

Room to the amount of more than £60, without paying a farthing. That I had opened an account at the Book-room, I do not attempt to deny; it being in strict accordance with an arrangement which you mention, whereby your preachers are enabled to purchase books on credit, and at a reduced price; and that I had not settled that account at the Conference you refer to, is also true. (Nor is it marvellous that I should have been unable to do so, when my salary had always fallen so far short of the stipulated sum.) But that I had not paid a farthing is wholly untrue, having made remittances at different times, as the books in your office ought to testify. In the second place you say, "communications had been received from the Superintendent of his circuit in the old country, representing that he had left his native land under complaint in relation to pecuniary transactions: an investigation was ordered," &c. That some communication was received I believe to be true, and also an investigation ordered; the result of which, as brought before the Conference, was, that the reports which had been communicated were without the slightest foundation, and that, consequently, there could be no cause for any further disciplinary proceedings. Accordingly, I was forthwith appointed assistant minister in the Wesleyan Society at Brantford, in connection with Mr. Ephraim Evans and Mr. T. Beville, where for several months I laboured with satisfaction to all connected with me, as far as it was possible to ascertain, and without the slightest complaint ever having arisen. As previous to the Conference in June, I had instituted an enquiry into the claims which the Methodist and other Presbyterian sects possessed, to be the Church of Christ, so subsequently to this I pressed my inquiry still further; to which I was not a little excited by the principles which had been introduced, and were gaining ground in the society to which I then belonged. After the lapse of several months, having maturely and prayerfully deliberated on the subject, I signified to Mr. E. Evans my withdrawal from the Wesleyan body; not, however, without repeated solicitations, both from that gentleman and my other colleague (whose behaviour on the occasion was most honourable), to remain in my relation to their Society. I may, however, have made these remarks unnecessarily,—for it must appear to the most casual observer most unreasonable, that if any real cause of complaint did exist, I should be suffered to labour in a ministerial capacity for two whole years, without the slightest objection having been raised in regard to my moral or religious character; and that after these charges had been preferred, I should as before, be recognised and appointed as one of your ministers. You represent the Methodists as being incessantly watchful over their ministers; and if this be the case, how is it to be accounted for, that persons should be suffered to remain as ministers unmolested, and to be pressed to resign, such, until the very hour of their withdrawal,—and immediately after, that their characters should be blackened, and every means employed to blast their reputation. Were I disposed to lay myself open to the censure of Holy Scripture, and impute improper and unholly motives to others, I might easily show that those which have influenced you in these glaring misrepresentations, have been employed in order to deter others from acting according to the dictates of their own conscience, and the Word of God. Be this as it may, "my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high," and I leave the consideration of motives to that day, "when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed."

I remain, Yours, &c. A. S. NEWBURY.

WESTERN CLERICAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Church.

Rev. and dear Sir,—Would you have the kindness to give the following brief notice of the late Meeting of the Western Clerical Society, an insertion in your columns, at your earliest convenience. This Society held its last Session according to appointment at the house of the Rev. Francis Evans, the respected Rector of Woodhouse, on the 12th and 13th ultimo. The Meeting, although not numerously attended, in consequence of many of the Brethren having been detained in their respective Missions by various calls of duty, was nevertheless one of particular harmony, interest, and I trust profit, to all those who were permitted to enjoy its privileges. The following Members were present,—viz. the Rev. Francis Evans, Rector of Woodhouse; Benjamin Cronyn, M. A. Rector of London; Henry J. Grasset, B. A., Chaplain to the Lord Bishop of Toronto; Abraham Nelles, Missionary to the Mohawk Indians on the Grand River; George Salmon, Master of the District School at Simcoe; William Morse, Missionary at Paris; William McMurray, Minister in charge of Ancaster and Dundas; and John Flanagan, Missionary at Barton.

The first day's Session having been opened at the appointed hour by a selection of Prayers from the Liturgy, the office for the ordering of Priests was read by the Chairman in accordance with a standing rule of the Society; after which, many edifying remarks were made upon it connected with Ministerial duty. The remainder of the morning was occupied with a highly interesting and profitable discussion upon a portion of the 8th Chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, during the progress of which I was very much gratified to perceive so pleasing a coincidence of opinion amongst the Brethren, upon this most consolatory portion of Divine truth.

An Address to the Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Toronto was next proposed expressive of the feelings of the Brethren, in witnessing his Lordship's return to this Province, invested with the high and Holy authority of a Bishop in the Church of God. The afternoon being set apart for the consideration of matters of general interest, the subject of the Widow's Fund next engaged the attention of the Brethren, when the following resolution was proposed and adopted:—

"That the Committee appointed at the General Meeting of the Clergy of this Province to take steps for the establishment of a Widow's Fund, having found themselves embarrassed with difficulties arising from the limited number of the Clergy, and the scantiness of their pecuniary means, we therefore present our earnest appeal to our Diocesan the Lord Bishop of Toronto, for his advice and assistance towards carrying into effect an object of such deep importance."

Having disposed of this, as far as it was in their power, the Rev. Henry J. Grasset, by desire of the Lord Bishop, presented a resolution to the following effect,—"That the Members of the Western Clerical Society do make arrangements for visiting in rotation those parts of the country comprised within their limits, where settlements are to be found as yet unprovided with the services of a resident Clergyman, and to report to the Bishop the results of their visits, particularly in regard to the openings which may be presented favourable to the establishment of a permanent Missionary." This being adopted, several other matters of importance were also brought under the consideration of the Brethren, and amongst these, I was happy to find that the present pitiable condition of the poor benighted Wanderers of our forests, had not escaped their notice. And although I am fully sensible that it is not in our power individually to do much for them, yet it is not a duty incumbent upon us, as Ministers of the Gospel, not only to add our testimony to their present neglected and wretched condition, but also to solicit aid in their behalf, from the members of our respective congregations?

The Society having dispensed with the customary service on the first day of its Session, in order to allow more time for the consideration of such subjects as might be brought before the Brethren, the evening was passed in "taking sweet counsel together," and in conversation upon the many difficulties which

we are called upon to encounter in the prosecution of our ministerial duties.

On the following morning, (the 13th) at 11 o'clock we repaired to the Church, a neat little edifice distant about half a mile from the Parsonage, where we found a large and respectable congregation assembled. The Prayers were read by the Rev. Abraham Nelles; and a useful sermon from the 1st Epistle to Timothy, 1st Chap. and 11th verse,—the glorious Gospel of the blessed God—was preached by the Rev. John Flanagan, which was listened to with much apparent interest and attention by the congregation at large. In the evening Divine Service was performed in the School-House Simcoe, where a very impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Benjamin Cronyn, to a large and attentive congregation.

The next Meeting of the Society was appointed to be held (D. V.) at the residence of the Rev. J. Gamble Geddes, Rector of Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 13th of May next.

I remain, Rev. Sir, Your humble Servant, A MEMBER.

ADDRESS To the Hon. and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Toronto D.D. L.L.D., &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Lordship: We, the Members of the Western Clerical Society, beg leave to avail ourselves of this our first meeting since your Lordship's assumption of the Episcopal office, to convey to your Lordship the expression of the sincere gratification we experience in witnessing your arrival amongst us, invested with the high and holy authority of a Bishop in the Church of God.

The great increase in the number of clergymen and congregations in every part of this Province, has long since rendered the ministrations of a Bishop indispensable to the efficiency of the Church in Upper Canada, and we are thankful that one so well qualified has been chosen to supply the deficiency which has been so generally felt and lamented. While we regret the ill-judged economy which actuated His Majesty's Government in declining to make a permanent provision for the support of this Bishops, we cannot but indulge the hope, that they may speedily discern the propriety of adopting a more liberal and equitable policy in regard to the Church in this Colony. In the mean time, we rejoice that your Lordship has not been deterred by the great personal sacrifice which was required, for assuming the high responsibility and arduous labours of the Episcopal charge, and we feel persuaded that every candid mind will recognize in this proceeding, that disinterestedness of spirit so appropriate to the character of one to whom has been committed in the Providence of God the oversight of the flock of Christ.

We are not ignorant of the anxieties which must always attend the discharge of the Episcopal functions; we know the many causes which conspire to produce difficulties in Upper Canada, and to render them peculiarly embarrassing; but we trust that needful guidance and support will ever be vouchsafed from above, and be richly bestowed upon your Lordship by the Father of Lights and God of all wisdom and grace. As regards ourselves, we pray you to rely on our active, dutiful, and affectionate co-operation, with all your Lordship's efforts for the furtherance of that great object so dear to our hearts,—the advancement of pure religion under the ministrations of our holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. And especially do we assure your Lordship, that in our approaches to the throne of grace our prayers shall continually ascend for the welfare of our Zion, and for a blessing upon him who presides over its interests in this portion of the vineyard of our Lord.

In behalf of the Western Clerical Society, (Signed) FRANCIS EVANS, Chairman. WILLIAM McMURRAY, Acting Sec'y. Woodhouse Rectory, Feb. 12th, 1840.

REPLY.

My Reverend Brethren, I receive with affectionate acknowledgments this expression of your sincere gratification at my arrival amongst you, invested with the holy authority of Bishop in the Church of God.

The propriety of dividing the Diocese of Quebec into two separate Sees respectively commensurate with the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, was favourably entertained many years ago, but was from various circumstances delayed, till it became, from the rapidly increasing number of the Clergy and their flocks, matter of necessity.

In respect to temporal provision for the support of the new See, it has been postponed for a time in the hope, that the Church property would be so adjusted, as to meet this as well as the other expenses incident to the regular celebration of public worship throughout every part of the Province.

For the satisfaction you so kindly express at my appointment over this Diocese, my best thanks are due, and I can say with truth, that enlightenment had no weight in my decision; for agreeing with you that the interests of the Church were suffering from the want of Episcopal superintendence, I considered it my duty to accept the office without any present addition whatever to my income.

Not that I was insensible to the propriety as well as necessity of an adequate provision for the decent support of the Episcopal office in this rising Colony;—since it is requisite, that he who fills it should take an active and leading part in all charities both temporal and spiritual, and is otherwise exposed to a serious increase of expense; but it was not a sufficient reason to hold back, when I might, with the blessing of God, accelerate the removal of many difficulties under which the Church was labouring, and promote in no small degree her salutary principles, throughout the Colony.

Most truly do you state, that the Episcopal functions, which are of the most important and sacred character, can never be discharged without many anxieties, and that in this Diocese, they are at this time attended with peculiar embarrassment; but let us see how, many of these are of a transient nature, and will soon pass away—and in the mean time, let us earnestly pray, that needful guidance and support may be vouchsafed me from above, in all the difficulties which I may have to encounter.

Nor can I for a moment doubt the most happy results from our labours, when I feel myself so universally supported by the warm and vigorous co-operation of my clergy in all my efforts for the furtherance of that great object, so dear to our hearts,—the advancement of pure religion under the ministrations of our holy Catholic and apostolic Church.

My heart is grateful for your kind assurance, that in your approaches to the throne of grace your prayers will continually ascend for the welfare of our Zion, and for a blessing on me, however unworthy, to whom it is given by divine Providence, to preside over its interests in this portion of the vineyard of our Lord. (Signed) JOHN TORONTO. Toronto, 7th March, 1840.

Civil Intelligence.

LATER FROM ENGLAND. The British Queen, which arrived at New York on the 18th inst., has brought us our regular London files from the 20th to the 29th February inclusive, and from other sources we have intelligence to the 2nd of March. The most important item is what is recorded below as the

THIRD DEFEAT OF MINISTERS.

From the St. James's Chronicle, Feb. 29. Ministers on Thursday suffered their third defeat since the commencement of the session, having found themselves in a minority of TWENTY-EIGHT in the attempt to evade a solemn censure of the Montague-Newport job. There has been a curious and instructive progression in these disgraces. On the first occasion, (Prince Albert's pension) they were merely foiled in an attempt to give away more than enough of public money. In the second, information was extorted from them in defiance of their obstinate resistance. The last chastisement is penal—it is a grave condemnation of a nefarious job.—This is the proper course of justice; the malefactor is

first successfully opposed, then compelled to plead, finally he receives his doom. The majority of Thursday, too, was the greatest by which the criminals have been yet worsted. According to the usual course of things, it would appear that their end cannot be distant. Col. Sibthorp, indeed, hinted to them pretty broadly, after the numbers on the division had been declared, that they ought to anticipate a direct extrusion by retiring from office. Undoubtedly, if they have any respect for decency, or any regard to precedent, they will take the hint of the gallant Colonel; but we expect from them nothing of the kind. Have they not still to guard the Queen from "the Old Rebel," the name by which Mr. O'Connell's journal describes the Duke of Wellington; or if her Majesty may be supposed to have now sufficient protection in the care of her illustrious consort, have they not to repay to the Ladies of the Bedchamber that protection which they received from these ladies in May? Men so sagacious in finding excuses will not want a good reason for continuing in office. All they have to do is to enter a caveat, as they attempted to do in the case under consideration on Thursday, that their misconduct shall not serve as a precedent of authority for successors—the most convenient caveat imaginable, when successors are also sure to be political rivals. There was a singular liveliness in Thursday's discussion, which must insure for it a general and a careful perusal. The excellent and gentleman-like speech of the mover, Mr. Liddell, was answered by Lord Morpeth in a tone of arrogant defiance, that looks like the effect of a judicial infatuation when the result is known.

The result of the debate was such as ought to be expected, although the Tail, faithful to their character, supported ministers in full force.

FROM THE SENS.

The ministerial journals, unable to deny the defeat of their patrons, try to palliate that signal disgrace by ascribing it to an union of the Conservative and extreme Radical parties. We can easily expose this fallacy, by referring to the list of the majority. In that list it is true we will find the names of Messrs. Groat, Hume, Leader, Sir William Molesworth, and Wakley, and, perhaps, one or two other Radicals of less note, but certainly not as many as nine Radicals are not discoverable in the list—while, as in the minority, we see, besides Mr. O'Connell and the whole of the Tail, without any omission, all the British Radicals, except the few we have named, down even to the lately elected radical member for Southwark, Mr. Wood, and the Republicain, Mr. Muntz. If, then, the Radicals who voted in the majority had abstained altogether from voting, ministers would still be in a minority of about twenty. If these radicals had voted with their party, ministers would have been in a minority of at least ten—and is not a minority of ten upon a vote censuring an act of the government a sufficient disgrace? In other times the ministers, who upon such a vote could not command a majority at least exceeding the number of their place-men, (about forty) would feel the necessity of resigning; and no longer ago than last May, Lord Melbourne threw up office, or pretended to do so, upon a discomfiture far less unequivocal than that of Thursday—a discomfiture upon a question, too, involving no censure upon his government. It was not without reason, therefore, that the Marquis of Londonderry last night intimated an intention to inquire upon what principles a ministry so frequently and so signally defeated in one house, and never having for an hour possessed the confidence of the other, proposes to carry on the government.

The principles to be inquired after are certainly not the principles of the British constitution. According to the construction of the constitutional system given by all our wisest statesmen, the Ministers of the Crown ought to possess the confidence of both houses of parliament. Here is a ministry possessing the confidence of neither, not even able to escape a conviction of and censure for "a foul job,"—the words of one of its supporters on Thursday in that house—in which it can count upon its greatest strength, whatever that is.

MR. LIDDELL'S MOTION.

"That it appears, by a copy of a warrant on the table of this house, that a pension of £1000 a year has been granted by her Majesty to the late Comptroller of the Exchequer on retirement from that office, on the ground of 'zealous and efficient services rendered to the public during a period of nearly half a century, in which interval of time he filled the offices of Chancellor of the Exchequer for Ireland and Comptroller General of the Exchequer for the United Kingdom.'"

"That it appears, that the said Comptroller General filled the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer for Ireland during the period of 13 months only, viz., from the month of February, 1806, to the month of April, 1807.

"That it appears, by reference to the act 4 & 5 Wm. IV., c. 24 (by which the granting of pensions for political services was regulated), that no person is qualified to receive any pension on the ground of public duties performed in the highest offices of the state unless he shall have continued in the performance of such duties for a period of two years at the least.

"That it appears, that it was also specially provided by the said act 4th and 5th of Wm. IV., cap. 24, that the holder of the office of Comptroller of the Exchequer should be precluded, on his retirement from that office, from all claim to any of the pensions which the Crown was thereby empowered to bestow for civil or political services.

"That it appears, that the person holding the office of Comptroller of the Exchequer now constitutes the sole check (in lieu of all others formerly existing under the ancient regulations of the Exchequer) on the expenditure of all public moneys issued through the Exchequer by the authority of the Commissioners of the Treasury; and it is specially provided that he should be incapable of holding any other office under the Crown in conjunction with such Comptrolership, and should be removable from his office, except in pursuance of an address from the two houses of parliament, his office being thus withdrawn from the exercise of any influence of the Crown over him in the discharge of his functions.

"That it appears that provision was made in the Act of 1st and 2d of Victoria, c. 2, that the sum which her Majesty might be empowered to grant in pensions on the Civil List, in any one year, should not exceed the sum of £1200; and that in conformity with a previous resolution of this house, such pensions should be granted 'to such persons only as might have just claims on the Royal benevolence, or who, by their personal services to the Crown, by the performance of duties to the public, or by their useful discoveries in science, and attainments in literature and the arts, had merited the gracious consideration of the Sovereign and the gratitude of the country.'"

"That, considering all these circumstances, and more especially the great importance of keeping the Comptroller General of the Exchequer independent of the influence of the Crown, as also of ensuring a strict adherence to the spirit of the resolution of this house on the subject of Civil List pensions, this house deems it expedient to express its decided opinion that the grant of £1000 a year to Sir John Newport, under the warrant before mentioned, ought not to be drawn into a precedent."

MR. MORPETH'S AMENDMENT.

"That it appears to this house that the Right Hon. Sir John Newport, in his official capacity of Chancellor of the Exchequer in Ireland, exerted himself to the utmost to restrain useless expenses, to promote education, and to improve trade and intercourse between Ireland and the other parts of the United Kingdom; that while in the said office he directed, and after leaving office suggested, various measures highly conducive to the better administration of the law and beneficial to the revenue; that after serving for five years in the honourable office of Comptroller of the Exchequer, being then upwards of 80 years of age, and afflicted with bodily infirmity, he withdrew from public life, respected for the unblemished integrity of his character, to pass in retirement the remainder of his days. That, considering that Sir John Newport was not in affluent circumstances when he thus withdrew from office, this house is satisfied that the grant of a pension to a retired Comptroller of the Exchequer in circumstances so peculiar cannot be drawn into a precedent in favour of persons who have not 'just claims on the Royal benevolence,' and are not distinguished by 'the performance of duties to the public.'"

The house then divided, when there appeared— For the original motion ... 240 For Lord Morpeth's amendment ... 212

The announcement was received with tremendous cheering. PRINCE ALBERT.—Public interest being partially allayed by the marriage and grant of honors and military rank (not as yet set of precedence) to Prince Albert, the question now generally asked is, whether Queen Victoria's husband will be prayed for in the Liturgy? If the precedent of Prince George of Denmark's case be followed, Prince Albert will not. It appears that after the accession of William and Mary, the King, Queen, "Princess Anne of Denmark, and all the Royal Family," were ordered to be prayed for, and that Prince George's name was not mentioned. After the Queen's accession, an order in Council, dated 2d of May, 1703, commanded that the name of the Princess Sophia, the heiress presumptive, should be inserted in the Liturgy; but no notice whatever was taken of the Queen's husband. On the death of the Princess Sophia, the name of her son, the Elector of Brunswick, was inserted instead. These facts show how much greater importance was attached to the heir presumptive than to the consort of the Queen, though he was the son of a monarch, and "his Royal Highness" by birth.

At a Court of Common Council held on Thursday, the freedom of the City was voted to Prince Albert, Lord Seaton, and to Sir Thomas Phillips (late Mayor of Newport).

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A letter from Montenegro of the 4th instant, which is given in the Augsburg Gazette of the 21st, states that a conspiracy, designed to explode in the Greek provinces of the Turkish empire, has been discovered in the fortress of Podgoritz. The intention of the conspirators was to have delivered the place into the hands of the Montenegrins. A reasonable correspondence is said to have been going on some years between the Vladikas and the Christian inhabitants of Albania and Thessalia. —Marseilles papers to the 24th instant had reached London.—They deny that any ultimatum had been addressed to the Pacha of Egypt by Great Britain, Russia, and Austria; and add, that the proposition of which M. Brunow was the bearer had not been accepted by England. They contain no other news of the slightest interest.

LAKE NAVIGATION.—The Great Britain, Capt. Hetchmer, is lying at this wharf; she will resume her old route in the spring. Capt. H. is the oldest Captain on Lake Ontario; he has long stood the test of public opinion, and has never been found wanting in strict order and regularity in his boat, and in a manly and correct demeanor to his passengers.

Lake Ontario Steamers.—Mr. Hamilton's life will run the same as last year, with the addition of a splendid new boat, the Niagara, built at Niagara, to be commanded by Captain Sutherland,—she will run between Oswego, Toronto, and Hamilton.—Kingston Chronicle.

Besides these, the new steamer "Ontario," will be here immediately; we learn that she promises to fully realize the expectations of her enterprising proprietor—the attempt to steam the rapids of the St. Lawrence is a bold one, and its success has our best wishes.—Patriot.

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39-41 ARMOUR & RAMSAY. BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA. THE Court of Directors hereby give notice, that a half yearly dividend of fifteen shillings sterling per Share, will become payable, on the shares registered in the Colonies, on and after the 14th day of April, during the usual hours of business, at the several Branch Banks, as announced by circular to the respective parties.