Citadel and ships of war in harbour were dressed, and at noon Royal salutes were fired by H. M. S. *Penelope*, 48, H. M. S. *Mariner*, 12, and from the Saluting Battery at the Citadel.

THE RAILWAY LOAN.—Letters were received from Mr. Howe by the *Canada*, conveying the gratifying intelligence that he had effected a loan of £100,000 Sterling—a sum sufficient to cover all the liabilities of the Railway Board, including the reconstruction and complete equipment of the line to Windsor. The loan has been taken, at par, by Messrs. Baring and Brothers, off their own account, upon Bonds of the Province of Nova Scotia bearing 5 per cent. interest, redeemable in twenty years.—*Chron.*

The first civic election for the city of Charlottetown took place on the 6th inst., when Robert Hatchinson, Esq., was chosen Mayor, and R. Langworthy, Benjamin Davis, J. C. McDonald, D. McLean, Artemas Sims, Barilard Todd, David Stewart, Thomas Pottrick and Richard Hoar, Esqrs., were elected common Councilmen.—*Eastern Chron.*

A fire broke out on Thursday afternoon, between five and six o'clock, in a building situated on the eastern side of the Halifax Hotel, but owing to the exertions of the firemen and others, the fire was confined to the building in which it originated.—*Col.*

The Hon. Abbott Lawrence, one of the most distinguished citizens of Boston, died on Saturday the 18th ult. He was recently United States Minister at London.

H. M. S. *Penelope*, Captain Fourrier, sailed on Thursday morning for St. Pierre and Miquelon, Newfoundland.

A large porcupine, measuring between six and seven feet in length, was lately shot in the North West Arm, by an Indian, named Morris.—*Journal.*

GREAT SALE OF PROPERTY.—The premises well known in this City as Bager's property, Lower Water Street, was sold yesterday, Wednesday, at public roup. The bidding was very spirited, and the whole was disposed of for £9,585, in the following several parcels:—Thos. Doyle, £1110; Jno. Murphy, £1380 and £370; Wm. Metzler, £520; Jno. Watt, £420; Jno. Bauer, £380; Joseph Bennett £4000, for a large portion of the Water and Water property; Messrs Oxlley & Co. £440; John Tobin, £320; Mr. Drummond £525.—*Chron.*

The soldier who assaulted a young lady on the Common, on Thursday, was yesterday arrested and committed to prison to answer for the offence.—*Chron.*

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Halifax, Aug. 28, 1855.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be a Master in the Supreme Court of Judicature in this Province, for executing within the County of Halifax the duties of such Master, pursuant to the tenth section of the Act 18 Vict. chap. 23, for abolishing the Court of Chancery and conferring Equity Jurisdiction on the Supreme Court.—Nathaniel W. White, Esquire.

To be the resident Superintendent of the Isle of Sable.—Philip J. Dobb, Esquire, in the place of Matthew McKenna, Esquire, appointed to be one of the Commissioners for Public Works.

To be the Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown for the County of Shelburne.—Mr. John Tottle.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills are a certain cure for Scoury.—Edward Hope, of Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, suffered more than most people from the scurvy and the whole of his body was covered with this unsightly eruption, he tried a great number of reputed medicines, but he was not benefited by the same. He tried Holloway's Ointment and Pills, and these medicines quickly produced a beneficial change, by continuing with them for eight weeks, he was radically cured.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

From E. M. McDonald—the ink was sent to Fuller's, Rev. R. Avery, Rev. A. Jordan—the edition of Psalms, & Hymns is all sold. Rev. J. S. Smith, J. Smith, Esq., with remittance for Mr. Bragg, Mr. W. Goswip, Annapolis—will attend to directions. M. Shaw, Esq., will be attended to.

Birth.

August 17th.—At Rambr, near Wraggley, Lincolnshire, the wife of the Rev. J. Bainbridge Smith, Rector of Solby, (formerly Vice President of King's College, Windsor), of a Daughter.

Married.

At Dartmouth, by the Rev. Mr. Shreve, on Monday, the 26th ult., at the residence of the bride's mother, Mr. John McNam, Merchant of St. Margaret's Bay, to Miss Mary Coleman, of the former place.

At the residence of the bride's father, Aylesford, on the 21st ult., by the Rev. R. Avery, Rector, Mr. Frederick Gilbert Knib, of Boston, U. S., to Miss Julia, daughter of William Miller, Esq.

Died.

On Sunday morning, 26th ult., Mary HANWOOD, wife of John Cooper, and fourth daughter of Joseph Jennings. On Friday, 17th ult., Mary, wife of Corporal John Yates, Royal Artillery, aged 39 years. At sea, on board brig Dr. Rogers, of Salem, Mr. John W. Warriner, and Wm. HATMOR, seamen, both supposed to belong to Nova Scotia.