

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1853.

WHITSUNDAY.

WE renew our extracts from *Wheatley* to-day, in reference to this interesting Festival of the Church, which will occur to-morrow. May each one of our readers experience in his own soul, the presence of that Gracious Spirit, whose first outpouring we are about to commemorate, and whose all powerful influence is as essential as ever, for the conversion, renewal, and sanctification of our fallen nature, and for the comfort of the followers of Christ in their passage through this dark and trying world.—

"THE feast of Pentecost was of great eminency among the Jews, in memory of the Law's being delivered on Mount Sinai at that time; and of no less note among the Christians, for the Holy Ghost's descending the very same day upon the Apostles and other Christians in the visible appearance of fiery tongues, and of those miraculous powers that were then conferred upon them. It was observed with the same respect to Easter, as the Jewish Pentecost was to their Passover, viz. (as the word imports) just fifty days afterwards. Some conclude, from St. Paul's earnest desire to be at Jerusalem at this time, that the observation of it as a Christian festival is as old as the Apostles: but whatever St. Paul's design was, we are assured that it hath been universally observed from the very first ages of Christianity.

"It was styled *Whitsunday*, partly because of those vast diffusions of light and knowledge which were then shed upon the Apostles in order to the lightening of the world; but principally from the white garments which they that were baptized in at this time put on.

"The proper Psalms for the morning service are Psalms xlv. lxxviii. The xlviii is a hymn in honour of Jerusalem, as particularly chosen for the place of God's worship, and for that reason defended by his more immediate care from all invasions of enemies. It is also a form of thanksgiving to God for his mercy, in permitting men to meet in his solemn service, and so in the mystical sense, is an acknowledgement of his glorious mercies afforded to the church of Christians under the Gospel, and consequently very suitable to this day, whereon we commemorate the greatest mercy that ever was vouchsafed to any church in the world, viz. the immediate inspiration of the Apostles by the Holy Ghost, at which all that saw it marvelled and though many that were astonished were cast down, yet through the assistance of the same Spirit the Church was that very day augmented by the access of three thousand souls. The other Psalm for the morning is the lxxviii. sung at first in commemoration of the great deliverance afforded to the Israelites, and of the judgements inflicted on their enemies; and contains a prophetic description of the Ascension of Christ, who went up on high, and led captivity captive, and received gifts for men; which benefits he soon after, as on this day, poured upon the Apostles, at which time the earth shook, and the heavens dropped at the presence of God; who sent (as it were) a gracious rain upon his inheritance, and refreshed it when it was weary; and when the Lord gave the word, great was the company of the preachers.

"The Psalms for the evening are Psalms civ. cxlv. The civth. is an elegant and pious meditation on the power and wisdom of God, in making and preserving all the creatures of the world. It is used on this day, because some verses are very applicable to the subject of it: for we herein celebrate the miraculous works of the Holy Ghost, who made the clouds his chariot, and walked upon the wings of the wind: the earth, at first, trembled at the look of him; but it was afterwards renewed by his breath, and filled with the fruits of his works. The cxvth Psalm is a form of solemn thanksgiving to God, descending on all his glorious attributes, very proper for this day, whereon we declare the power of the third Person of the glorious Trinity, and talk of his worship, his glory, his praise and wondrous works; we speak of the might of his marvellous acts, and tell of his greatness.

The first Lesson for the morning contains the law of the Jewish Pentecost, or *Fest of Weeks*, which was a type of ours: for as the Law was at this time given to the Jews from Mount Sinai, so also the Christians upon this day received the Evangelical Law from Heaven, by the administration of the Holy Ghost. The first Lesson for the evening is a prophecy of the conversion of the Gentiles to the kingdom of Christ, through the inspiration of the Apostles by the Spirit of God; the

completion of which prophecy is recorded in both the second Lesson, but especially in the portion of Scripture for the Epistle, which contains a particular description of the first wonderful descent of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles, who were assembled together in one place, in expectation of that blessed Spirit, according to the promise of our blessed Saviour mentioned in the Gospel, which, together with the Collect and Epistle, were taken from the old Liturgies."

Letters have been received by the steamer from the Lord Bishop and the Rev. Mr. Hill. They had been four days in London, and were in good health and spirits. His Lordship had already given effective attention to the interests of the Church, and College.

The Bishop of Montreal has likewise gone to England, where the Bishop of Quebec still remains.

LUNenburg.—A hand-bill has been enclosed to us, advertising that the Centenary celebration of the landing of the first settlers at Lunenburg, will take place on Tuesday, the 7th of June, on which occasion it is expected that an interesting demonstration will be made. The same day has been fixed for holding a Bazaar for the painting, ornamenting, and fitting up of St. John's Church, which is next in seniority to St. Paul's in Halifax.—It is stated, we observe, that "arrangements are being made to provide all the luxuries of the season," for those who may visit Lunenburg at that time. There is one luxury which we can insure to them already provided, namely—as beautiful scenery as they can desire to behold. To this we may safely add, that a cordial welcome will be extended to all who may be disposed to treat themselves to a visit in the first week of blooming June, to one of the most delightful localities in the Province.

The Rev. R. J. Uniacke, Lady and family, were passengers in the steamer to Sydney, on Friday morning last.—We wish him a blessing upon his ministry in the new and important field of labor to which he has gone. We believe that Newport is still vacant.

We have given up so much space this week to interesting extracts from our English papers, that we have not room for editorial comments.

We have received no copy of the last Report (we hope it will not be the last) of the Superintendent of Education.

Among the passengers by the Cambria we are happy to record the return of Mrs. and Miss Almon, the health of the former being much benefited by her visit to England.

The Clergy Reserves Bill had formally passed the Lords by a majority of 39.

The Jews Disabilities Bill had been rejected by the same body.

ITEMS.

A dreadful railway accident is thus reported by telegraph in the *Colonist*:—

On Friday last, as the 8 o'clock morning train was crossing the draw-bridge at Newark, Connecticut, the draw being up, the locomotive, baggage cars, and two passenger cars went overboard into the river, killing or seriously injuring all in the two first cars. Forty-nine bodies had been found the same day, a number of them were physicians returning from the Medical Convention at New York.—Among the lost is a daughter of Dr. Griswold.

The accident occurred at Norfolk, North, and about forty miles from New York. Dr. J. M. Warren and family of Boston were sitting in the back part of the third carriage which parted in the centre, they escaped. Drs. D. White and Pierson in the same car were killed, and horribly mutilated.

Dr. Ives and Dr. Wilcox went down in the baggage car, and were under water, but broke out and escaped. Among the lost were two Clergymen, six Physicians, and fourteen or fifteen ladies.

The Admiral is expected hourly from Bermuda.

The Columbia, steamer, Com. Shortland, is about to move westward to renew Surveying operations.—and Capt. Orlebar and party are shortly expected from P. E. Island on similar duty eastward of Halifax.

Gold is said to have been discovered in Texas.

Travellers can now go via Windsor and St. John to Boston, for ten dollars.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE.—T. B. Aiken Esq., Barrister, was driving in his waggon on Wednesday last, when his horse ran away, upset the carriage, and dashed Mr. A. on the sidewalk, breaking his left arm in two places. A few inches farther would have brought his head against the stone foundation of Mr. E. K. Brown's house, and of course instant death would have ensued.—We are glad to hear that the worthy gentleman is doing well. His servant escaped with trifling injury.

We call particular attention to the munificent donation of £6000 by Dr. Burnside to Trinity College at Toronto, as stated in our last. What a noble example to our rich Churchmen, and how delighted we would be to record a similar act by any of them in behalf of our poor College at Windsor. Will not some one step forward at once, and shew, that as we have the means, so have we the spirit to do likewise? There is a projected PROFESSORSHIP in PASTORAL THEOLOGY, and another in Modern Science, only waiting for such noble generosity as that of Dr. Burnside.

H. M. S. Vestal, arrived here from Jamaica on Tuesday afternoon. Yellow Fever is said to be among the crew.

We are credibly informed that the inhabitants on the Banks of the Port Medway River have come to the spirited resolve to open a navigable Canal which shall connect that stream with the great Lakes Rosignol and Panuke. The survey to be proceeded with in the current season.

We are rejoiced to find the spirit of enterprize thus stirring up the self dependence of our people to works of this character; and if, as we are given to understand they will, readily, do, the inhabitants of Port Medway, subscribe the sum of £5,000 towards the prosecution of the proposed project, we have little doubt that the balance, £10,000, will be readily obtained from capitalists, native or foreign.

The proposed Canal, when completed, will open up hardly less than 200 miles of inland coast; the greater portion of the entire area being covered with wood of the most valuable varieties—the soil by which it is produced being generally, for depth and richness, not surpassed by any in the Province.

It is assumed that the work, which it is proposed to construct with wood, can be completed in little more than three years; when a Steamer plying on the Medway, shall pass closely the door of almost every settler in that new and really beautiful section of the Province which the contemplated Canal will have made accessible.

Application will be made to the Legislature—not, we trust, in vain—for a charter and fair pecuniary aid and encouragement, to an undertaking every way so praiseworthy and promising.—Sun.

THE LATE REV. DR. ROWLAND.—The following notice of our venerable friend, we cut from the *Boston Christian Witness*,

At Manchester, Alleghany county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of March 1853, the Rev. Thomas Rowland, D. D., in the 83d year of his age. The father of the deceased was the Rev. John Hamilton Rowland, a missionary from the Church of England to the province of Pennsylvania. He resided in Philadelphia, and there his son, Dr. Thomas Rowland was born, A. D. 1771. During the troubles which sprang up between the mother country and her colonies, Mr. Rowland removed to Nova Scotia, and ministered in the church at Shelburne. His son, the subject of the above notice, received the rudiments of his education on Staten Island, under the instruction of the Rev. Mr. Moore, father of the late Bishop of Virginia. From thence he went to King's College, N. S., and in A. D. 1796, received ordination from Bishop Charles Inglis, and succeeded his father in the parish of Shelburne. In this, his only parochial charge, he ministered for more than fifty years, till age and infirmity obliged him to cease from his labors. He returned to the United States to spend the remainder of his days in the family of an only daughter, in the neighborhood of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Here he was able to perform no other ministerial functions than occasionally assisting at the Holy Communion in Trinity Church, Pittsburg, and Christ Church, Alleghany. While residing in this neighborhood, he gained the respect of all to whom he was known, by his serious, yet cheerful piety. And when worn out, more by age than disease, his remains were followed to the grave by Christians of different denominations, who desired to show their respect for him dead, whom they had highly esteemed while living. His body was taken to Trinity Church, Pittsburg, where the funeral service, proper for the Church was read by the Rev. Messrs. Lyman and Van Deusen; and from thence to the Allegh-