

the rectory 'domination,' has proved but a theoretical grievance. People find that they can fill their garners without dread of the tithe-proctor; and they can worship where they will without the 'dominant' dictation, or rectorial interference!

I take the following from the same source:—

The Inhabitants of the Township of Guelph and its vicinity:

I feel myself called upon at the present crisis, to express a few observations to my fellow subjects in this Township and neighbourhood. They will, I excuse the liberty I take, and do justice to the views by which I am influenced.

For some time past statements have been in circulation, calculated to disturb the minds of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in this Province. These statements reached this neighbourhood, and it is to be feared that some whose loyalty has been unquestionable, unthinkingly given them credit, and thus have induced to waver in their fidelity to our free happy constitution.

These reports to which I allude are,—

1. That Tithes are about to be collected in Upper Canada, and

2. That the establishment of Rectories has conferred upon the Clergy of the Church of England, 'dominant' authority, not only over their own, but also over the members of all other denominations.

These reports are so absurd, that I am almost tired of contradicting them; nevertheless, since among us have believed them, that contradiction seems to be imperatively called for.

With regard then to the first mentioned report, I declare that it is utterly false that Tithes are to be collected in this Province. I make this statement on the veracity of a Christian and a man; and I do so on the following grounds:—

Some years ago doubts arose as to whether the Clergy of the Church of England might not reclaim the payment of tithes, notwithstanding reservation of lands for their support; and in order to set the question at rest for ever, a bill was introduced into the Legislative Council, by the Archbishop of York, enacting—"that no tithes shall be demanded or received, by any ecclesiastical rector, or vicar of the Protestant Church, in custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding." That Bill passed both houses of the Legislature of this Province. It was then sent home, where it passed through all the necessary stages, and finally received the royal assent. And it now stands recorded in the Statute Book of Upper Canada, at the 22nd of the Kingston edition.

Tithes cannot and will not be imposed on Upper Canada, because the people are to a man opposed to them, and none more so than the members of the Church of England themselves.

Tithes will not be imposed on Upper Canada, because such a preposterous measure in connection, the Clergy of the Church of England would be among the first to petition against it; and under the peculiar circumstances of this Province, to their usefulness as Ministers of the Gospel.

In reference to the second report above alluded to, I declare that the establishment of Rectories in Upper Canada, has not conferred on the Clergy of the Church of England any authority whatsoever over the members of their own community, and that, merely of a spiritual nature; and I declare, that any other authority the Clergy of the Church of England do not desire to possess.

If this statement be doubted, then I say, in the name of peace and loyalty, let us petition Parliament, a bill declaring "that the establishment and endowment of Rectories in this Province, shall not be construed to confer any right to exercise any spiritual power whatever, except over the members of the Church of England." Let such a petition be signed by this Township, and I will be one of the signers.

One word more and I have done. The only question at issue is that which relates to the Clergy Reserves. The Church of England believes that those lands were set apart, (to use the words of the Constitutional Act,) for the purpose of "erecting in every Township or Parish, one or more Parsonages or Rectories according to the establishment of the Church of England;" and thus of affording the ministrations of religion to all who might choose to avail themselves of them, free of all charge whatever to the people. Until this important question shall be decided, the Church of England shall feel it a sacred duty to use all peaceable and constitutional means to obtain the application of the Reserves to the purposes for which they were originally intended. Other bodies profess to believe that they are equally entitled to those lands. Let all who think so, likewise prosecute what they consider their claims in a temperate and constitutional manner. But let this be done on all sides, without involving this noble Province in dissension and confusion, without retarding its prosperity and hazarding its safety. Above all, let us not make the issue of this question, the condition of our loyalty to the Queen. And in proof of the sincerity with which I offer this advice, I here declare beforehand, that however the Clergy Reserves question may be decided, whether for the Church of England or against her, I shall feel it my duty in conjunction with my Brethren, to remain faithful to my principles, and to give my humble support to those laws and institutions, on the stability of which depends our happiness as a people, and which secure to us a larger measure of practical liberty, than is enjoyed by any other country on the face of the globe.

ARTHUR PALMER,
Rector of Guelph.

Parsonage, Nov. 3, 1838.

THE WEATHER.—This winter has been remarkable for sudden and violent changes in the temperature. For instance, in the 24 hours between the 21st and 22d inst. there was a variation of sixty degrees!

State of the Thermometer for December, marked at noon.

Average 30½—highest degree 42—lowest 18

For Jan'y. " 30½ " 41 " 8

There have been 8 days of sleighing in December, and 5 in January.

CHURCH SOCIETY.—An appeal to the Public in behalf of this Society appears in the Halifax Times of Tuesday last. The lateness of the hour at which it came to hand, prevents its insertion this week. A general meeting of the Society is announced for Wednesday 13th March next.

Much dissatisfaction appears to have been excited in a certain portion of the House of Assembly by some of the answers received from Downing Street; and a Delegation is warmly recommended to proceed to England and bring her Majesty's Government into due submission to the will of the people.

Toronto, January 8.

On Sunday morning, between 8 and 9 o'clock, the English Episcopal Church of this city was discovered to be on fire; in a few minutes it was beyond all rescue, and in a couple of hours was a mass of ruins. There is no reasonable conjecture respecting the cause of the sad calamity, further than that the fire must have communicated from the stove pipes. We are happy to say that it is insured in a London Office for £5,000, and as the walls have apparently sustained but little damage, we trust that £5 or £6,000 additional will repair the loss; meantime the large congregation must suffer great inconvenience.—Divine service was held in the afternoon in the City Hall.—*Patriot*.

NEW MANUAL OF DEVOTION.—A few copies of this work containing Prayers for families, and various occasions, may be had at the Depository, at Mr. Gaetz's, Lunenburg.

ARRANGERS!—This is so unseemly a word that the Publisher is anxious to avoid the necessity of using it, in which he hopes all concerned will assist him, by sending as early as possible, their dues up to the end of Volume III.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—Charles Desbrisay, Esq. (Nov. 8) with remit.; L. H. DeVeber, Esq. (Nov. 24 & Jan. 16) with do.; Rev. Mr. Jarvis, with do. 2; James T. Allison, Esq. with do.

MARRIED.

On the 22d inst. by the Rev. Archdeacon Willis, Mr. George Leslie, to Miss Frances Geddes of Sheet Harbour.

DIED.

At Salmon River, in the 67th year of her age, Mrs. Mary Balcom. She was interred at Sheet Harbour on the 28th Dec. last: her funeral was honoured by a general attendance of the inhabitants, and the beautiful burial service of the church was performed. This aged pilgrim has given proof of her christian faith even to the last, when she bade adieu to her partner. Five of her children have families, and likewise four of her grand children.

At Halifax, Henry Yeomans, Esq. aged 76 years. This gentleman has long resided in that community, and has ever been highly esteemed a most worthy and upright character,—his kind heart and hospitable disposition will long be remembered by his sorrowing friends.

From the British Magazine.

FUTURITY.

The fairest scenes beneath the skies,
The rays of joy that brightest beam,
When wrapt in Fancy's fond disguise
More bright and more enchanting seem.

Still to the soul how dull the past,
With future hours compar'd, appears;
Still Fancy wild, than Time more fast,
Plans her gay map of future years.

To him who longs the bliss to prove
Which lurks in Fancy's landscape wide,
How slow the hours and minutes move,
Like bubbles, down Time's lazy tide!

How lovely, smiling from afar,
The future joys of life appear!
Alas, how tame, how flat they are
When to their presence we draw near.

There is an hour—an hour to come,
Which baffles Fancy's boldest flight;
She dare not pierce Death's awful gloom,
She cannot gaze on heav'nly light:

Not all her fairy powers can paint
The joys that dwell above the sky,
For every eye but Faith's grows faint,
When stretch'd towards Eternity!

G. P.

JUST PUBLISHED,

BELCHER'S FARMER'S ALMANACK, FOR 1839.

Containing every thing requisite and necessary for an Almanack—Farmer's Calendar—Table of the Equation of Time—Eclipses, &c.—Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils—and House of Assembly. Officers of the Army, Navy, and Staff of the Militia—Officers of the different Counties, (including the New County of Digby,) Sittings of the different Courts, &c. arranged under their respective Divisions and Counties—Roll of Barristers and Attorneys with dates of admission—Charitable and other Societies—Insurance Companies—Clergy of the different denominations throughout the Province—Colleges, Academies, Clergy, &c.—Roads and distances to the principal Towns, with the Route to St. John and Fredericton, N. B. with a variety of other matter.

October 27, 1838.

C. H. BELCHER:

"Belcher's Farmer's Almanack,"—A better cannot be had in Halifax. It contains all that is useful in a work of that kind, and much that is instructive. The local information is unusually accurate."—*Halifax Times*.