

whom an leader Christ?" Pray to be directed, make the effort, and God prosper it to His glory, their good and our soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

NEW YORK, Oct 8, 1853.

GENERAL CONVENTION P. E. CHURCH.—The General Convention assembled in this city, on Wednesday, the 5th inst, at Trinity Church. In consequence of the late hour of the arrival of the boat, we were not able to reach the Church in time to secure a seat, although quite ignine for all the services. The church was crowded to utmost capacity,—hundreds standing in the aisles. Every member of the House of Bishops was present, with the exception of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Cobbs, of Alabama, who, we understand, is detained at home, in consequence of the epidemic, which is prevailing to a fearful degree at the South. I shall not attempt to give the doings of the Convention, as they will be published at length in our columns, taken from the secular paper.

The sermon by Bishop Mellvaine, was a very able production.

The Holy Communion was administered by the Bishops to the clergy and laity. There were about three hundred of the clergy present.

At the close of the services, the Convention was called to order by the Secretary. The Rev. Dr. Creighton, of the Diocese of New York, was unanimously elected President, and the Rev. Dr. Howe was unanimously re-elected Secretary.

The Convention is very fully attended by both clerical and lay deputies. Thus far, there has been some able debate, and a very cordial and commendable spirit has been manifested, which, it is to be hoped, will not die out, before the expiration of the session.

On the evening of the first day, the Rt. Rev. Provisional Bishop met to Bishops and members of the Convention and the clergy generally, at his residence, for the purpose of introducing them to the delegation from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, who have been sent from the Mother Church of England to attend the meeting of the Board of Missions of our Church. This delegation consists of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Spencer, late Bishop of Madras, the Very Rev. Archdeacon Sinclair, from the diocese of London, the Rev. Ernest Hawkins, Secretary of the Society, and the Rev. Mr. Caswell.

On Thursday afternoon, the Board of Missions held a business meeting in St. John's Chapel, when a committee was appointed to wait upon the delegation from the Mother Church.

In the evening, the triennial sermon was preached in St. Bartholomew's Church, by the Rev. Dr. Atkinson, of Baltimore, the Bishop-elect of North Carolina. It was from the text, 'Freely ye have received, freely give.' A well written, and highly appropriate discourse. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Meade, the presiding Bishop, in the absence of the senior Bishop, made a warm hearted and forcible appeal to the congregation, which we hope was liberally responded to, in the collection which was made.

The Lower House was engaged on Friday, in a long and animated discussion on the question of admitting the Church in California, into union with this Convention. The Committee reported favorably to its admission, although the Convention of that diocese had not complied with the requirements of the Constitution.—The Convention, by a decided vote, refused to admit the diocese into union, until it shall have acceded to the Constitution of the General Church.

The diocese of Iowa was admitted, on the report of the Committee, without debate.

The discussion relative to the diocese of California showed that the question did not partake at all of a party complexion.

In the evening a missionary meeting was holden in the Church of the Ascension. This large church was crowded with an attentive congregation. Nearly all the Bishops were in attendance. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Meade presided, and introduced the Rt. Rev. Bishop Spencer, the senior member of the delegation from England, who made an excellent speech.

The Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair was then introduced, who made a short but an exceedingly neat and finished address. He was followed by the Rev. Ernest Hawkins, the Secretary of the Society, and the Rev. Mr. Caswell, who are also members of the delegation, and made interesting and appropriate remarks.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop of Fredericton being present, was then introduced, and made a speech remarkable for its clearness, beauty and force, which evidently made a deep impression upon the audience.

The meeting continued until nearly ten o'clock, and

was one of the largest and most interesting missionary meetings which have been held in this city since 1835.

Arrangements had been made for addresses from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Boone, and the Rev. Mr. Syle, one of the missionaries in China, and other speakers, but owing to the lateness of the hour, the meeting was adjourned to the same place on Monday evening next.

OCTOBER 11.

The Convention adjourned at an early hour on Saturday, for the accommodation of those members, who were desirous of returning to their homes to pass the Lord's day.

A Sunday in New York is very unlike a Sunday in Boston. The multitudes which throng the streets give the city an appearance of a holiday, especially in those parts where the foreign population abound. In these quarters, men and women have their stands for the sale of apples and confectionary, and what is worse, hundreds of bar-rooms throw their doors wide open on this sacred day, to draw, in the whirlpool of ruin, the tide of immortality, which sweeps through the streets and avenues of this great metropolis.

It is truly refreshing to behold, in contrast with this sad state of things, the large congregations which crowd the Episcopal Churches in this city. The Church has increased with rapidity in New York, within the last ten or fifteen years, and holds a degree of popularity and ascendancy in the community to which it can make no pretensions in New England. To see congregations on ordinary occasions, from one to two thousand on Sundays, is a sight, which does one's soul good to look upon.

On Monday evening were held in the Church of the Ascension, the closing services of the missionary meeting which was commenced in that Church on Friday evening.

It was decidedly one of the most interesting and spirited Missionary meetings that I ever attended.

Addresses were made by Bishop Boone, of China, and Mr. Ting, a native convert, who is a candidate for Holy Orders, and soon to be ordained,—the Rev. Mr. Syle, Missionary to China, the Rev. Dr. Stephens, of Philadelphia, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Eastburn, and the Rev. Dr. Tyng.

The addresses were characterized by the true spirit of missions;—they were earnest, able, and to the point. The most profound interest was manifested, by the large congregation.

It was conceded, we believe, on all hands, that there has not been anything to be compared with those missionary meetings, in our Church, since the year 1835.

The collection on Friday evening, amounted to upwards of three hundred dollars. The collection last evening was upwards of eleven hundred dollars, but these are by no means all or even the most important results of these missionary services.

I have not time to say more. I may recur to this matter again.

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Niagara, Oct. 6.

DISCOVERY OF THE NORTH WEST PASSAGE.

The arrival of Commander Inglefield with despatches from the Arctic regions, brought by the screw-steamer Phoenix, will be received with mingled feelings of congratulation and disappointment—congratulation in the fact that the great enterprise to which Sir John Franklin and his musing companions devoted and, in all probability, have sacrificed their lives, has been accomplished by Commander McClure, in Her Majesty's ship Investigator, who went in search of him—the discovery of the N.W. Passage—the enterprise of ages—has been achieved by a British officer, backed by a chosen band of British sailors,—with feelings of deep disappointment at not finding any traces of the missing expedition that Commander McClure a second time ventured to search for. Mr. Caswell is the bearer of his commander's despatches; and by his presence at the Admiralty afforded a living proof of the fact of that great enterprise, the discovery of the north west passage, having been achieved. That which every man has hitherto failed to perform McClure has done, and that, too, it affords us the utmost gratification to state, with the loss only of three of his crew in the course of his perilous service of three years' duration. Commander McClure, it will be remembered, was first lieutenant of Sir James Ross's ship Enterprise, in the first searching expedition for Sir John Franklin, and was promoted for that service. He then volunteered for the second expedition by way of Behring's Straits, and proceeded thither under Capt. Collinson of the Enterprise, at the beginning of 1850. Capt. Collinson, however, parted company with Commander McClure, and bore up for Hong Kong for the first winter, but Mr. McClure stood on towards the north-west for winter quarters, and the last we heard of him was in Behring's Straits, where Capt. Kellett, in Her Majesty's ship Herald, arrived just in time to see him dashing on towards the ice. Captain Kellett then deemed it advi-

sable to recall the Commander, and made the signal accordingly; but McClure parted from his senior officer with the truly Nelsonian reply, also by signal, "Can't stay!"—"Own responsibility." That was the last communication that took place with the Investigator on the Behring's Straits side of the North Pole; but most singular is it, that having parted with Captain Kellett in this manner and in such a locality, this very Commander McClure and this very Captain Kellett, should meet on the next occasion on the other side of the pole—in fact, that Captain Kellett should be the very man to rescue McClure and his brave fellows from starvation, and give him the helping hand to accomplish that almost superhuman enterprise which he forbade him from undertaking. All honor, then, to McClure, and to the country that sent him forth.—By his own undaunted energy he has developed those characteristics of the British sailor that no other country can produce, and has afforded another proof to the world of the supremacy of Great Britain in enterprise and civilisation, science and courage, in arts and arms. Commander McClure promised when he left the shores of England, that he would win his post rank—find Franklin or "make the Passage."

CAPTAIN M'CLURE'S PROCEEDINGS.

The following is an abstract of the proceedings of her Britannic Majesty's discovery ship Investigator, since parting company with the Herald upon the 31st of July, 1850, off Cape Lisburne:—

"At 5.30 a. m. August 2, in lat. 72-1 N., long. 166-12 W., made the ice, which did not appear heavy, but upon entering it a short distance was undecieved, and run out.

"Aug. 8.—1.45 a. m., being off Point Dew. Sent Mr. Court, second-master, and Mr. Miertsching, interpreter, to deposit a notice of our having passed, who met some Esquimaux that had arrived three days previous. These trade with the Russians, and were very friendly, therefore sent a letter with the chance of it reaching the Admiralty. We also heard from them that last year three boats had passed to the eastward with white men and Indians, which was most probably Lieut. Pollen. In the evening erected a cairn, and buried another notice at Point Pitt.

"Aug. 11.—Deposited a notice upon James' Island, which was thickly strewn with driftwood. In the afternoon two baidars, containing 24 natives, came alongside. The chief possessed a gun, with 'Barnet, 1840,' on the lock, obtained from the Russians. Bartered tobacco for salmon and ducks.

"Aug. 14.—Run up a shoal 8 miles north of Yarrow Inlet, having during the last two days narrowly escaped several of those dangerous banks, which are very little above the water, and hidden from view by the ice. Hove off with the stream anchor, but unfortunately upset a whale boat and lost 11 casks of beef, having to carry sail to prevent being set again on shore.

"Aug. 15.—Found it impossible to get two miles in any direction, the ice having closed from the northward, resting upon the shoals in that direction, and to the southward, the low banks which we grounded upon yesterday. Anchored to await some favourable change.

"Aug. 16.—Ice to the northward of the shoals, slightly eased, leaving about 150 yards of open water. Weighed and warped through two cables' length of ice to get into it, which occupied 6 hours of hard labour, so heavy was the pack.

"Aug. 17.—At noon the weather, which had been foggy, cleared with a breeze from the N. E., made sail through heavy sailing ice, occasionally striking violently, navigation along this coast very dangerous, the same banks being low and numerous, Lat. 70-30 N., long 148-4 W.

"Aug. 21.—Made the Pelly Islands, off the Mackenzie; since the 17th have encountered very heavy ice; ran 90 miles into a bight, which brought us to the solid pack; fortunately, we were enabled to cut out of it before it closed.

"Aug. 21.—Observing some huts a little to the Westward of Point Warren, sent despatches for the Admiralty, with the hope of their being forwarded by the Hudson's Bay Company; this tribe however, have no traffic with them; but barter with others farther west that trade with the Colville, giving as their reason that the Hudson's Bay Company had given the Indians water which had killed many of them, and they did not wish to have any; they appear savage and warlike, and are at enmity with their neighbours.—Brought the despatches back.

"Sept. 1.—Off Cape Bathurst, many natives came on board, and being nearly calm, remained until the evening, when, a breeze springing up, we took our final leave of the Esquimaux on the American coast, fully convinced that neither the ships nor any of the crew of Sir J. Franklin's have ever reached their shores; they appear a quiet inoffensive people (with the exception of those at Point Warren, which the Cape Bathurst tribe have no dealings with,) and would assist any white people thrown among them.

"Sept. 5.—At 11.30 a. m., being to the northward of Cape Parry, remarked high land from N. by E. to E. N. E.

"Sept. —At 9.30 a. m. landed and took possession of the discovery, and named it **BARING ISLAND**. The land is bolt upon the southern side, being upwards of 1,000 feet in height, its northern being Bank's Inlet; erected a signal-pole with a black ball, left a notice in lat. 71-8 N., long. 112-48 W.

"Sept. 9.—Observed land N. N. E. Named it **PRINCE ALBERT'S LAND** which is continuous with Wollaston and Victoria Land, and extends north to lat. 73-21 N., 112-48 W.