

THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1847.

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Table listing church services and events across various parishes and locations like Oakville, Palmero, Nelson, etc.

CHURCH MUSIC.

In our last paper on this subject we endeavoured to draw the attention of the Clergy to their duty in regard to congregational singing, and that especially from a conviction that nothing will be well done, and in the true spirit of the Church, until the pastors of our congregations assume their proper responsibility by directing and controlling every part of divine service.

We would, in the first place, recommend any one who desires to restore or promote congregational singing, to begin by directing his attention to chanting, and that for several reasons. 1. Chanting is much easier to learn than psalm or hymn singing. We have had many opportunities of making observations upon this subject in the course of many years, and we have found many persons who could chant who could never learn to sing a metrical tune; and we have never found a case of the opposite amongst those who had equal opportunities of learning both.

2. It is much easier to find chants which can be sung easily by the majority of voices, male as well as female: for there are many chants which range from D to D, whilst there are few psalm or hymn tunes which do not go up to E or F. This is a very important consideration, because we shall not prevail upon persons to persevere in attempting to sing, when the act itself is made disagreeable by an unnecessary strain upon the voice.

3. The ordinary appointed service of the Church is that in which the chant is required, whilst that in which the metrical tune is necessary is an addition to the service, permitted or sanctioned, but not commanded. In speaking of the appointed service, I allude of course to the Venite, Te Deum, Jubilate, Magnificat, and other similar portions of the service, respecting which we imagine there is now no doubt that they ought to be sung wherever it is practicable: the very words of the first of them—"O come, let us sing unto the Lord"—showing as much in regard to it, and all the others being pointed in the same manner for singing, by a division in the middle, which is evidently not a mark of punctuation according to the sense, but a division for the purpose of chanting.

This last reason is with us the strongest of all; but we gave the others the precedence, because they were such as would most probably weigh with a larger number of persons, as being more obviously practical. To begin, then, with chanting; the first point is to select such chants as the majority of men and women can sing with ease. In order to do this, we must bear in mind that a chant consists of a reciting note, to which the larger portion of the words are half of a cadence (so to speak) at the end of each half of the verse. The reciting note, then, has to be selected of considerable time in each verse, and consequently should be placed at such a pitch of the voice, that it may be easy for most voices to hold it, without strain or fatigue to the voice. Experience has shown that this will be best accomplished by allowing it to range from F to A; and accordingly, in choosing congregational chants, we should select those whose reciting note does not go lower than F, nor higher than A.

With regard to the cadences, we may justly allow ourselves more latitude; but we shall certainly find those chants easiest which do not go higher than D; and those should be by all means avoided which do not mostly lie below that note, or which conclude any portion of the chant with it.

These observations of course imply that the clergyman, or some adviser of his, has some knowledge of music; but it implies no more. The clergyman himself, or some person he can trust, can easily assure himself by experiment, if he likes, of the practical nature and justice of the advice we offer. There are few collections of chants which do not offer the means of making such a selection as we are speaking of; but if we were desired to specify any collection as most adapted for the purpose, we should instance "Gregorian and other Ecclesiastical Chants," Mr. Hullah's "Psalms with Chants," and the chants contained in the "Parish Choir," which we believe can be obtained at the office of the Church Society. These chants are possibly not quite so tuneful as some others; but they are sufficiently so; and they are far better adapted to congregational use than any other collection we have seen in this Colony.

recting note of the first portion of the chant will be sung to the words—"Glory be to the Father and"—and the three other notes of the words—"to the Son;"—the reciting note of the latter portion to the five words—"and," and the five remaining notes to the five syllables—"the Holy Ghost." The next verse will be divided in a similar way; reciting note—"As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever"—concluding notes—"shall be"—reciting note—"world;"—concluding notes—"without end." Amen.

There are, however, some cautions to be observed; first, that no stop is to be made between the reciting note and the concluding notes. Some syllable, indeed, should be chosen to dwell upon before the concluding notes, in order to gather the voices together, preparatory to passing to the concluding notes; but no general cessation of sound should take place at that point,—still less should a marked stop be made (as by too many is done) immediately before the concluding notes. To illustrate our meaning, we will take the first clause of the Venite, which is commonly divided in "Pointed Passages" as follows: "O come let us sing unto the Lord." The result of this division is, that we have heard choirs who make a distinct cessation of sound on the syllable "us,"—which is a great mistake. Chanting is musical recitation or reading, and should partake largely of the character of reading. A better form of the verse, in order to collect the voices, is simply to dwell upon, in order to collect the voices, preparatory to the concluding notes; but the correct practice, and one which we observed in an admirable choir who visited Toronto last year,—is to dwell upon the emphatic word "sing," to collect the voices upon that, and to sing the syllable "us" briefly after it on the reciting note, before passing to the concluding notes; and if the chant has a passing note at that point, to sing the unimportant syllable to the passing note. Similar remarks may be made on the other portion of the verse, when the first of the concluding notes should fall upon the word strength: consequently the voices should dwell upon the last syllable of the word rejoice, with the reciting note, in singing, either to the reciting note or to any passing note which may occur in that part of the chant.

A second caution is, to beware of too rapid an utterance in singing the words which go to the reciting note. If one thing more than another has prejudiced devout persons against chanting, it is the irrelevantly rapid utterance of these words, which the irreligion and carelessness of the last century has bequeathed as a legacy to our cathedrals. Many persons, indeed, regarding cathedrals as what they ought to be, than as they are,—having supposed that this gabbling pronunciation was an essential feature of chanting. Nothing can be a greater mistake; it is simply the effect of that neglect about holy things which pervaded the whole nation at the beginning of this century, and the cathedral choir are discovering their error and returning to that more sober, dignified and reverent style of chanting which was once universal. We must remember, therefore, that chanting should not be more rapid than devout reading.

Thirdly, we must remember that (properly speaking) there are no stops, except at the middle and end of each verse. Although, therefore, it is proper to mark the punctuation slightly, at any principal stop, especially in a long verse,—this must be done, not by the absolute cessation of the voices, but by dwelling upon the word at which the stop occurs,—by dwelling upon the note,—and by such an imperceptible cessation of the voice, as may enable the singer to take breath,—if necessary, but not otherwise. This remark we have thought to be more necessary, from having observed a very painful choir in this city, who intentionally and studiously commit the fault of keeping the steps by an absolute cessation of the voice.

Fourthly, the concluding notes should not be sung too slow. This is a fault we have observed in another of our city churches,—where it is evidently intended to add to devotion;—whereas, in our opinion, and in that of more competent judges, it only tends to damp and check it.

We have an observation to add which is scarcely of the nature of a caution, viz: that in the concluding notes there is no use of confining a note to a single syllable. On the contrary we must be guided in a great degree by the usages of reading; and thus we shall often find the two concluding syllables of "thanksgiving" and "salvation," and the whole words "also," "pasture" and "wilderness" to a single note. And so again, if it should be required for the convenient division of the verse according to the sense, it may be proper to sing two or more notes to one syllable; as perhaps in "his" before "also," in "sheep of his pasture,"—in "hand maiden."

These directions and cautions are intended, not so much to teach persons to chant who know nothing of the subject, as to assist those who know something. Chanting must, we apprehend, in the first instance be learnt by imitation; but attention to our observations will tend to render it more what it ought to be.

We have now brought our intended remarks to a conclusion, so far as we can see at present; but shall be happy to advert more particularly to any portion of the subject which it may appear to any of our friends worthy of further discussion. Meanwhile we earnestly exhort all our readers, so far as lies in their power, to put in practice those portions of our advice, which they themselves find practicable.

statistical facts and calculations. He conceived that the policy pursued by the present Administration, during the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, was highly prejudicial to the commercial interests of this Colony; and he assured his audience that nothing but a strong conviction of the unsoundness of their measures with respect to Trade, could have prevailed with him thus to place himself in opposition to a friend—the Hon. Mr. Sherwood—with whom he had maintained the closest intimacy with very early years. But regard for an individual must yield to the higher and more urgent considerations of public duty. The repeal of the Navigation Laws would render abortive the large outlay of capital which had been already expended in the building of ships; the vessels navigating the St. Lawrence, possessed by British owners and manned with British seamen, would be brought into a ruinous competition with those belonging to persons in the United States, who, having larger means, could easily break down the rivalry of smaller capitalists in this Province. The only consideration which the Executive had proposed to themselves to counterbalance this great evil and this extensive distress, was the diversion into our waters, and through our Canals, of the trade of the Western States. Now if all the Flour and Grain which had been transported through the Erie Canal last season, had taken the course of our Canals, the whole of this produce (and not one-half could be reasonably expected), would have realized a revenue of only £41,000 a-year. And this was the paltry compensation which the Government imagined would form an adequate counterpoise to the losses and discouragements which could not fail to ensue from bringing our ship-owners into a hopeless competition with those of the United States. As to the matter of Free Trade,—there was no such thing in existence; and, so long as the neighbouring republic was wise enough to maintain Protection in favour of its own people, there could not be any Free Trade. Twenty or thirty per cent. on the other side upon our commodities, and only four or five per cent. on this side upon theirs,—this surely was not reciprocal accommodation,—this was not giving the equivalent implied in Free Trade. Even now the balance of Trade is fearfully against us; and the only thing which enables us to endure this disadvantage, is the capital brought into the Province by Emigration, and the money expended here from the Imperial Treasury in paying the Army and Navy. If our situation be so unfavourable now, what will it be when our ports are thrown open for the reception indiscriminately of all the products—natural and manufactured—of the United States! In shipping and in manufactures we should experience the same treatment; both in building vessels and in raising and conducting manufactures we have not the means of advantageously competing with our neighbours; and the consequence of the abolition of all restrictions upon Navigation and Trade would simply be, that they would carry our freight, and supply us with their cloth; and in exchange for both would receive our money, which would be spent—every farthing of it—amongst themselves. He gave the Government full credit for meaning well in what they had done; but he thought that they had evinced a very imperfect knowledge of the merits of the question, and had acted without consideration. They had not estimated with sufficient care the ulterior results of their measures. Their policy was just the kind of legislation which would give satisfaction at Washington; for it was the surest, and the only method by which this country could be appended to the neighbouring republic.

With reference to the University question, he briefly observed, that according to his view of the matter, the charter ought to remain inviolate; but if a division of the endowment should be unavoidable, he thought that every denomination of Christians—without a single exception—ought to have a share in the distribution; and, therefore, in his opinion, the measure proposed by the Government was not comprehensive enough, if it were once determined that the principle of division should be adopted.

Mr. James Beatty followed, in a speech which had rather less of the acrimony of his party than we usually meet with in their writings and harangues. As his friends have put him forward for the sake of his vote, and not out of any hope that he will make converts to his doctrines by his eloquence, we will not take the trouble to enter into the details of his oration. There is no doubt that he spoke with a good deal of natural tact and shrewdness, and succeeded rather better than could have been expected from a man suddenly flitting himself in a position for which he was utterly unfit. Although his own supporters were a very small fraction of the large assemblage, he was heard throughout with the utmost good temper; and even some of his rougher sayings about the ancient threasure topic of family exclusiveness and favouritism, were delivered in such a way as to be perfectly harmless, and served rather to amuse than to offend his hearers.

The Hon. Mr. Sherwood in a copious speech distinguished for its remarkable ease and fluency, defended the position of the Government. He addressed himself almost entirely to the objections which had been advanced by Mr. Bethune. The extensive commercial changes introduced by the Home Government justified the Provincial Administration in the course which they had adopted. When protection in the British Market was withdrawn from Canada, it became necessary to devise some plan by which this country might be enabled to compete with the United States in the markets at home. Whilst the freights by way of the St. Lawrence were so much higher than from the port of New York, to meet our neighbours on equal terms was quite out of the question. The relief so urgently needed by the Farmer and the Merchant would be found in the abolition of the Navigation Laws, for the repeal of those laws would lower the rates of transport. Again, we had contracted a debt of one million and a half of pounds for the construction of our Canals. The interest upon this loan, and the annual payments into a sinking fund to meet the capital, could not be raised unless the trade through our Canals was increased. It was intended to increase that trade, and so to render these great public works profitable, by making it advantageous for the people of the Western States to transmit their produce by this route to the ocean. This was all that the Government contemplated; and they never supposed that anything which should bring British ship-owners on these Lakes into competition with the United States. What he desired was to see a numerous fleet of vessels belonging to the adjoining republic, sailing down the centre of the Lake, and bearing a rich harvest of furs to the St. Lawrence Canals. This would do Toronto no harm, and, by augmenting the revenue, would greatly promote the interests of the Province at large.

As to the University Question, legislation on that subject had become absolutely necessary. He did not wish that this matter should be disputed about at every election; and the whole country was anxious that a final settlement should be made. He thought that the proposition of the Government was the only practicable arrangement. After dilating upon the advantages of it, the Hon. Gentleman said that he could in common justice claim to be re-elected if his constituency had no reason to be dissatisfied with his public conduct. He then retired amid loud acclamations. His address—with the exception of the allusions to Sir Robert Peel, whose policy we in this Colony are not called upon to defend but simply to counteract—his speech, with the exception of these allusions which we thought both undignified and unnecessary—was certainly a very able production.

Of Mr. Boulton's energetic and effective harangue we need not be so particular in our abstract; as his position was not professedly antagonistic either to Mr. Bethune or Mr. Sherwood. He delivered a manly and forcible exposition of his Conservative principles; and was listened to—as such a speech deserved—with marked attention. He was prepared to give due consideration to Mr. Bethune's strong statements, and had been deeply interested by his remarks, although

in Parliament he had voted in favour of the Petition praying for the repeal of the Navigation Laws. He was still—as he had always been—opposed to the partition of the University. The Seat of Government he considered ought to be restored to Toronto, and his influence in the Parliament should be exerted to effect this change.

The show of hands was declared by the Returning Officer to be in favour of Messrs. Sherwood and Boulton, and a Poll was demanded for Donald Bethune, Esq., and Mr. Beatty.

Under the head of Civil Intelligence will be found the arrangements made for the Election next week.

THE ELECTIONS. In another portion of our paper will be found the latest and most interesting intelligence which we could glean regarding the all-absorbing topic of the forthcoming elections. From what we can gather, the Conservative party are sure of a decided majority, provided they keep their ranks unbroken, and avoid the fatal error of division. Earnestly do we trust that no constituency will sacrifice a great public principle to any considerations of a local or personal character. We are sorry to learn that matters still continue in an unsatisfactory state, so far as the Second Riding of York is concerned, but hopes are entertained that some arrangement will be come to which will secure the good cause in that quarter from discomfiture. In another column will be found a letter from Mr. Price, denying the entire correctness of the assertions made by Mr. Duggan in reference to Col. Thompson, and which we commented upon last week. It affords us pleasure to be informed that the latter gentleman is determined to facilitate any measures which may have the effect of ascertaining the sense of the Conservative electors prior to the period of polling. Mr. Duggan has already expressed his willingness to co-operate in such a plan, so that we trust all things will yet turn out in a satisfactory manner. On Friday last Henry Smith, Jr., Esq., was returned Member for the County of Frontenac, without opposition—a praiseworthy commencement of the electoral campaign.

Since writing the above, we have received a letter from Mr. Duggan, to which we refer our readers.

THE MAPLE LEAF. This beautiful annual which Canada may justly be proud, is now published, and more than realizes the expectations we had formed regarding it. In our Monthly Review we shall enter at detail into a consideration of its contents, and in the meantime we subjoin the following judicious notice which we extract from our contemporary the Herald.

"THE MAPLE LEAF."—The Reverend Professor of Divinity in King's College, in his amusing and interesting little book, "Recreations of a Long Vacation," mentions a disappointment he experienced in a visit paid to the house of a gentleman married to an Indian lady. He expected to find it adorned with various specimens of Indian taste and skill; but to his surprise, he only found such ornaments and articles of vertu as are usually seen in English drawing-rooms.

"Now, respecting the 'Maple Leaf' of last year, we were disappointed much in the same manner as the reverend Dean seems to have been. "So far as regards the quality of the prose and poetry, it was far superior to the ordinary run of English annuals—a fact to which Sir Francis Bond Head—no mean authority in such matters—has borne testimony, while in the style of its 'getting up' it was not surpassed by them. It had one great fault—it was not sufficiently Canadian. "The objection, however, which we have stated, does not rest against the 'Maple Leaf' of this year. It is decidedly a forest annual, according in character with the golden leaf which adorns its cover and gives it a name. It will be nearly double the size of that of last year, (without any increase of the price)—the plates are superior—it contains several exquisite pieces of poetry—its poetry which would not dim the lustre of a European reputation,—and a variety of graphic and gracefully-written sketches.

"Altogether, we have been very much gratified with our inspection of the sheets, and we trust that, when it makes its appearance, which we believe it will do in the course of the week, a rapid sale will recompense the enterprising publishers for their trouble and great outlay, and induce them to persevere in an undertaking so creditable to Canada, and so well calculated to raise its character." "We perceive that it is dated from King's College, and we will conclude our notice by remarking that the 'Maple Leaf' is worthy of its reputed Editor,—a gentleman who is as indefatigable in advancing the literary character of the country, and introducing a taste for the fine arts, as he is prominent in acts of charity and love to his distressed fellow-men."

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To the Editor of The Church. Toronto, December 22nd, 1847. Sir,—Finding that my statements published in reference to my offers to Col. Thompson, have been represented as incorrect, and that too by a party to whom I myself have referred for the accuracy, it becomes my duty to inform the public, that at the meeting called for and held on Saturday last, at Brampton, Col. Thompson attended, and openly declared to the meeting that my statement in reference to the offers made by me to him, and his refusal thereof, were untrue, and applied to Captain Price, (who at the moment had just arrived) who said my statement was not true, and was not a fair representation of what had transpired on the occasion alluded to. I then took out and read to Capt. Price each offer, and Col. Thompson asked on each did I make this offer to Col. Thompson. He (Capt. Price) answered in the face of the meeting—"you did." I asked Capt. Price did Col. Thompson refuse to be bound beforehand? Capt. Price answered to every one,—including the offer to hold the meeting at his own place.—Yes, he did refuse; but, he added, the publication was unfair, because I did not state therein that Col. Thompson was willing to abide by the sense of the Riding, and would, if the meeting were such as the Riding considered represented the sense of the Riding. He would have them consult their friends, and be guided by them. Col. Thompson has published this latter version himself. I will only add, that I openly offered to the meeting then assembled, to be bound by its decision, which Colonel Thompson refused; and I openly repeated and reiterated over and over again, to prevent mistake, to the meeting, every offer that I had made to Col. Thompson, and read each from the document I had published. He accepted of none of them, but proposed a canvass of the Riding throughout, and said he would be willing to be bound by the sense of the Riding, if it were generally approved as practicable. However, it was, apart from the meeting, arranged between Col. Thompson and friends, of whose name, that we should settle it to-morrow by mutual friends. By publishing you will oblige.

Your truly, G. DUGGAN, Jr.

Ecclesiastical Intelligence. CANADA. DIOCESE OF TORONTO. THE CHURCH SOCIETY OF THE DIOCESE OF TORONTO. Collections made in the several Churches, Chapels, and Missionary Stations throughout the Diocese of Toronto, towards the fund for the support of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy in this Diocese:—

Table listing collections from various churches like St. Paul's, Christ's Church, St. George's, etc., with amounts.

TRINITY CHURCH. The Churchwardens of Trinity Church, in this City, beg respectfully and gratefully to acknowledge the very liberal contribution made on Sunday last, by the congregation, towards liquidating the debt on the Church, when, after a very impressive Sermon, the Rev. Mr. Duggan, of the Province of the Diocese, the large sum of £101. 7s. 4d. was collected at the Offertory. A further sum of £10. was contributed at the Evening Service, for the same purpose.

Colonial. (From the Provincial Gazette.) PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE. Montreal, Thursday, Dec. 16. His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz: The Hon. John A. Macdonald to be Commissioner of Crown Lands, in the place of the Hon. D. Papineau, resigned. The Hon. Francis Pierre Bruneau to be Receiver General of the Province of Canada, in the place of the Hon. J. A. Macdonald, appointed Commissioner of Crown Lands. The Hon. Francis Pierre Bruneau to be a member of Her Majesty's Executive Council of the Province of Canada. Joseph Edouard Turcot, Esq., to be a Queen's Counsel in that part of the Province formerly Upper Canada. Ogle R. Gowan, Esq., to be Supervisor of Tolls on the St. Lawrence Canals, West of Lachine.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT. MEMBERS RETURNED. Frontenac—Henry Smith, Jr., Esq. [R. C. * Unopposed.] ELECTION INTELLIGENCE. TORONTO ELECTION. St. Patrick's Ward—Black Bull—Polling commences Monday, 27th, 9 o'clock. A. M. C. Foster, Deputy Returning Officer. St. Andrew's Ward—Shakespeare Inn. G. T. Denison, Jr. St. James' Ward—Black Swan. R. B. Miller. St. George's Ward—Court House. Joseph D. Ridout. St. Lawrence Ward—Wellington Hotel. Thomas Bell. St. David's Ward—Post's Hotel. Angus Morrison. Election adjourned till Monday, 29th Dec., at 9 o'clock, A.M., when the successful Candidates will be named.

West Halton—A number of the leading Conservatives of this county assembled in Galt on Wednesday, to decide whether Mr. Shaldon or Mr. Webster should be the candidate for West Halton, at the ensuing Parliamentary Election. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Webster, with which decision, we unanimously selected Mr. Webster. He is more delighted than Mr. Shaldon, we believe, none will be more delighted than Mr. Shaldon. Mr. Webster is appointed Returning Officer, and the Election will come off about the 8th of January.

Communications. (We deem it necessary to follow the example of the London Church periodicals, and to apprise our readers that we are not responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.—Ed. Church.) To the Editor of The Church. Township of Toronto, Dec. 21st, 1847. Sir,—I have just read with some concern certain remarks in your paper of the 17th instant, predicated upon a publication of Mr. Duggan, relative to a conversation which took place a short time ago between himself and Col. Thompson, about the coming Election in this Riding. You of course infer Mr. Duggan's statement is correct, to which I cannot agree; and feel called upon, in justice to Col. Thompson and to myself, to state, that Mr. Duggan proposed to Col. Thompson to call a public meeting, and to pledge himself to abide by its decision which he refused, upon the ground that in the present state of the roads few people would attend; but he was not opposed either to Township or other meetings, or to any other mode that might be adopted in order to come to a fair expression of public opinion; and that he would withdraw should it be shown he was in the minority. He expressed no desire to divide the Conservative interest; he was open, fair and candid, and it would have been better had he been met by a similar spirit. I look upon Mr. Duggan's statement to be unbecomingly and partially intended to mislead the public mind, and to prejudice the Electors against Col. Thompson.