

THE COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

"BUILT UPON THE FOUNDATION OF THE APOSTLES AND PROPHETS, JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF BEING THE CHIEF CORNER STONE."

VOLUME IV.

LUNENBURG, N. S. THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1839.

NUMBER 16.

THE VISITATION OF THE SICK.*

I.

The chamber's gloom grows more profound—
A hush comes o'er each household sound,
And stifled sigh, and whisper low,
And silent sitting to and fro,
Speak to all hearts of mortal clay
Fast wearing unto dust away.

II.

'Peace to this house'—how sadly dear
Enters that voice of blessing here!
That voice, to share whose glad employ
Of prayer and praise, in quiet joy
Oft walk'd the sufferer forth, when high
The Sabbath bells chim'd thro' the sky.

III.

There breathes a sound of murmur'd prayer—
The faint response scarce stirs the air,
Meek as the heaven towards which they steal,
As round the dying couch all kneel;
His household's parting prayer with one
Wending to God his way, alone.

IV.

Spread forth a sacred feast appears—
Yet blame not though 'tis shar'd in tears;
(For was there heard no sorrowing sound
That night when first such cup went round?)
Nor strange the thought that there hath birth—
'This is with him our last on earth.'

V.

But woe most for that hour too near,
When slow comes forth the muffled bier—
When loud is heard 'mid crowding din
A voice of mourning far within—
As graveward moves man's stronger kind,
The wail of woman left behind!

VI.

Be past all this, and ask we why
(And well such question claims a sigh,
From all such forms in this our day
Why falls our England's love away,
The forms that graced her church's prime,
The rituals of her elder time?)

VII.

The noblest with which man could bring
His praise before th' Almighty King;
The sweetest when his lips would move
In blessing all a Father's love;
The humblest when the soul would pray
For chastening wrath to pass away.

VIII.

All beauteous service! who, as while
He gaz'd up through some minster's aisle,
Where day, to crimson glory turn'd,
Strained through the tinted oriel, burn'd
Thy solemn chaunt yet idly heard,
His heart, his heart of hearts, unstirr'd?

IX.

Or better, where the church tower green
Look'd meekly o'er some hamlet scene;
Where in the breeze the rose amain
Bent forth to kiss each ivied pane;
Who 'mid the rustic choir hath stood,
Yet felt not to be there was good?

X.

Oh! pray that soon, all wandering o'er,
We ask for our old paths once more—
The paths in which our fathers walk'd,
And with our giant spirits talk'd,
Deeming with such they scarce could err,
With Ridley and with Latimer.

Dublin University Magazine.

* See Visitation Office, in the Book of Common Prayer.

MISSIONS.

STATE OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION IN JERUSALEM.

Extract from a letter from the Missionary to Rev. E.
Bickersteth, dated—
Jerusalem, January 10th, 1839.

"Notwithstanding the slow progress, and the many and various perplexities, anxieties, and vexations of it, the history of the purchase of ground for the church can be briefly given. It was finally concluded early in September last. I must not attempt to describe the ground, and yet I must just tell you that it is in the very best situation, right on Mount Zion, directly opposite the Castle of David, near the Jaffa Gate, just bordering on the Jewish quarter.—It consists of two adjoining houses, with premises and gardens, and is just sufficient for the erection of the church, and houses for four mission families.—Moreover, some adjoining premises may yet be had if required. The whole amount of the purchase expenses is 800*l*.

"Contracts have been made, for building materials, to be ready against spring, when, if duly authorized and furnished by the Committee, I shall commence the work, please God; and so I trust we shall in due time see a Protestant church completed on Mount Zion. But what is of more importance, I can tell you of a nucleus of a living Church already begun to form, not only of those who have been sent us from England, but of converts on the spot, or at least candidates for baptism, of whom we have seven in number, one family of four and three single individuals. These all attend our services, and are under regular instruction. Some of them I hope to baptize next Easter.

"But let me now attempt a hasty sketch of the history of the mission. Early in July last, Messrs. Puritz and Levi joined me. The plague was then in the city, but as soon as it subsided, the missionary work was resumed with trebled energy. Discussions were daily held with Jews, either at our own houses or theirs, or in their synagogues, and some general stir excited. In the latter half of August, I had to make a journey to Beyroot, on behalf of the purchase. During my absence, a young rabbi, who had already come frequently for discussion, made an open (perhaps premature) profession of his faith in Christ. The rabbi now took alarm. He was forced to divorce his wife, and at length prevailed upon to leave for Constantinople. We still entertain hope of him; but the rabbi has succeeded in preventing his being baptized in the Holy City, as the first rabbi of this place.

"Ever since the 22d July we have had regular worship every Lord's-day in the full form of our Church, in the morning in English, and in the afternoon in Arabic; and since the 23d of September in the evening in German. So you see I have to preach three times every Lord's-day in three different languages, and to read the service too. On the 5th of August, I administered the sacrament of the Lord's supper, for the first time it has ever been administered in Jerusalem, in the order of our Church. We were then only four communicants. Since that time, I have continued to administer it every first Sunday in the month, and our numbers have increased since. Last time, the first Sunday in the present year, we were six, and next time, perhaps, we may hope to be eight, being joined by our still expected Consul and his lady. At Easter, and thence-forward, we shall, please God, have an accession of communicants from among our present candidates for baptism. Ever since the 25th of July, we have had daily morning and evening prayers in Hebrew, in a room set apart and fitted up for that purpose in

my own house, till it shall be superseded by a regular church. At this service our full and regular attendance amounts only to ten persons as yet. We have occasionally, but rarely, a stranger (Jew) join us.

JOHN NICOLAYSON.

To the Rev. E. Bickersteth "

BISHOP OF UPPER CANADA.

We perceive by the following extract from the 'Church,' that we are likely to have a fourth Bishop in British North America:—

We have noticed in several of our contemporaries, that a rumour is prevalent that Her Majesty's Government have at length decided upon the partition of the too-extensive Diocese of Quebec, and have agreed to constitute Upper Canada into a separate see,—offering its Episcopal supervision to the Venerable the Archdeacon of York. We are aware that the formation of Upper Canada into a distinct Diocese has for some time engaged the anxious attention of her Majesty's Government, and that the claims of the Ven. the Archdeacon of York, to become its first Bishop have never, in the highest quarters, been disputed. Without speaking from any specific authority, we believe we shall be found correct in announcing that the formation of Upper Canada into a separate Diocese will very soon take place, and that the Venerable the Archdeacon of York will be consecrated to its episcopal charge.—And we may add, that unless some change in the arrangement heretofore contemplated for carrying into effect this important end shall have been made, the acceptance of this high office by the Archdeacon of York will be attended with a very large pecuniary sacrifice, as well as a vast addition to his personal toil and responsibility.

NEW CHURCH AT MALTA.

On the 20th of March her Majesty, the Queen-dowager, accompanied by his Excellency the Governor, and her suite, laid the foundation-stone of the new Protestant church. A very large concourse of the British residents, and of Maltese, had already assembled in the Strada Poncote; the site of the new church. There was a much greater proportion of English ladies present than I had ever before seen together in Malta, and the scene was still further enlivened by the rich uniforms of the officers of the army and navy, who were obliged to be present in full dress. Her Majesty was preceded on her way there by a band of the garrison, playing "God save the Queen," and moreover by twelve clergymen of the Church of England, chiefly chaplains of the navy, a rather novel and strange spectacle for this place, no Protestant service having ever been performed here publicly in the streets. Her Majesty looked exceedingly well, and was assisted by the Governor, Lord Howe, the Chief Secretary, the Hon. Sir Hector Greig, and Mr. Lankersheer, the architect. The stone was lowered down with all due form, and her Majesty afterwards took a coin of the present reign and deposited it in an aperture cut in the middle of the stone: a parchment with the following writing was also deposited with the coin:—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will towards men." On the stone is engraved—"Laus Deo, hic lapis, adis sacrae Sancti Pauli, fundamentum, propriae excellentissimae et piatissimae Adelaidis Reginae viduae nobilis, manu positus est, die xx Martii, A. D. 1839: cujus et pietate et sumptu hoc templum in usum Ecclesiae Anglicanae aedificatum est."

There is a true apostolicism in the character of St. Paul. It is a combination of zeal and love.—*Cecil.*