

the Clergy and several Lay Communicants. The amount collected, on the occasion, amounting to £5 13s. 3d., together with the annual donation of Miss Wood, is to be presented to the Venerable the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. After the Service the Clergy dined with His Lordship, and at four o'clock repaired again to the Church, when the evening Service was read by the Rev. J. A. J. Roberts, Rector of Hamilton and Smith's: after which the Bishop delivered his charge to the Clergy.

A unanimous wish was expressed to His Lordship by the Clergy that his charge should be printed, to which we trust His Lordship will assent, as it was one of peculiar interest.

NUMBER OF PERSONS CONFIRMED in each Parish of Bermuda in the year 1853.

	White.		Colored.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Somerset.....	21	21	24	27	93
Southampton.....	2	7	9	16	34
Warwick.....	5	8	6	18	37
Pagets.....	3	8	6	25	42
Pembroke.....	† 18	23	13	32	86
Devonshire.....	6	4	3	9	22
Smith's.....	1	6	0	5	12
Hamilton ..	2	2	0	2	6
St. George's.....	† 25	20	4	20	69
St David's.....	1	2	8	11	22
Pembroke.....	53	0	1	0	54
Second Confirmation					
	137	101	74	165	477

\* Soldiers 9; Midshipmen 2.

† Soldiers 4; Midshipmen 4.

‡ Soldiers 23; || From the Flagship.

#### SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

April, 1853.

The Lord Bishop of St. Asaph in the Chair.

The Lord Bishop of Quebec was present.

The Standing Committee, in pursuance of notice given at the last General Meeting, proposed that the sum of £1300 be granted for the purpose of procuring and sending out an iron Church, and an iron Parsonage to Melbourne, application having been made for them by the Lord Bishop of Melbourne. This grant was voted accordingly.

The Secretaries reported that the Church and house are in the course of preparation by Mr. S. Hemming, Clift House, Bristol.

It having been referred to the Standing Committee to consider the desirableness of petitioning Parliament on the subject of the Clergy Reserves in Canada, and of drawing up such a petition as they might consider advisable, a petition which had been drawn up accordingly was read and adopted.

The following letter from the Lord Bishop of Colombo, dated "Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, February 9, 1853," was read to the Board:

"On my way to this Hill Station of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for a short sojourn in its invigorating and bracing climate, at an elevation of 6000 feet above the sea-level, I passed a week as the guest of his Excellency the Governor, at Kandy, for the purpose of consecrating its Church. It was the first work aided by the generosity of the Committee since the capital of the Kandyan kings became subject to British rule, and before the island of Ceylon was erected into a separate see. It shared again, on my arrival, in the bounteous aid afforded me by the Committee in their hearty "God speed" on my departure from England. It was one of the earliest works I visited, when in progress under the energetic and most effective superintendence of Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, R. E., brother of the Bishop of Exeter.

"It is gratifying to me to acknowledge thus publicly to the Committee my sense of obligation to one who has long since left our island. Without his valued aid and most persevering efforts, amid unlooked for difficulties and obstructions, I doubt whether the Church would have been so successfully completed. Before he left us for China, he finished the external fabric

and tower, and provided the interior fitting in all becoming order, sufficiently to enable me to license it for use in Divine Service, where it was so urgently needed. The exertions of its late and lamented pastor, the Rev. F. Von Dadeleben, originally a missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, from King's College, London, while in England on sick leave, enabled him to furnish the windows, communion table and rails, timber for the roofing, and a rich east window. Little the effort remained to complete it for consecration, and his last act almost was to obtain from the Government, with the kind assistance of Sir George Anderson, a loan of £150 for this purpose. But he was not permitted, in the mysterious dealings of God's Providence, to which we bow submissively, to witness the fulfilment of his heart's most earnest wish. He was seized in August last with brain fever and dysentery, and, after a few weeks, sank under it, to the great sorrow, not of his own people only, but, I may say, of the whole Church in the island.

"The consecration therefore was an occasion full of saddened interest. All the Clergy in the Central Province assisted in it. Surrounded as it is on almost every side by Buddhist temples, two of which adjoin its enclosure, I fixed the Conversion of St. Paul, the chief apostle of the Gentiles, for the solemnity, to give both the dedication and name to the church. The building is large and massive, and, though not, perhaps, architecturally in very correct taste, has a good elevation, being in the form of a cross, and having a good tower. The interior, being without aisles or pillars, affords an ample area of (I believe) 120 feet by 80, with a chancel and transepts. The soldiers of the 37th Regiment formed the choir on the occasion, as on every Sunday with their band. I preached to a full congregation; and having many memorials before and around me of him who had been its first exemplary and devoted chaplain, and had laboured so earnestly to build up the spiritual, as well as material fabric, of which he had the charge, I could not be unmoved. The very pulpit in which I stood was a tribute of affectionate regard to him from the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the 15th Regiment, who had felt the blessing of his faithful and fearless ministrations among them, when stricken with that scourge of the East, the cholera, a few years ago. The desk from which the prayers were read was the gift of an intelligent native, a Singhalese of high Kandyan family, who had been converted to Christianity, and had attached himself to the English congregation, having an entire command of our language to speak and write, as well as understand it. Indeed I might correctly have applied the tribute to his memory, as far beyond one of "dull cold marble." "Si quæris monumentum, circumspice." I shall ever look upon the church itself as his monument,—knowing that in many hearts he will so live, as best the Christian pastor should live,—though dead, yet speaking to them, by his warning voice, now that he is gone from us, by his example while moving among us.

"On the following Sunday, as the first after its consecration, at an early service, the holy rite of confirmation was administered to about forty, and at eleven o'clock the holy communion: in the afternoon, at three o'clock, confirmation was again administered in Singhalese at the mission chapel to twelve candidates, most of whom had been baptized as adult converts by the Rev. W. Oakley. Their reverential deportment and earnest expression of intelligence was very pleasing. May an abundant ingathering, in God's own best time, be prepared for His blessed harvest!

"It is most gratifying to me to inclose a copy of the despatch received from Sir John Pakington about the permanent endowment of St. Thomas's College."

Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart., in his despatch to Sir G. Anderson, K. C. B., Governor of Ceylon, expressed a high sense of the liberality of the Bishop, in surrendering a fifth portion of the Episcopal income for the endowment of St. Thomas's College. It was added, that measures were in contemplation for the grant of a royal charter to the institution.

A letter was read from Rear-Admiral Moresby, C. B., to the Rev. T. B. Murray, dated Valparaiso, 31st January, 1853. The following is an extract:

"I have to return you many thanks for your most acceptable letter. Truly my heart rejoices at the completion of my wishes in Mr. Nobbs' ordination, and the future prospect opening to the Pitcairn community.

"A small sum will suffice to keep up a knowledge of the Tahitian language—the voice by which the extension of the Gospel will be forwarded. It fortunately happens that I have received this morning a letter from the Rev. W. Holman, dated Pitcairn, 21st December. I send a copy.

"The Bishop of London will, I am sure, be pleased with Mr. Holman's account. I have now only to hope and trust, that it will please God to give His blessing to all that has been done."

The Rev. W. H. Holman wrote as follows:—

PITCAIRN'S ISLAND, Dec. 21, 1852.

"The arrival of the English whaler, 'Mary Nichols,' and her departure to-day for the island of Chiloe, affords me another opportunity of communicating intelligence from this place. The 'Cockatrice' arrived on the 17th of November, and left again on the 24th. The people are greatly pleased with the presents brought by her, and feel very grateful for the kindness of their friends. The islanders are now quite healthy, with the exception of the slight indisposition caused by vaccination, which is proceeding very favourably, and I hope will have succeeded in every case before your return. I am happy in being able again to report favourably of the high moral and religious character of the people. The latter has, I hope, been greatly improved by the serious and solemn thoughts occasioned by the