

"he says," by the reports that Sebastopol has not yet been taken; and do we think it will at present. You ask how the Duke of Cambridge is getting on. I am very sorry to say that he has for a time left the army. A better or a braver man never entered a field. He has the best wishes of every man in his division, for he has the interest of the soldier at heart, and he was relieved to see his Guards run up as they were. I say, may he live many, many years, as he is a perfect specimen of true British blood. Although Royal, he can suffer, and he had many narrow escapes. I see with a feeling of disgust how the gentry of Sussex are vying with each other to give the most pressing invitation to those Russian officers in that country upon parole of honour, to a day's shooting. &c. They have a right to do what they like with their own; but methinks, if they would just come up here and have a day's shooting with them, they would be perfectly satisfied as to their (the Russian Officers) humanity, and they would get no more invitations in Sussex."

"W. H. Pennington," a private of the 11th Hussars, who, according to his father, having "turned his back on the profession for which he was educated" last spring, which just 21 years of age, sends hence the following spirited account of his share in the celebrated cavalry charge at Balaklava:—

"General Hospital, Scutari, Dec. 7.

"My beloved Mother,—My wound was from a musket ball through the calf of the right leg, but it is so well healed that I begin to walk upon it for an hour or so in the day. I enjoy excellent health, as I thank God, I have done since we left Turkey, though cholera and war have made sad devastation in our ranks. A brave and gallant charge made by our 8th Cavalry at Balaklava. The newspapers will let you see our position at the time. The word was given to 'charge guns to the front.' We advanced at a gallop to these guns, and a fearful fire from the front of grape, shell, and canister, with shot on the right and left flanks, and infantry also pouring in a tremendous fire. The effect was, that horses and men fell thick and fast, but even this did not check our onward rush. All the Russian artillerymen were sabred, and for an instant we were masters of the guns, but having no support could not keep them. In this condition we were charged in flank and rear by numerous regiments of Russians and cavalry, and, but for the desperation with which our fellows cut their way, there would not have been a single man return from that fatal charge. As for myself, I never reached the guns in front, as a grape shot went through my bushby, about two inches above my head, knocking it on one side, another through the calf of my leg, and the next through my horse's head (a fine black mare).—Well, here I was, at the mercy of their Lancers, whom I saw landing our dismounted men. The demons give no quarter when you are down. At this moment the 8th Hussars came by, with a horse without its rider. This I mounted, and turned in the rear of the 8th, as if it were my own regiment, and dashed on. But worse again—we were obliged to wheel 'right about,' and to pass through a strong body of the enemy's cavalry, which had pitched in our rear, cutting off our retreat. Of course, with our handful it was life or death, so we rushed at them to break through them, but as soon as we got through our body there was another to engage. At any rate, with five or six of our fellows at my rear, I galloped on, parrying with the determination not to lose my life, breaking the lances of the cowards who attacked us in the proportion of three or four to one, occasionally catching one or two with the sword across the neck, and giving another the point in his arm or breast. At any rate, they kept close on me till I got sight of our heavier, when, thanks be to God, they stopped pursuing me, and I got clear without a scratch from their lances. (Oh! the sabre before the lance.) I found that I could not dismount, from the wound in my right leg and so was obliged to—and how I cared for the noble horse that brought me safely out.

"I will not disguise you as a soldier, take my word. The attendance at the hospital is now pretty good, but of course not like home. Pray that I may be preserved from the dangers of war, and regain the character for honour, magnanimity to the foe, and courage in the field, for which the British soldier is so justly famed. With best love to my father and yourself, and all that are dear to me,—Believe me to be your affectionate son,

"W. H. PENNINGTON, Private, 163d, 11th Hussars."

CONGRESS.—In the House of Representatives on the 22nd inst., Mr. Fuller of Maine from the Committee on Commerce, offered a resolution directing the President to open a correspondence with the British government with a view to the erection of a light-house at Cape Race, the United States claiming the expense. The resolution was favored by Mr. Culling of New York and Chandler of Pennsylvania, and opposed by Mr. Smith and McKim, of Virginia. It was passed 87 to 62.

Correspondence.

MR. DUTCH'S LETTER ON AUSTRALIA.

Continued from last week.

"Lack of space prevents my giving you as full a description as I should wish of the country we passed through. And of course there was none, we travelled over undulating plains where no trees were to be seen, then again through a thick 'scrub', and now passing slowly beneath the stately shade of lofty gum trees, crossing the beds of creeks (every water course whether wet or dry is a creek,) quivering with aloe and perlous with sweet-scented grass. Again we had to climb the 'rangers' of hills, avoiding the deep 'gullies,' where blocks of iron stone showed the pure metal coated on its surface, and where pieces of clearest crystal were trodden beneath our horses' feet.—Want of water was our most serious difficulty; for ourselves, we could carry a supply, but on one occasion horses, bullocks, and cattle were for three days without any. Water was to be found, but often at long distances apart, and of every variety; some as fresh as the purest spring, but a great deal as salt as the Atlantic; that most commonly met with, is intermediate and consequently brackish, our only serious discomfort. Indeed, was the insufficiency of the water for purposes of washing, especially as our face could not be said to be by any means 'Candidior postquam undantem corda salutem.'—razors in the bush, being considered as a crime of oppression. I cannot forbear to mention a circumstance, showing, as it does, very strongly a decided evidence that ordereth all things, and which the oldest settlers are at a loss to explain. It is that within the last few years, small springs of water scarcely sufficient to supply a station have opened a course through the plains, and can now supply thousands of cattle and sheep, and in many instances, water has literally sprung out of dry places. Soon after our arrival at Oatlands, (the native name of our present quarters,) we were visited by about 30 or 40 natives, none of whom, with one or two exceptions, had ever seen white people before, so that their wonder and curiosity may easily be imagined. The men were very well made, and if anything above rather than below the average of European stature, having their faces almost concealed by their black curly hair, bushy eyebrows, and moustaches; they appeared to be little encumbered with wearing apparel, being quite satisfied if they had a piece of a 'walibi' rug or kangaroo skin to partially cover them when sleeping in their 'whirlies,' which cannot be at all compared with a Nova Scotian Indian's camp for comfort, being built only of boughs, salt bush, and is always open to leeward."

"I acquired some consideration amongst them, from my having shot one of the cattle intended for beef, and from wearing spectacles, which they firmly believed to be a permanent feature of my physiognomy, and which invested me with superhuman powers of vision. I cannot discover that they have any distinct ideas of devotion, or any object of their worship, though they are very superstitious, and will rarely leave their fire-arms if they can possibly avoid it. We came up provided with fire-arms in case they should be inclined to annoy us, but all uncertainty upon that point is quite set at rest, and will remain so as long as they are not improperly treated in any way. Having pitched for us a permanent tent, built a chimney, and a yard for the cattle, &c. &c., Mr. Jacob and Mr. Young returned, the former of whom we expect to see in a few days with another 'dray' load of various necessaries. Now that the first puff has been made, there will soon be plenty of fresh 'runs' taken up all round us, and we shall soon be as much in the world again as ever. Sport is very abundant here; at the head of the list stands the kangaroo, the hunting of which however requires trained dogs, which have not yet come up; some of them stand, or rather sit, from six to eight feet high, Rock-wallis, plain wallis, Kangaroo-rats, wallabies, bandicoots, &c. &c., are all, respectively, smaller sizes than the Kangaroo, and all agreeing in the characteristics of the long hind leg and tail. I have caught a little mouse in the perfect form of the Kangaroo. There are no beasts of prey except the 'wallis' or wild dog, which has a partiality for sheep and lambs. Emus, wild turkeys, and pigeons in abundance, are to be found, but the two former are very shy. We have reached the middle of August (the most rainy season of the year) but I can only compare the weather to the Nova Scotian Autumn, than which I can pay it no higher compliment. You can hardly fancy what a treat it is to receive a newspaper, much more a letter in the 'hub.' I have been lately reading with avidity a 'Times' of 1851, in which acherse had been wrapped up, so you may tell any of my friends who may be charitably disposed, that anything addressed to the care of the Post Master General of South Australia, will reach me in safety; I fear that in my endeavour to bring it within the compass of a reasonable letter, I have mutilated rather than condensed my subject matter; even in its present imperfect form, however, I trust you will not find it altogether uninteresting; my next letter may probably be written in town."

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.—LUXFORD COMMITTEE.

The 17th Annual Meeting of this Committee was held in the Temperance Hall on the evening of Wednesday, January 3rd, at 7 o'clock. A moonlight evening and good walking, contributed to fill the large

room of the building with a more numerous attendance than has yet occupied it on these interesting occasions, proving that the designs and objects of this valuable Society, as the handmaid of the Church, are more and more commending themselves to the support and approval of the community.

"Old Hands-dish," as it is called, and orthodox, followed by the prayers appointed for each occasion, after which the President, the Rev. H. L. Owen, Rector of the Parish, in his opening address, stated to the Meeting his regret that three of his neighbours, the other Clergymen, whom he had invited, had not willingly been obliged, from local duties, to decline the invitation. He stated that from two of his respected parishioners he had received notices of apology for non-attendance, adding however that his disappointment was in some measure mitigated by finding a twenty shilling bill enclosed in each note, as their subscription for the year, a plan which he could desire to see adopted by all the members of the Church, when from whatever cause intending to be absent from the meetings.

A full Report of the proceedings of the Committee for the past year was then read by the zealous Secretary, Mr. C. E. Kaibach, which being finished, Resolution 1 was moved by J. Heckman, Esq.—That the Report now read be adopted, and placed on file among the Records of the Committee of the Diocesan Church Society, and after being seconded by J. H. Kaibach, Esq. was passed.

The excellent choir of St. John's Church, on this as on all similar occasions ready and obliging, conducted the singing of Bishop Hooper's beautiful Missionary Hymn, in which the numerous meeting appeared heartily to join.

The 2nd Resolution, expressive of confidence in the important objects of the Society, and its means for carrying them out, and calling upon the friends of the Church for diligent co-operation thereto, was moved, in an extraordinary speech by the Hon. W. Radford, M. I. C., seconded by C. Schmidt, Esq. and passed.

The Rev. W. H. Shyler, Rector of St. James's, Malabar Bay, moved the 3rd Resolution, referring to the debt of gratitude due by the Colonial Church, and especially by that portion of it planted in this Diocese, to the Venerable Church Societies in England, to whose fostering care we have been so long indebted. In the course of the earnest and heartfelt speech, the Chairman wished that some of the members of those valued Institutions could have heard how their labours were appreciated and acknowledged here.

The 3rd Resolution, seconded by Mr. Robbitt Scott, merchant, was then adopted.

The 4th Resolution, referring to the important benefits which are now provided for students in Divinity and Science at the Collegiate Establishment at Windsor, was moved by G. T. Solomon, Esq. and seconded by Mr. Stannage Jacobs.

H. S. Jost, Esq. M. P. P., in a useful and practical speech moved the 5th Resolution, expressive of grateful acknowledgment to Almighty God for the past progress of the Church Society, especially in its Missionary character, which being seconded by Mr. W. Dauphney, passed unanimously.

The Choir here again gave pleasing variety to the engagements of the evening, by singing the 122d Psalm in the Nova Scotia collection.

After which, in an animated address, D. Owen, Esq. moved the 6th Resolution, thankfully acknowledging the addition made last year to the funds of the Society, by the zealous efforts of District collectors, male and female, and the adoption of collecting cards. He referred to the fact that one young female in the remote woods had forwarded 20 shillings to the Rector, obtained by means of her collecting card. She remarked in the letter enclosing the card and the amount collected, 'I have done as you requested me to the best of my ability, and hope the sum, though small may prove a benefit to that Society in which I feel a deep interest.' This Resolution, seconded by Mr. Joshua Kaibach, and supported by Mr. Joseph Radoli, also passed.

The 7th and last Resolution, proposing the officers for the ensuing year, was moved with some suitable remarks by Capt. King, seconded by Mr. Jas. Dawling, and passed unanimously.

Subscriptions to the amount of nearly Ten pounds were then handed in, a collection taken to defray the expense of the Hall for the evening; and another very pleasing Meeting of the Immigrant Committee of the Diocesan Church Society, was closed with singing the Russian Evening Hymn, and the pronouncing the benediction by the Chairman; an old and attached member of the Society remarking as he left the room, that the two hours just closed had been as happily and profitably spent as any he had ever passed within that Hall.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

MR. EDITOR.—The enclosed notes will tell their own tale. Had you been one of our number on Christmas Day, you would, I am sure, have added your testimony not only to the merits of the fair organist, whose kind services the parishioners have so properly acknowledged, but also to the whole choir for the admirable manner in which they held up their voices and I trust the hearts of all present in setting forth the glad tidings of redeeming love. At the conclusion of the Anti-Communion Service the Sunday School children, accompanied by the Superintendent, (Mr. H. B. B. B.) and all the teachers, assembled in regular