

age of eighteen—that mother's care was beautiful to behold; yet she always afterwards set herself up as warning, to those whom she loved, never to encourage a wish or form a plan without distinctly referring it to the superior wisdom and undoubted goodness of God. To be deprived of worldly blessings is not a loss sometimes, but an escape, and God is able to correct our prayers, as we ask often what would prove, if granted, our destruction. How many have been ruined by that very rain or sunshine for which others have heartily prayed?

"Still raise for good the supplicating voice,
But leave to heaven the measure and the choice,
Safe in his mind, whose eye discerns afar,
The secret ambush of a specious prayer."

Diocesan Church Society.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

ON the evening of Wednesday, Jan. 16, the annual meeting of the D. C. S. was held in St. Paul's Church, St. Margaret's Bay. Notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, many were present to testify by their contributions the interest they take in the welfare of a Society which so strongly commends itself to all reflecting Churchmen.

The meeting was commenced by the Rev. J. Stanger saying the "appointed prayers," he afterwards in introducing the business of the evening, took occasion to explain the objects of the Society, and the principles upon which those objects are carried out. He called attention to the position, past and present, of the Church in this Province; insisting upon the necessity of all who really believe in the existence of a divinely-instituted Church, to contribute according to their ability in the extension and maintenance of her services, and shewing also that while we make vigorous efforts to support our own clergy, we are really contributing to the spread of the Gospel in heathen lands.

The following Resolutions were put to the meeting, and carried unanimously:—

1. That we, feeling thankful to the venerable S. P. C. and S. P. C. K. for having long assisted in the administration of God's Holy Word and Sacraments, think it our duty in turn to extend the same to the more destitute parts of this Province.

Moved by Mr. Ezrom Boutillier, and seconded by Mr. Wata Orchard.

2. That we will support the D. C. S. because it is the only authorized means by which the Church in this Province is to be handed down to posterity.

Moved by Mr. W. E. Brine, and seconded by Mr. J. Le Brocq.

3. That it is the duty of every Churchman to maintain the D. C. S. with all the means at his disposal.

Moved by Mr. James Croucher, Jr., and seconded by Mr. P. Boutillier.

The Curate of the Parish, in supporting the last Resolution, impressed upon all the great duty of showing their love to Christ, by their exertions in behalf of his Church. He reminded them that there are many parts of Nova Scotia where, but for this Society, the services of God would be "few and far between;" where the sick could not be visited; where the Holy Communion would be but seldom administered; and where children would be brought up, or die, unbaptized, while the D. C. S. was the means for the concentration of our efforts in behalf of our less favored brethren; and that by it every parish is, through the Bishop, the centre of unity, joined together; and thus there is afforded an opportunity for realizing that oneness and catholicity of Christ's Church, in which we all profess to believe.

The speaker next took a rapid survey of the Colonial Church—calling especial attention to the Island of Borneo, where an ancient problem is being worked out, in making the erection of the Episcopal see always the first step towards the evangelization of the country. This led to a mention of the fact, that Dr. McDougall is the first Colonial Bishop consecrated out of the mother country,—an intimation that the time is fast approaching when the power of the Church must be wielded in her Synods, and made to bear upon human society for the conversion of the whole world.

A collection was next made, and a larger sum taken than last year,—an example which will, doubtless, be followed by the other districts of the Parish. The meeting was then dismissed with the usual blessing.

S. A. C.

SYDNEY, C. D.

The annual General Meeting of the St. George's (Sydney, Cape Breton,) Branch of the Diocesan Church Society of Nova Scotia, was held in Temperance Hall, on Wednesday evening last.

The Rev. R. J. Uniacke, Rector of the Parish, presided. The Meeting was opened with Prayer, and the singing of part of the 67th Psalm.

The Meeting was then addressed, at some length, by the Rev. the President, who explained the objects and designs of the Diocesan Society, in a perspicuous and agreeable manner, and who warmly presented its claims to the earnest support and sympathy of Churchmen, in particular, and of others who desired to witness the spread of true religion throughout the Province.

The Report of the Committee for the year just expired was next read; which document contained an exposition of matters relating to the progress and doings of the Church in this Parish, during the year 1855.

A series of Resolutions were submitted to the meeting, and passed. Several of these Resolutions were spoken to with effect, and ability.—The first speaker being

J. L. Hill, Esq., who spoke on the affairs of the Society, and the Church in general, with becoming zeal. His gentleman's speech was a very excellent one.

The Rev. W. X. Porter, the indefatigable Secretary of the Society, to whose untiring zeal, and unwearied efforts, much of the success of the Society, in this quarter, is attributable, delivered a very suitable Address, partaking of a Review of the nature of the doings of the Societies in England,—together with the one in Nova Scotia, engaged in behalf of the Church of England, in the cause of Missions, and the propagation of the Gospel,—concluding with appropriate references to other subjects of interest, in this behalf; and by an earnest appeal in aid of the Funds of the Sydney Branch of the Diocesan Church Society.

The Rev. R. Arnold, Rector of Trinity Church, (Sydney Mines) who had kindly come over to assist at the Meeting, followed the last named speaker.—Mr. Arnold lent good help to the meeting by an agreeable and felicitous speech, designed to arouse the energies of those interested in the permanency and progress of the Institutions of the Church, and to increased support thereto; and to the more general application of the means necessary to effect the same. The Rev. gentleman's speech was decidedly pleasing, and abounded with spicy and happily conceived similes.

Judge Dodd, also made a short speech in reference to the progress of the Church, in some parts of Nova Scotia, (the Western Counties,) which he had witnessed and heard of during his visits there, in the discharge of his public duties.

The choir next sung Heber's Missionary Hymn, in which a large number of the auditory, united their voices.

The collection taken at this stage of the proceedings amounted to £4.

Mr. Ward made a few observations respecting the Endowment Fund and the Voluntary system.

The Meeting was again addressed by the President, and by Mr. Arnold; the remarks of the former being a very impressive and beautiful application of the comments, of a previous speaker, on the flight of time.

During the evening the absence of Captain Ouseley, and of P. H. Clarke, Esq., members of the Local Committee, by reason of temporary indisposition, was alluded to by the Rev. Messrs. Uniacke and Porter.

The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the chairman, by a unanimous vote.

The Meeting was then concluded by the singing the Doxology—"Praise God, &c.," and the Benediction by the Rector.

The foregoing is an unavoidably rough and hurried sketch of the proceedings of one of the most interesting, and numerous and respectfully attended Missionary Meetings, that it has been our privilege to be present at, in this place, for many years. The interest of the meeting was well sustained throughout, and the cause seemed to command the sympathy and friendship of most those present. During the evening a young gentleman came forward and generously handed in two dollars, in aid of its funds. The meeting was attended by some of the leading persons—Ladies and gentlemen—of the several Protestant Churches—including the esteemed Minister of the Wesleyan Methodists here, the Rev. J. H. Starr, whom, with Mrs. Starr, we saw present in the Hall. The moon shed her soft light over the earth, and shone so brightly as to almost render invisible the twinkling stars that studded the unclouded canopy of the heavens, and which, with a balmy and refreshing atmosphere, made up a night of surpassing loveliness—such a one, as the inhabitants of northern latitudes alone, are permitted to enjoy.

We shall shortly have the pleasure of announcing a

similar meeting at Sydney Mines—the Parish of the Rev. Mr. Arnold.

Let us hope that the interest thus being manifested in the affairs of our beloved Church may go on increasing, more and more, and that we may all have occasion personally to thank God that in his good pleasure we have been made instrumental in extending the blessings of religion, and the privileges of this branch of His Church on Earth.—C. B. News, Jan. 19.

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. Steamer America, Jan. 6

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

We believe we may add to our information, that when the Cabinet of St. Petersburg heard of the intended movement of Austria, for the purpose of promoting the resumption of peace negotiations, it was thought advisable to inform that Power of the views of Russia upon the subject; and accordingly Prince Gortschakoff, some weeks ago, announced to Count Buol that Russia would be now willing to resume the Conferences of Vienna at the point at which they had been broken off; and he then declared to Count Buol that which is now made public in the circular of the Russian Foreign office, viz., that Russia was ready to consent to the third of 'the Four Points,' which it will be remembered had for object to 'put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea,' and on the manner of effecting which object the belligerents could not agree.

Now, in the first place, by this offer, Russia contravenes the spirit and the letter of the Third Point, of which the first object was, through a revision by all the Powers of the treaty of the Dardanelles, to bring Turkey into the family of European nations, and constitute her a substantive portion of the States interested in maintaining the balance of power. In the second place, to stipulate, after all that has occurred, that while the Russian flag is to float in the Black Sea, uncontrolled—save by an agreement with Turkey—the flags of England and France are to be excluded from its waters, is simply to laugh at us.

We presume Count Buol felt this, as he has not ventured to submit to the Western Powers a proposition which savours more of useless impertinence than of the artful plausibility in which Russian diplomats are generally such distinguished adepts. Count Buol, however, in the interest of peace, made it his business to ascertain what terms the Western Powers would insist on requiring from Russia. Having done this, and Austria approving of them, they have been sent in the form of an Austrian ultimatum to St. Petersburg. The general outline of these terms which were first communicated to the public in the Morning Post of December 4, embrace, it will be remembered, the neutralisation of the Black Sea, the cession to Turkey of the mouths of the Danube, the renunciation of the Protectorate, and the undertaking not to rebuild Bomarsund.

Now, while thinking it possible she might yield on the other points, we are certain, in spite of her issuing this last circular, that Russia would accept the neutralisation of the Black Sea—indeed, she has given this to be understood—provided that the unanimous voice of Europe press it upon her authoritatively; but this is next to an impossibility—Austria will, and Prussia won't. Here, then, already among the great Powers is a decisive difference. It is true that Baron Werther, the Prussian Minister at St. Petersburg, has instructions to 'support Count Esterhazy's propositions in a sense favourable to peace;' but the word should not be 'support,' it should be 'enforce,' otherwise it is valueless—and, indeed, it is hardly doubtful but that it is meant so to be so.

Under these circumstances, we can scarcely expect the Czar to accede to the Austrian ultimatum. It is plain, however, that the Autocrat has not hastily rejected the propositions, as the telegraph is yet silent on the point, and they, therefore, still lie under its consideration. But however probable their rejection, we can never be certain of Russian action till the thing is done. If diplomatic ingenuity can convert the conditions into some non-natural sense, Russia may accept them, for the purpose of trying by negotiation to effect dissensions in Europe; but she will not catch us again, though she may try. If, as is probable, she is persuaded of this, then the Cabinet of St. Petersburg may save its trouble; and, on the one hand, seeing no hope of injuring the allies, on the other, feeling not yet sufficiently coerced to submit, Russia may refuse the terms, and await the further decision of arms.

Last Wednesday, Mr. Corrigan, a "commander" in the East India dock, and his wife, were on a Christ-