

I stand; or sit, my eyes will in spite of myself be wandering around the church, and my thoughts will wander with them, away from the business I have in hand between the Lord and me.

3. Because thus holy men of old worshipped the Lord. Abraham fell on his face in the Divine presence. King David lay all night on the earth in prayer—he calls us to worship and fall down and kneel before the Lord our Maker. Solomon and all the people knelt at the prayer of dedication of the Temple.—Daniel kneeled upon his knees three times a day. Stephen knelt down in his last prayer. Paul says we kneeled down and prayed. But above all my Saviour and my Master did so.

For the Colonial Churchman,

THE BIBLE AT ELECTIONS.

That the word of God should ever be treated with the utmost reverence, and that all use of it should be studiously avoided which may tend to bring it into disrespect, is what all will admit who consider the great and Holy Being by whose inspiration it has been given, and who acknowledge it as a part of their duty to Him to "honour his holy name and word."

Your pages cannot be more usefully employed than in the explanation and application of its heavenly doctrines, and the upholding of its sacred character. Nor should they be shut against any strictures which may be rendered necessary by the conduct of those, however high in worldly station, or however much the objects of popular admiration, who may seem to lose sight of the respect due to the sacred volume. Indeed the more exalted the station may be, the more dangerous must be the effect of all liberties that may be taken with holy things. I am led to make these remarks, by having just read the printed account of the late election at Colchester, which has been widely circulated by all the Journals of the day, and as widely perhaps has excited admiration at the oratorical powers of the learned gentleman who forms its principal subject. Such admiration it is not my design to diminish, nor to inflict any "paper attacks upon a well-earned reputation." Neither have I any thing to do with the political part of that business. But I hold it a duty to point out as worthy of reprehension, that in the bursts of his eloquence the orator seems to have forgotten the reverence that is due to the inspired volume. On many former occasions, I have remarked his proneness to the use of scripture phrases and allusions in his public speeches, but never, I think, such manifest impropriety, to use the gentlest term, as on this occasion. Witness the expression 'the gospel according to Isaac Logan'—the allusion, bordering closely on impiety, to the messenger sent before our blessed Lord to prepare his way—and the parody upon the beautiful passage of the evangelical prophet, which describes the blessedness of the gospel and the acceptable character of its preachers—"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet," &c. Such a use of these sacred passages at such a time, cannot be justified. It would deserve censure in the case of the lowest, and ought to meet it in the person of the highest. For in proportion to the influence of the speaker and to the current of feeling created in his favour on that occasion, will be the dangerous tendency of such liberties, and the encouragement which may be afforded by such an example to others, to treat with levity what has been so lightly regarded by those above them.

I am unwilling to impute any habitual disrespect for the scriptures to the gentleman in question, and would hope that in the excitement of the moment and in the fervour of his eloquence, he has been betrayed into expressions, which in cooler moments, he will condemn. But in the mean time, mischief may be done. The laugh may be raised at the expense of religion. The word of God has gone forth through the length and breadth of the land as parodied and trifled with by one of our highest provincial characters at the hustings, in the midst of a tumultuous and excited assembly. And many will shut their eyes against the sin, because it has been committed in high places, or because their passions have carried them away in admiration of the eloquence with which it was diluted. It behoves, therefore, that portion of the press which is more especially devoted to the cause of

God, to record in plain language, a condemnation of such misuse of talents and eloquence, which in pronouncing a high-wrought eulogium upon some expounders of the Bible have apparently forgotten the claims of the Bible itself

THEOPHILUS.

December 22d, 1836.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

MICHIGAN, (U. S.)

The following is an extract from a letter received at our office from the Rev. S. Marks, dated at Ann Arbor, November 4th, 1836.

Our reception at Detroit, was of the most cordial character; the Bishop and his suite, were received with open arms. So kind had been the deportment of our Diocesan towards us on the journey, that we with difficulty tore ourselves away, after having again heard him calling upon the dyi'g sinner to return to his Creator and to trust in the crucified, the Son of God. I with my family reached the parish of Ann Arbor, on the 29th of August. In this place, we have a beautiful, but unfinished Church. On the 28th of October, we held our annual Convention in St. Paul's Church, Detroit. This Church does great credit to the few highminded and liberal men connected with it. It has recently undergone repair, and presents an imposing appearance. To the devout friends of our Church, in this infant diocese, there is much cause for gratitude to the Giver of all good, for the present appearance of things. Our Bishop presided with ability, and the business of the Convention went on in harmony—indeed, we had a most delightful meeting. The days were spent in business, and the evenings in worship. I assure you, Mr. Editor, there is nothing wanting in this state, to secure the prosperity of our Church, (under God,) but persevering and evangelical ministers. The cry is from every direction, send us ministers. The cry is not, as in many places, unaccompanied by the means to sustain and support the faithful minister. I have never witnessed such noble specimens of liberality in all my ministry, as I have seen here. I make not this remark, by way of reflection; no, but by way of commendation. I had been here but a few weeks, before I was presented with a horse, worth a hundred dollars, and a saddle, bridle, &c. &c. This country is not inferior to any in the world—the soil is rich, and produces with liberality—the air is salubrious. So far as I can learn, the health of this state is as good as that of any of the Eastern states. The inducement to emigrants are strong and numerous. The clergyman, the farmer, the mechanic, may all find enough to do here, and the means of compensation adequate. I have not gone into detail about the Convention, because you will have in a few days a copy of our journal. I would say, by way of conclusion, that the House of Bishops made a wise and judicious choice, in their selection of the Right Rev. S. A. McCoskry for this diocese. He is an efficient Bishop, and a popular preacher.—*Epis. Rec.*

The earl of Derby has given the munificent sum of 1000*l.* towards building two new churches in the town of Bury, Lancashire. The great increase of population in the town and neighbourhood of Bury, makes it very evident that an increased supply of room dedicated to the public religious worship of God has become absolutely necessary. Under this impression it was a short time since determined, at a meeting held for the purpose, that measures should be immediately taken for building two new churches, to contain 1,200 persons in each; the one in Elton, in the neighbourhood of Bury Bridge, the other in the vicinity of Free Town, upon sites to be fixed hereafter, and that 8,000*l.* should be raised by subscription for this purpose, and for making an endowment to each of 1,000*l.* The subscriptions already amount to about 4,300*l.*

At Birmingham, Miss Abraham, the lady who has offered the sum of 1,500*l.* towards the erection and endowment of 'Bishop Ryder's church,' has given 100*l.* to the fund for the intended monument of his Lordship in Litchfield cathedral.

Earl Grey has presented to the parochial church of Howick a new and valuable organ, which was used for the first time on Sunday last.—*Morning Post.*

An English paper says that accounts received from the coast of Africa, state that the slave trade was carried on with increasing activity. There were about fifty Spanish slave vessels to the southward, and about thirty to the northward, chiefly American built, engaged in the traffic. Many Portuguese ships to the southward of the line were engaged in this inhuman trade, the provisions of the late treaty, it is alleged, having induced them to engage in it with impunity.

The U. S. Cutter Morris, E. Jones, commander, was at anchor at Vinalhaven, on the 4th inst. Her boats and crew had been employed for several days examining the islands and shoals in the vicinity of the Island of Holt, in search of the bodies of the unfortunate passengers lost in the Royal Tar Steamboat. Capt. Jones had succeeded in finding some money and baggage lost in the R. T. and had a prospect of obtaining more.—*W. Jour.*

The Cutter has returned from her cruise in search of the effects lost from the Royal Tar. They succeeded in finding nothing but a trunk containing about \$90. The Elephant was drowned. He was seen the day previous to the arrival of the Cutter drifting out to sea.—*Monday's Adv.*

Sabbath-Breaking.—Rev. D. Ruell, chaplain of the prisons of Middlesex Co., England, said, that during 20 years he had come in contact with 100,000 prisoners, and that on examination, he ascertained that every one of them had been a Sabbath breaker. He also stated that he never knew a convicted felon at Newgate, who, upon inquiry, did not turn out to have been a notorious Sabbath-breaker. Sir Matthew Hale's remarks, "that of the persons who were convicted of capital crime while he was on the bench, he found only a few who would not confess that they began their career of wickedness by a neglect of the duties of the Sabbath, and vicious conduct on that day."

Washington College, Hartford.—This institution has just had added to its apparatus a noble telescope, of the manufacture of Amasa Helcomb, Southwick, Massachusetts. This instrument is 14 feet long, has a mirror of 10 1-2 inches in diameter, and is thought to be unequalled by any other in the country, except one of the same size, by the same maker, now at Newark, Md. Its powers have not as yet been fully tested, but from some cursory observations, the highest expectations are entertained of its performance; a few nights since, Herschel was discovered through it, and, as was supposed, one of its moons, though there has not been, since that observation, opportunity to confirm its accuracy.—*Churchman.*

New Church at Bagillt.—A meeting has been recently held at Holywell for promoting subscriptions for erecting a Church in the neighbourhood of Bagillt, which contains a population of about 3,000 souls. The building, it is understood, will be proceeded with in the beginning of the ensuing year.—*Chester Courant.*

The venerable Earl of Eldon has rebuilt, at his own cost, the Church of Kingston, in the isle of Purbeck, in a very substantial and handsome manner.

The Rajah Ram Roy, son of the celebrated Rajah Rammohun Roy, Ambassador from the king of Delhi, who died in this country in 1833, arrived on Sunday last from Lord Lynedoch's, on a visit to the Rev. A. R. Kenny, of Litchfield, and has been introduced to some of the leading families in that city. The Rajah professes the Church of England religion, and speaks the English language remarkably well.—*Staffordshire Advertiser.*

Additional Church accommodation in England.—The sixteenth Report of the Commissioners appointed under the Act of Parliament for promoting the building of additional churches in populous parishes, has just been printed and delivered. It appears from the report that the number of additional churches completed by order of the Commissioners, since their appointment, is 214, that seven are now building; that plans are approved for building 15 other churches or chapels and that additional accommodation has been thus provided in churches and chapels for 286,327 individual, including 128,804 free sittings.

The very ancient Episcopalian chapel at Dinmore, in Herefordshire, which has not been used as a place of divine worship for about half a century, has lately been thoroughly repaired, and was on Sunday week opened for divine service by the Rev. John Fleming St. John.—*Gloucester Chronicle.*