

"God is not mocked—whatsoever a man soweth that shall he reap." If a man waits till others have cleared and tilled the ground, before he sows the seed, he will have to wait long enough for the harvest. Let him do his individual duty by his parishioners, and he will soon find that very much may be done—nay, that almost all that is necessary may be done—in spite of ten times the impediments which appear to stand in his path before he sets about his duty. There is nothing like real practical work for duly estimating and testing the dimensions and the importance of theoretical bugbears."

PRAYER.

Whenever a person prays earnestly, and truly, his prayer will be simple, it will be short it will be to the purpose. Almost every prayer in the Bible, is a short prayer. Long prayers and recitation do not indicate earnestness; it is the deep, simple cry of an humble, needy, destitute heart, that God hears, when offered through the name and merits of Jesus Christ. I look upon the General Confession of the Church of England as a perfect model in this respect; it is exquisitely simple, and evidently borrowed from, and moulded upon the model of the Lord's Prayer. There is scarcely a word in it, that is not a monosyllable; 'We have done those things which we ought not to have done, and we have left undone those things which we ought to have done.'

How simple, how intelligible, how much to the purpose, and what a contrast to those splendid extemporaneous prayers we (the kirk of Scotland) are sometimes doomed to listen to! Let us pray in spirit, and pray in truth, and we shall pray simply, and to the purpose; simple word, sublime petitions,—so our Lord taught His disciples, and so He will teach us to pray.—*Dr. Cummings.*

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Africa, Jan. 20.

The following is the report of the preparation made by the allies for the grand attack, given by the *Herald* correspondent, who writes from the English camp, under date of Dec. 18:—

"The French have now ninety-eight new pieces, chiefly mortars, in position in their third parallel. Of course these guns are masked, and so well masked too that, as far as we can judge, the Russians have been unable to discover them. They have evidently a suspicion of their being unpleasantly near, and hence their sorties to find them out. In the sortie made on the night of the 12th (mentioned in my last) they crossed one breastwork by surprise, and discovered a battery of five mortars, from which they were driven by the French before they had time to effect mischief. Since that night, beyond an occasional skirmish of the out-pickets, nothing has been done, and from the unusual quietness of the enemy I imagine that something is preparing in Sebastopol. The position of all the French ordnance is most commanding, and certainly if it is to be done by powder and shot, the French are justified in their assertions that they could level the town in twenty-four hours. There is not a single house or building, even on the north side, which their mortars cannot reach, and there is no precaution known to modern warfare which can avert the terrific effects of mortar shells. A 13-inch shell exploding levels all ordinary buildings for a space of twenty or thirty feet round the spot. Shell fired from cannon hardly do as much mischief as cannon shot, even among men. Whether the final assault will prove successful or not, none can say; but every one is perfectly certain that the forty-eight hours' bombardment will hardly leave one stone of Sebastopol upon another. Of course, when I say this I refer to the houses and smaller batteries. The large forts are bomb-proof, and will, therefore, suffer comparatively little, except in men.

"The English support the French attack by a tremendous cannonade and bombardment on the eastern side of the town and head of the harbour. To enable this to be done vigorously all the guns on our batteries have been replaced by new ones, and an advanced parallel, containing eight guns, thrown up near the Ovens. This latter work is within 300 yards of the walls, and may therefore be considered as a kind of breaching battery. In place of the Lancaster guns mortars are mounted; and also in our other chief batteries (viz. Gordon's, the Naval, and Green Mound) large mortar banks have been thrown up, and the ordnance placed.

"The new work at Inkermann is nearly finished, and the greater part of the guns are placed; 21 English and 17 French heavy guns and mortars will command the harbour from this spot. Great things are expected from its fire, which it is said must destroy the shipping in twelve hours. This battery, if properly served, might certainly produce results of some importance; but I imagine its range (nearly 2,000 yards) is too long to permit of much execution being done, especially to vessels, which, by moving to the mouth of the harbour, can increase the distance by 1,000 or 1,200 yards.

"The small 'côhorn' are to be moved into a little breastwork at the Ovens, and employed in throwing 6½ inch shell among the troops working the batteries,

and into the nearest guard-houses and troop stations. These little mortars, which two men can run away with with perfect ease, will certainly do as much service in this way as their larger comrades. Their range is not above 1,200 or 1,500 yards, but from the Ovens at that range they can command most of the south side of the town, and nearly all the batteries opposed to the English. With these 'côhorn' are to be placed five or six light field-pieces, for the purpose of destroying the formidable *chevaux de frise* and abatis, which surround the Russian batteries, and with these in the way no storm could ever be attempted. A rocket battery, it is said, will also be stationed at Inkermann, and in the batteries of our old right and left attacks.

"In all—with French and English—we shall open with about 200 pieces of ordnance of all descriptions. With such means of attack we ought to do something towards rendering the place untenable; but after the awful cannonade which Sebastopol stood on the 17th of October, no one likes to be too sanguine.

"As far as I can judge from carefully surveying, the external means of defence at the disposal of the enemy fully equal our means of attack. The whole place is literally circle within circle of redoubts, all of which are grim and dark with cannon. Fortunately, the insane project of trying to destroy these earthworks is now no longer talked of. It is upon the town, and those in it, that we wish to produce an effect with our mortars; the trenches and redoubts must all be taken at the point of the bayonet."

A letter, dated from the camp before Sebastopol, which appears in the *Maldstone Journal*, says—"Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, the Lord Raglan has been out of doors daily, at different parts of the camp; so much so, that some of his aides-de-camp have remonstrated with him, saying he had better allow them to do the work for him. He has been known frequently to give a hard-worked private his own bread, and even to let some poor soldier have a good tuck at his brandy-bottle. The men venerate him, but rail against the Government for not giving him proper means to enable him to make them more comfortable."

CANADA.

THE NEW DIOCESE IN CANADA.—It is highly gratifying to all Churchmen, and exceedingly creditable to the members of that communion in this section of the province, to know that the efforts put forth for the endowment of a new Bishopric are being crowned with success. At a meeting of the clergy and laity lately held at Niagara, it was found that although all the returns had not yet been handed in, the large sum of £10,362, had then been subscribed. As the total sum required is only £12,000 there is every prospect of this much-needed arrangement being speedily carried out. We congratulate our fellow churchmen upon this noble effort, feeling confident as we do that, with the Divine blessing, the increase of episcopal supervision will materially benefit the Church in this section of the country; the present diocese of Toronto being entirely too large for the thorough management of any bishop in the world.—*London (C. W.) Times.*

By a despatch received from Quebec, to the News Room, this morning, we learn that the west wing of the Lunatic Asylum at Beauport, with all its furniture &c. was destroyed by fire yesterday. The damage sustained amounts to about \$10,000. As this wing was occupied by females, and the remaining portion of the Asylum being too small to contain the lunatics of both sexes, much inconvenience and pecuniary loss must be the result. The origin of the fire is not known.

Judge Panet, of the Court of Queen's Bench, died on Monday last at Quebec. He was a man of much distinction in the British Provinces.—His remains were interred in the vault of the French cathedral.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.—This Society held its 19th anniversary during the past week in St. John. The Clergy and Lay Deputies met for business on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The bad state of the roads, especially in the neighbourhood of St. John, prevented, as large an attendance as usual on the part of the Clergy. Thirty-four parishes were, however, represented by their Lay Delegates. These gentlemen, chosen from the most intelligent and influential members of the Church—many of whom had travelled a long distance for this sole purpose, formed with the Clergy, a highly respectable assemblance—one to which the Church might with safety entrust the disposal of her funds. The first evening was chiefly taken up with reading, by the Secretary, the Reports of the several Missions and Local Committees, the Auditor's Report, and the Schedule of appropriations from the Missionary Fund. Notwithstanding the general depression in almost every branch of trade and industry, it was most gratifying to find in several instances an increased amount of contributions reported, and an expression of unabated attachment and confidence from all the Parishes in connection with the So-

ciety. £705 to aid in the support of fifteen missions, was placed at the disposal of the Lord Bishop for that purpose.

The attendance on Wednesday evening was increased by the arrival of Clergymen and Lay Delegates. The Committee appointed on the previous evening to report on the present available funds, having recommended £1,800 as the limit for the expenditure of the current year, the balance was appropriated as follows:—Aid in building Churches, £105, Widows and Orphans of the Clergy, £80, exclusive of £55 for specially given to that object; for the importation of Bibles, including £70 for a Hymn Book for the use of the Diocese, £170; for additional aid in the case of three Missionaries, whose means are very limited £60 aid in the education of Children of certain Clergymen, £50; for the expenses of the travelling Missionary £30. Besides an appropriation of contingent expences, &c. Books to the amount of £150 were granted to the several Local Committees for Parochial Libraries from the Book Depositories. It will be most pleasing and encouraging to the members of the Society to learn that harmony and good feeling pervaded all these proceedings; the Committee being satisfied that the above was the best appropriation they could make of the funds at their disposal, and only regretting that they were unable to devote more to objects so worthy of consideration.

The Anniversary meeting was held on Thursday evening. The attendance of members, including Lay Delegates and the Clergy, was unusually large. After prayers, the Lord Bishop, in a very impressive address set forth the claims of the Society upon the united support of the members of the Church, and dwelt with much feeling upon one of its objects—the affording, and when necessary, in the education of the children of the Clergy. The Annual Report was then read by the Secretary, and unanimously adopted on motion of F. A. Wiggins, Esq., seconded by the Hon. Mr. Justice Parker, both of whom, in most excellent speeches, pressed upon the meeting the necessity of increased exertion in the good cause. This was followed by interesting addresses by the Hon. Attorney General, the Rev. Dr. Gray on the subject of a request from the Society to His Excellency the Lt. Governor to succeed the present Governor-General of Canada as Patron of the Society.

The officers of the previous year, with a vote of thanks for their past services, were unanimously re-elected. A committee was then appointed, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Justice Parker, Rev. Dr. Gray, Hon. J. A. Street, W. Wright and G. D. Robinson, Esq., to consider and report at the next annual meeting upon the present Constitution of the Society, and whether any alteration is desirable. After some further notices of motion for the next year, and a vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop for his patient and dignified conduct in the Chair, the Society adjourned.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on the following day, the same gentlemen who acted last year were re-elected to take charge of the Book Depositories at St. John and Fredericton. A change was made in the Loan Committee, as it was thought desirable that those parties should be resident in St. John.

The appropriation of the Books granted for Parochial Libraries and for distribution, was deferred to the next meeting of the Executive Committee, which will be held at Fredericton on the first Wednesday in March.—*Com. to the Head Quarters.*

REVENUE.—The amount of Revenue for the Province last year was £203,054; and for the previous year £184,727—showing an increase on last year of £18,327. The Import duty last year produced £105,577; Export Duty, £20,661; Casual Revenue, £1,500; Supreme Court Fees, £360; Auction Duties, £212; Emigrant Duties, £425; Light House Duties, £4988; Sick and Disabled Seamen's duties, £235.

Editorial Miscellany.

REFUGE FOR UNFORTUNATE FEMALES.

The Report of the Committee of the House of Refuge, opened at Halifax, January, 1854, for unfortunate females, is now before the public. We have been requested to copy it, but owing to its length, and its being of comparatively little interest, except locally, we must content ourselves with giving a few prominent extracts. After some preliminary paragraphs, relative to organizing the Institution, the appointment of the Committee, and their preparatory proceedings, the Report goes on to state:—

"The Committee's correspondence shewed that the most approved plan of superintendance was to give the whole charge (subject to the Committee's rules and supervision) to a Female Superintendent, aided by an Assistant, when this should become necessary. After advertising in the public prints, the choice fell upon Mrs. Wilson, who has acted in her office with much prudence, decision and affection, and has thus established a happy influence over the minds of those who were received into the House, alike necessary for her own comfort and for their improvement.

"The House was partially furnished and opened on the 1st of January, since which time the number has varied from one, which was our commencement, to seven. The whole number received has been eleven, the number now remaining six. Of the five who have left, one only left in the way most gratifying to the Committee, after ten months of good behaviour, being received as a servant in a respectable family, and being commended to her Heavenly Father, as her