

mountain range beyond, have snow by the end of Sept'r. At a later period, however, small parties of much experience—mail carriers and travellers with extra mules and supplies of corn, knowing all the best small spots of grass and places of refuge from storms—may get through, but these advantages are not possessed by large bodies of troops."

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 1857.

CHURCH SOCIETIES.

A correspondent whom we esteem very highly, both on his own account, and for his work's sake, has thought it necessary to make some observations upon a remark, in one of our editorials, having reference to the Diocesan Church Society, and one of the hindrances to its doing all the good of which it is capable from its constitution—the intrusion of another Society. Our correspondent supposes with truth that the Colonial Church and School Society is the other Society alluded to. He is wrong however in his surmise, and in the scope of his argument, if he believes that it was our intention in any way to reflect upon the character or conduct of that Society's missionaries, or that we had ought to charge upon them of want of zeal in their Master's service. We have never heard any thing of the kind alleged against them, and should be very slow to attach importance to any such charge. They are we believe neither better nor worse, no more nor less zealous for the salvation of their fellow creatures, than other Clergymen in the Diocese, and we rank them in the same brotherhood, and they are counted as of the same fellowship. Any suspicion, therefore, that because they are not native they are therefore looked upon as strangers or aliens, and that they have difficulties to encounter on that score, we think had better be repudiated from our correspondent's mind, as entirely wanting in proof, and entitled to not one moment's serious consideration.

What we meant by intrusion, was not that the Colonial Church Society had sent us Missionaries and Catechists; but that being the servants of a separate organization, the head of which is more than two thousand miles away, they are subject to its directions, which are distinct from the operations of the Diocesan Church Society, which was established to regulate the very objects of which the Colonial Church Society assumes a separate cognizance. Now how different is this from the practice of the S. P. G. In the infancy of the Colony they afforded their assistance, and were content even then, when ecclesiastical interference might have been excusable, that our Church authorities should dispense their bounty and carry out their intentions; and surely if then able to do so, there can be no doubt that we are quite competent to do so now, with so complete an organization as the Diocesan Church Society. We have no objection therefore to be understood, to their administering to our religious necessities, but we have a strong objection to allowing them a separate control in what concerns our ecclesiastical interests. We have not the least objection to their clergymen and catechists, under the Church authorities of the Diocese, preaching the Gospel to the poor upon the terms upon which they are employed, but we have no desire to submit to a governing body in London, when we can and ought to be free from all such interference, and are able to manage our own affairs. Upon these grounds then we are justified in asserting that another Society has intruded itself, and that in the feelings thus provoked it will be an hindrance to the Church's progress. We might go further and adduce evidence of another nature in proof of the correctness of our assertion, but let this suffice for the present occasion.

Our correspondent will see therefore that when we pointed to the Col. Church Society as intrusive, it was not with reference to the teaching of its missionaries and catechists and school masters, but simply as it would tend to a divisional effort in sustaining the Church, and so affect her future welfare, by the opposing spirit that would be called into existence. In our last week's paper allusion was made to this subject, and a remedy was hinted at, which we hope it is not too late to apply, so that unity of effort may be secured in the Church, and all things may work together for good. We shall not say much upon this part of the subject, we would rather leave it to those whose age and position fit them for the work of conciliation. The task would certainly be of no great difficulty on the ground of dissimilar doctrinal views. Nor do we see what real objection the Colonial Church Society ought to have to their objects being merged in those of the Diocesan Church Society, working by

and under which it would be enabled to do much more real spiritual good in the Diocese than it can ever hope to accomplish by a separate and divisible operation.

The Steamship *Niagara* arrived early on Wednesday morning from Liverpool. She brought £33,000 specie for Halifax. The news with reference to India is interesting, as it relates the fall of Delhi. Lucknow was still unrelieved, but General Havelock, with large reinforcements was marching upon it, and the next mail will probably give a good account of his efforts.

The death of General Cavaignac is an important event in France.

The Consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. Cronyn as Bishop of Huron, has taken place. His Lordship the Bishop of Nova Scotia was one of the officiating prelates.

The New Brunswick papers give much prominence to the trial of the murderers of McKenzie and his family at Mispick on the 24th ultimo.—The trial continued four days. Breen and the elder Slavin having pleaded guilty were not placed in the dock—and the investigation of the case proceeded on the trial of the younger Slavin, a boy of 15 or 16 years of age. The following is the examination or confession of one of the murderers:—

"Hugh Breen examined by Mr. Watters. Being sworn and duly cautioned, deposed—that he knew prisoner, had lived at his father's about three weeks, knows of the burning at McKenzie's, old Slavin and prisoner at the bar and we were there, I did not see him do anything. We went together, I was outside, he was inside with his father, I did not go in till after the murder, all three were in the old house, we were there first. I saw McKenzie, he was in the small house when prisoner was there, McKenzie was alive when prisoner was in the small house, I saw him dead when prisoner was there. I went to the house and asked McKenzie to come down as my wife was come. Old Slavin said not to make a fire, and after it was made we put it out. McKenzie came down with a candle in his hand, and old Slavin took the axe used for chopping wood out of my hand. His son was there. There were two or three rooms in the house. Slavin was in one place and McKenzie in another. When McKenzie came in Slavin came out and said "she is on hand," (this was referring to my wife's coming.) He had the axe in his hand, and hit McKenzie on the breast, he said "dead dogs tell no lies." He hit him on the breast with the back of the axe, McKenzie groaned but did not speak. We put him into the cellar, and old Slavin afterwards brought him up. He asked me to help and I said I could not, but afterwards did. This was before we had the lower house, and an hour and a half after we killed him. We put him in the room. When we went to the upper house Slavin asked me if I knew the house: he told me to go in and watch the door till he got a view of her (Mrs. McKenzie.)

He then went in and Mrs. McKenzie was sitting at the fire with a child in her arms. She asked if she was coming (meaning my wife.) Slavin then struck her with the axe on the head and she fell over on the edge of the stone; he then struck her three blows on the body. He then struck the children who were standing round their mother crying; he killed the whole of them; the children cried, but Mrs. McKenzie did not. Prisoner and me took no direct part in the murder; we were standing in the porch at this time. After the murder was over the dog came in and got some blood on him—this was about half-past 9; we set at the clock—we shut up the doors and went down to the edge of the wood and sat some time; we went up to the house and thought we heard some of the children crying, and went down again—we came back again and got some bread and milk. Prisoner took the key of the safe out of the pocket of McKenzie's trousers before we left the lower house. I stand outside and Slavin and son went in and I heard the iron chest open; they got what money was there, and we went to the wood again; it was now half-past 11. Slavin said better put a coal to the lower house first; we got some matches and a candle and went to the lower house and set fire to the straw of the bed; McK. was lying alongside of the straw. We set fire to the house; we then went to the upper house and set fire to it in the porch, we took some straw with us and put wood round it. We left altogether in about five minutes afterwards.

We brought with us some socks and other clothes, a woman's dress, a watch, and a quantity of money.—There was about £50, all in gold. Slavin had it in his pocket. We all came to Slavin's together. Prisoner did not hear much of the planning of the murder till a few days before it happened. Old Slavin wished him to go and hold the candle to him, and they would murder McKenzie. On the way to the murder old Slavin told us to back him as well as we could. I saw prisoner with money on Sunday after the fire. I saw him have a portemonnaie. The one in Court is the same. Prisoner afterwards gave the portemonnaie to me before we were arrested. I think he got the money from his father.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wetmore. I had no money the night before the fire. I got money on Monday from Mrs. Slavin; two half sovereigns, and went to Knox's to get them changed. I came to town on Sunday night, was in David Lindsay's, had the purse that is in Court with me. I had some pieces of old newspaper in it. I got the purse from old Slavin. I only asked for one sovereign on Sunday. I am a married man. My wife lives in town, did not go to see her on Sunday. I had been drinking, know the Cathedral; am not sure if I was near it, or in the street it is in on Sunday evening. I was a good deal scared on the night of the fire. Was in Fredericton a month before the fire with old Slavin. I know Sarah Golly. I never consulted with Slavin about murdering her. I was once in her house. Asked if he staid two days and had to come back because they could not effect their purpose. Witness refused to answer a great many questions about this matter. I slept with

Leat on Thursday night. We had gone to murder McKenzie on that night, but were prevented by something Leat said about his father being in town and likely to come past. On the night of the murder we were all together all the time. Can't recollect anything about Sunday night. Asked if he knows a Mrs. Blackwall in Waterloo street, St. John, but refused to answer. Asked if he gave her any money on this Sunday evening. Replied he did not know if he did or not. Witness here got dogged at, the cross examination and refused to answer any further questions. He was removed and recommitted to jail.

The Judge summed up on the afternoon of the fourth day strongly against the prisoner.

SENTENCE PASSED.—During the time the jury were out considering their verdict, the Judge ordered the other two prisoners, Breen and the elder Slavin to be brought into Court, when the Attorney-General moved for sentence against them. The Clerk, having read the finding on the indictment, and asked if they had anything to say why sentence should not be pronounced, Breen replied, "I am satisfied;" Slavin did not speak. After the usual formality of proclamation, his Honor proceeded in a most solemn and impressive address to pass the last sentence of the law upon the unhappy prisoners, which was, that they be taken from where they were back to the jail, and from thence to the place of execution, on Friday, the 11th day of December next, and there hanged by the neck till they were dead, and may God have mercy on their souls. Sentence on the younger Slavin was deferred.—*St. John Courier.*

The Report of the Delegates appointed to the Mission to England on the vexed subject of the Mines and Minerals of Nova Scotia has been published.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed to the Hon. W. A. Black:—

"Sir,—We are about to make you an offer, and if you comply with our purpose we will be content, and you may rest assured as far as we are concerned you are safe, and need anticipate no danger whatever on your premises. The proposal we make is this—if you will give us One Hundred and Thirty-five Pounds in gold, all grievances will be forgot, and it would be more satisfaction to us to receive that little amount than to have it in our power to say we have destroyed the Hon. W. A. Black, and it will also enable us to leave the country. Now Sir, if you think well, to agree with our proposal the way we will arrange the matter is this—you will lay the money on your own fence, on top of the post next the second tree, above the South gate of your field, marked with a nail. If it should be there on Wednesday evening next, at 8 o'clock, or Thursday, we will make it convenient to call one of the two evenings—Wednesday possible. And we must get it without being molested by a guard or watch, for we shall all be prepared to defend ourselves; but for both your sake and ours we wish everything to end in peace and quietness. Now if you feel disposed to comply with our proposal, then let this be kept as secret as possible. If not make it known to the public without delay, as we may have an opportunity of knowing what is to be done, and what your mind is respecting the matter. G. C.

P.S.—How happy I would feel if trouble would end here, if it does I shall feel a great relief. No more. G. C.

[The letter was handed over to his Worship the Mayor, and a scheme concocted for the detection of its author. A bag containing a quantity of coppers was accordingly placed where the person requested. Between 9 and 10 o'clock on Wednesday night, a person was seen by the Police Officers approaching to the spot where the supposed gold was deposited. The bag had a wire attached to it, communicating to a bell, and when he seized the bag the bell rang, which alarmed him, and he ran off at full speed; but constables Fraser and Cotter were on the alert, as also two men were on the watch, with loaded guns, who were cautioned by the Constables not to fire unless they were in danger of their lives; but this they neglected, for on the near approach of Ingles, (the gold seeker,) followed very closely by Officers Fraser and Cotter, a gun was discharged by one of the party, and came very near shooting the Officers. Ingles was arrested near the property of Mr. Northup, (late Snelling's) about a quarter of a mile west of the Hon. W. Black's, who, when he was seized by the Officers, exclaimed, "My God, I'm done for, the Devil prompted me." Ingles served in the capacity of county constable.—*Morning Journal.*

Mr. Willis, of the National School, who is always on the look out to apply some wholesome stimulus in his educational system, gave 30 of his boys a great and instructive treat the other day, by taking them on board H. M. S. Indus, where they were kindly received, and permitted to inspect the various parts of that noble ship.—*Journal.*

Mr. John Shean, the very active and energetic Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch of last year, has been, we are happy to announce, re-appointed over this City-Division. Mr. S. during the past year proved himself well qualified for the duties of his office. He has gained the universal esteem of the Brethren in the Metropolis.—*Id.*

The first Lecture of the Young Men's Christian Association, will be delivered by the Rev. Mr. Hunter, at Temperance Hall, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 24.