fast in the observance of his law, nor withdraw them occasions before the eyes of an eager and credulous life is theatre capacious enough for him. from the worship of false gods. He abandons, there- multitude, thereby serving to remind the enlightened fore, promises so brilliant and so proper, we should stranger that Rome, in becoming Christianized, has imagine, to create an impression upon a people gene- not discarded her former Paganism. rally swayed by carnal and earthly motives; but it is Perhaps it may not be generally understood that to hold out the expectation of a boon a thousand distinguished divines, even of the Romish persuasion, times more precious:- "Turn, O backsliding chil- have not hesitated to attach doubt and discredit to dren, saith the Lord, And I will give you many of the relies exposed to public veneration.pastors according to my heart, which shall feed you The celebrated ritualist, Pere Mabillon, confesses the with knowledge and understanding."

THE CHURCH.

COBOURG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1845.

CONTENTS OF THE OUTSIDE.

Indifference not Charity.

The Good Priest. Henry Howard—chap XX.
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thirty days, for about seventeen hours on each day. manner of the legend of Thomas à Becket."

God hath shaken the fabric of his power. haustible fragments of the miraculously propagated ces of Christianity, and we are persuaded that they

existence, in his time, of many spurious relics, and declares that remains had been surreptitiously imposed upon the church which, in ail probability, were not the bones of Christians at all, but of Pagans. The eminent Abbè Fleury will be accepted by Romanists themselves as a sagacious and unprejudiced authority, and yet the language of this learned historian involves the genuineress of relics in so much precariousness and uncertainty as of itself is amply sufficient to justify and require the entire abandonment of their use. "It was in the East," writes this Romish ecclesiastic, "that the practice began of separating and sending Continental Europe has, of late, been made the about relics; and this gave occasion to impostures. scene of one of those demonstrations of Romish super- For, to be satisfied of the genuineness of these remains, stition which, flourishing most vigorously during the it would have been necessary to trace them exactly up darkness of the middle ages, have so far yielded, since to the beginning, and to know through what hands they the illumination of that gloomy era, to the constraint have passed; which at the first might not have been of increased knowledge, religious and intellectual, as so difficult. But after many ages, it was more easy to have slumbered, up to the present moment, in to impose not only on the common people, but on the almost total abeyance; or have been manifested, at bishops also, who were grown less enlightened and ral, the Hon. W. B. Robinson, is a great cause of least, only on a limited scale, and with less of theatri- less attentive. And after it was established, as a thankfulness, as well as rejoicing, to the friends of the cal display than the Church of Rome had it in her rule, to consecrate no churches or altars without relies, good cause of order, religion, and law. Prodigious power to assume whilst the foundations of her usurped the want of them proved a strong temptation not to efforts were made, as usual, by the members of a comsupremacy remained in questioned, and the resources be over-curious in examining them; and then after- pact, who style themselves the "Beform Association," of universal Christendom were placed, in a great wards the profit gained by attracting offerings and pil- to produce a different result; but the good sense of measure, at the disposal of her ambitious Pontiffs. grimages, which enriched the churches and the cities, the people has nobly prevailed over these machinations, The occurrence to which we allude is that remarka- proved a temptation of the grosser and meaner kind." and testified more decidedly than ever their attachment ble procession, or rather pilgrimage, which was made Our readers will remember an extract from Dr. Mid- to those constitutional and monarchical principles a few months ago by members of the Romish commu- dleton's Letter from Rome published in a late number which our new Inspector General will always be nion to the ancient city of Treves, on the Lower of this Journal, in which it was shown that Pagan in- amongst the foremost in naintaining. Rhine, in the dominions of the King of Prussia, for scriptions, relating to some secular matters, have been It is a thousand pities, as we have often remarked, the purpose of visiting and saluting with the usual ignorantly mistaken for evidence of Christian martyr- that parties affected by the mania of "reform," would marks of adoration, a celebrated garment, averred by dom, and have produced in consequence, the canonithose who give credence to the fabulous tradition zation of men and women who never lived. The is so much room for its application. And we often upon which its reputation depends, to be the identical earthly tabernacles of holy men fared no better, in the wonder that, in the forwardness of their zeal for the vest or tunic worn by Our blessed Lord on the occa- matter of relics, than the events of their lives in the enlightenment, or moral and spiritual renovation of sion of his trial before Pontius Pilate, and disposed of legends of ingenious biographers: their mortal frame others, they should travel so weary a way, in utter forby the Roman guards at the crucifixion by casting after death, and their actions during life, were alike getfulness that they had left as much darkness and clements of each of these three bodies were of no conse lots for it. The incident in question has been recom- abandoned to the cleverness of the forger; it was just ignorance at home as they seek so benevolently to mended to our notice and examination by a valued as common, and considered quite as meritorious, for disperse and remove abroad. friend and correspondent, to whose zeal and cour- practised inventors, who looked more after the gain of As a specimen of one of these freaks of philanthropy, tesy we were once before indebted for a similar sug- the craftsmen than honesty and religion, to construct we have been amused by the following paragraph in a gestion, - who has transmitted to us a number of Le a skeleton as to coin a prodigy. The following anec-Canadien which affords a somewhat animated narra- dote related by Mr. Warton, will convey some idea tive of the proceedings, in an extract borrowed from of the manner in which the lives of Romish saints another French periodical. From this account we were disposed of; and from this we may easily imalearn that the number of those who repaired to the gine that their ashes would hardly meet with more fictitious relic, during the recent transport of enthusi- veracious and honourable treatment. "About the lical ministers, to give public lectures to expose the false asm, amounted to the vast multitude of eight hundred year 1380 flourished Gilbert de Stone, a learned ec- and unscriptural nature of those doctrines; and we hope thousand souls; another description which we have clesiastic, and good Latin writer. The monks of thousand souls: another description which we have clesiastic, and good Latin writer. The monks of which the people of Cobourg have encouraged the work, seen estimated the concourse at not less than a million. The scene is represented as having been one life of their patron saint. Stone asked for materials; the Province. of the most extraordinary spectacles ever witnessed; he was answered there were none: upon which he There is, in many minds, a marvellous pertinacity

"On s'ên étonuera moins," is the language of the We have thus far dealt with relies; but before we tune that it should be spared from the quarter where lively journalist, "en sachant que le procession sur bring our remarks to a close, we would bestow a pas- it is, confessedly, so much needed. deux files commence chaque matin avec le jour, sans sing observation on a kindred theme suggested by our the policy of Romish ecclesiastics, has now received contaminated by the selfishness of the world, has an additional sanction, and stands confessed in a more ceased to yield to the sweet influence of gentle emointrepid development; the spiritual vagrancy of an tions. Each familiar haunt, -each accustomed reobscure and bewildered age is again to be established; sort, -of the great, the wise, and the good, who have Church" system, fully to employ the very moderate pilgrimages-for the affair of Treves is properly a departed from us, becomes precious and hallowed in pilgrimage-not with a view to the nourishment of our sight, and inspires the soul with solemn reflections. in the present instance, appears to be transferred to a piety, but to perpetuate a wretched and debasing And we see not why this principle of association,superstition, have been revived on a grander and far self-operating and engrossing as it must always prove, more imposing organization than the uncouth assem- -should not be enlisted in the service of religion .blages of the poor, the decayed, and the infirm who still "Whatever withdraws us from the power of our betake themselves, insensible to the truth at their very senses," is the opinion expressed by the illustrious door, to the "Holy Wells" of Ireland; and destined Dr. Johnson,-"whatever makes the past, the diseven, it should seem, to surpass the costly ceremo- tant, or the future predominate over the present, adnial of "Our Lady of Loretto." Rome is assuredly vances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far lections, as it is officious and unwarrantable in those struggling with painful pertinacity to extinguish even from me and from my friends be such frigid philoso- who presume thus to name them in connection with the partial and wandering gleam of religious sunshine phy, as may conduct us indifferent and unmoved over an alledged universal crusade against a rampant heresy. which the Reformation hath shed, unperceived it may any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bra- We have heard of two or three tailors of Tooley Street be to themselves, upon the darkened minds of her very, or virtue. That man is little to be envied, styling themselves "the people of angland:" and we own unhappy children: the very presence of a purified whose patriotism would not gain force upon the plain apprehend that the former will be found to have about faith, we had hoped and believed, had done something of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer as much influence upon the moral and spiritual destitowards elevating the character, and mitigating, where among the ruins of Iona." Who can lay it to the nies of our growing town, as the latter had upon the it failed to remove, the more offensive enormities of reproach of any follower of Christ that the stable of fortunes of our mighty empire. That some misgiving, this degenerate Church; but here, in the case before Bethlehem, and the summit of Calvary, the soil of indeed, affected the parties in question, appears evius, we discern the strange and afflictive peculiarity. Nazareth and the shores of Gennesaret, have given a dent from the lamentation indulged in by the writer of that a Protestant land, ruled by a Protestant sov- quicker circulation to the current of his devotional the article referred to in the quotation above given,ereign, and inhabited almost entirely by a Protestant feelings, and imbued him, whilst the sacred landscape namely, that despite the efforts which, with so exalted people; and, what is more, linked to our own much- greeted his eye, with a deeper sense of the Redeem- a benevolence, are being made for their spiritual loved England, the champion of incorrupt Catholicism, er's love? But all may not enjoy this privilege. enlightenment from the darkness of error which surby strong and endearing ties, has been selected The Christian must be content with his lot whereso- rounds them, the people of Cobourg will not be perfor the stage of a dramatic exhibition which illus- ever it be cast; and under all circumstances, in every suaded of the danger which these meddling friends are trates in no ordinary degree the crafty genius of situation, the grace of God is accessible to the con- endeavouring to persuade them is sure to overtake and Romanism. In itself highly significant (" de la plus trite penitent and real believer. The Gospel holds destroy them; -in other words, that notwithstanding haute signification") it indicates, in our opinion, not out no hope to the sinner, that he shall acquire the these impertinent and unwarrantable efforts to bring merely a determination to restore the almost obsolete temper of a true disciple by wandering, with staff and their Church and ministers into disrepute, they choose practice of pilgrimages, and to propagate with more scallop-shell over the face of the earth, when the to cling with an honest and unabated fidelity to both, shameless effrontery than hitherto has been evinced bounty of God, conferred in household blessings and -to have more confidence in the Church's teaching the pious frauds of forged relics and concocted mira- domestic happiness,-the conversation of the serious than in the novelties of any fresh invention of doctrine cles, but a resolution likewise to put forth, when the and sober-minded at home, -the unspeakable privile- or worship which may be proposed, -to rely more season for action shall arrive, a concentrated and uni- ges of his parish-church,-have failed to subdue his upon the soundness and faithfulness of their long-tried form exertion for the accomplishment of some great proud heart into humble repentance. There exists pastors and well-proved friends, than upon the froth enterprise, - to operate in concert, perhaps, with the no reason for supposing that the same godliness which and sound of ignorant and itinerant declaimers. resuscitation of the Jesuits, and with the multiplied has been neglected amid the busy strife of the meintrigues by which the presiding spirit of the Vatican tropolis, or the solitude of the remote wilderness, to consummate his own schemes of exaltation, and to mage undertaken with such an expectation would at repair as speedily as possible the damages produced least be folly; but when the Romish fancy of merit by the frequent convulsions wherewith the wrath of is affixed to it, it can be characterized by no epithet less severe than that of unrighteous presumption.

When the enshrinement of a portion of the pre- The practice of pilgrimages, so soon as the multitended remains of a fabulous female luminary, known tudes engaged in these itinerations rendered them by the name of St. Anne of Carcasonne, was noticed extravagant, became most prejudical to the cause of and briefly discussed in this Journal, about a twelve- truth. The estrangement of vast numbers of the month ago, we took occasion at that time to advert Clergy from their regular ministrations was not its particularly to the adoration of relies. What we then greatest evil; and yet this alone was distressing enough. wrote upon the subject, -the arguments we were ena- "I will be bold to say," writes the Abbé Fleury on bled to deduce from the conjunct testimony of Scripthis point, "that this was a very small appendage ture, early antiquity, and common sense, -need not to the essentials of religion, when a bishop left his the Newcastle and Colborne District Branch of the now be repeated. We would only add the reflection, diocese for whole years, to ramble from the extremities bearing upon the present matter, that the French of France or England to Rome or Jerusalem; when Journalist who has commemorated this event does abbots and monks quitted their retirement; when well to introduce his parrative with the prudent apos- women, and even nuns, exposed themselves to the trophe, "Far be from us the intention of discussing perils of long voyages." No sensible man would here with the formal investigations of science, what desire the revival of such a custom, even though its in prosecution of the collection of the dues to this Journal. degree of authenticity attaches to the sacred relic!" object were a far worthier one than the visitation of We trust that our subscribers in that quarter will be pre-For it is the most natural thing in the world that such a gross imposture. Were no other difficulties attenda chronicler should apprehend some serious difficulty ant upon the system, we should object to it on the in establishing, by a chain of historical evidence, the sole plea, that we entertain a strong antipathy to what complete preservation of a linen garment during a pe- may be called the mechanical excitements of religion. riod of more than eighteen centuries; and his readers By substituting human devices for divine ordinances, might very possibly be led, by the necessary failure of they imply a weakness and imperfection in the revelasuch an enquiry, to adopt the uncomfortable conclution which God has been pleased to communicate to sion, that the identity of the "Holy Tunic" rests us, and a distrust of his gracious providence: we can- as I could, the workings of the economical philosophy in pretty much on the same foundation with the inex- not but regard them as the deformities and excrescen-

the empire of the world? the conquest of the uni- sudarium or blood-stained pocket-handkerchief,- pensity, and might be unsparingly lopped off with our shipping interests. But the object of these letters is the empire of the world? the conquest of the unisparency of the total discomfiture of their enemies? an that tasteless as well as blasphemous trifling with the verse? the total discomfiture of their enemies? and that tasteless as well as blasphemous trifling with the been engrafted. The unassuming follower of the purpose. I shall, therefore, proceed at once to make the purpose. I shall, therefore, proceed at once to make the purpose. end of all the evils and calamities which afflicted mysteries of Gethsemane; the cradle; the straw in been engrafted. The unassuming follower of the them? a land flowing with milk and honey? He the manger; and a thousand other iniquitous manu- meek and lowly Jesus will shrink from turbulence, them? a land flowing with milk and honey? He the manger, and a thousand other manger, and thous but in vain: they could not make the Israelites sted- gious curiosities at Rome, and displayed on prescribed ciety through which he pursues the even tener of his

"We need not bid, for cloister'd cell, Our neighbours and our work farewell, Nor strive to wind ourselves too high For sinful man beneath the sky: The trivial round, the common task, Will furnish all we ought to ask; Room to deny ourselves—a road To bring us daily nearer God."

Sad and deplorable it is that the fair aspect of Christianity should be obscured and disfigured by such wild superstitions as that which Treves has recently exhibited. And yet, though our reprobation of the error be decided and uncompromising, we would not unkindly judge the individuals entangled in its toils. We can cheerfully adopt the charitable senti- structure which an impure religion had framed, and before ment of Southey-

"The prayers which from a pious heart proceed, Tho' misdirected, reach the ear of heaven,"—

and compassion for our mistaken fellow-mortals prompts us to repeat the kind words of Wesley, at the tomb of the Abbé Paris, - "God makes allowance for invincible ignorance, and blesses the faith not withstanding the superstition." But whilst we deal gently with our erring brethren of every class, let us not fail, with courage and consistency, to condemn and discountenance their deflexion from the truth!

The triumphant re-election of the Inspector Gene-

"LECTURE ON PUSEYISM .- With great pleasure we insert a notice of a lecture on Puseyism, delivered by the Rev. Mr. Reid, of Grafton and Colborne, at Cobourg, on the 25th ult. Cobourg is again first in a good work. Measures are in progress in Toronto, among the evangethat the example set by Mr. Reid, and the eagerness with

and so great was the confluence of worshippers that a said he could execute the work without materials; and in spying out the failings or faults of others; and if constantly varying procession was sustained during would write them a most excellent legend, after the there be an unusual amount of philanthropy applied to the case in question, we conceive it a great misfor-

We must suppose that all discussions of the kind discontinuer jusqu'à dix ou onze heures du soir, et subject, -that of pilgrimages. We do not profess to here adverted to, will be preceded by a definition of cela depuis plus d'un mois." It is not our intention rebuke the sympathy of the human heart which loves terms; and if the well-meaning lecturer in this instance to enter into the details of this melancholy transact to dwell upon "the things of old;" nor do we aspire should be so successful as to define what "Puseyism" tion: even if exaggeration has been practised to to the harsh and invidious task of condemning that is, we apprehend he will have effected a greater heighten the brilliancy of the affair, which there is craving after some visible object to arrest and sub- achievement than many men of higher intellect and but little reason to suspect, there can exist no doubt stantialize the fleeting memories of by-gone days, larger acquirement bave as yet been able to do. But ment; and what has been the result? upon the reader's mind that all the circumstances of which seems to be interwoven with the nature of man, whatever may be the definition affixed to it, we doubt foot of every vested interest and right of property in this Popish solemnity were, on the whole, such as and has been implanted by Divine Providence, doubt- not the discussion will present many novelties, --we have rarely signalized the flight of time since the less, for the wisest of purposes. The scenes once trust not many "inventions;" for we are prepared to ebullition of the Crusades; and it appears certain frequented by those who, though dead, live on still in set before our readers, if needful, some very startling that this event will be exalted to the dignity of an our warm remembrance, possess for us a soothing specimens of the skill of our opponents in manufacturepoch in the annals of the Romish Church. The mis- charm which absorbs all that is kind and affectionate ing heresics for the pleasure of refuting them, -in th in the annals of the Romish Church. The mislication of devotional feeling which has always been in our disposition, and can only decay when the spirit,
setting up their own creations of straw, that they may despotism of theory; but that of theory is by far the worse of the world big outof the world big of the world big of the two. The sway of a mob may have something out-

Be this as it may, we should think there were perplexities and trouble enough engrafted upon the "Free amount of intellectual power and acquirement which, foreign and irrelevant theme: there is work enough, we should apprehend, at home, without troubling themselves with questions and strife abroad, or being busy bodies in other men's matters."

"The people of Cobourg" are here spoken of in a comprehensive sort of way, which is as little complimentary to their good sense and acknowledged predi-

We beg to remind our readers that Sunday next, has long been labouring to repress the voice of truth, will spring up spontaneously in Palestine. A pilgri- the 19th instant, is the day appointed by the Lord Bishop for the Collection, the object of which is specified in his Pastoral Address recently published .-Never, in our belief, was there a stronger case for the exercise of a warm Christian sympathy; and we much mistake the public sense of this case of peculiar hardship, if that sympathy be not warmly and largely

> From the large and very interesting amount of local ecclesiastical intelligence previously engaged to our columns, we are obliged to defer to our next the publication of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Church Society, held at Peterboro' on the 8th instant.

> Our Travelling Agent will proceed forthwith from Kingston eastwards, as far as Cornwall inclusive, -embracing also the Buthurst and Ottawa Districts,pared to settle their respective accounts with him.

Communications.

(To the Editor of The Church.) Toronto, 4th January, 1845. Sir,—In my last letter I attempted to explain, as shortly the free trade question. I would gladly enter more at large into the mischief which the economic view of this haustible fragments of the miraculously propagated ces of Christianity, and we are persuaded that they question is producing on home agriculture, and also touch cross; the marble steps of Pilate's prætorium; the are retained only because they flatter some carnal pro-

some remarks upon a few more of its phases, in which its

Constitution-making which prevailed so much in the early part of this century, and which continues to this day.—
The first grand affair of this kind with which English states men had any thing to do, was in the new Constitu-tion which was given to Spain after Ferdinaud had been entrapped by Bonaparte. From the commencement of the French Revolution, Great Britain had both assumed and occupied a distinct, decided and remarkable position. At the time I speak of, she displayed a glorious example to the whole world. Before the Hero of the Revolution every knee had bowed except that of our undaunted Sovereign; every heart had quailed except that of the British people. Before that usurper, free cities whose deeds have been chronicled from the darkest ages, sceptres the most warlike, and thrones the most powerful which the mightiest ones of the earth had trembled,-all fell before this great usurper. Thrones trembled at his touch; civil liberty expired with a grasp of his hand; even religious fanaticism was led captive in his train; every thing in Europe was overthrown, save only the spirit and power of Great Britain. He attacked her in her dependencies; he endeavoured to invade her soil; he attempted to ruin her commerce; but all was in vain; her front remained erect, her position was unshaken; and, when he most fondly hoped that he had accomplished her fall, he was surprised to find that she, single-handed, had

nearly driven him to the point of rain.

The nations of Europe were naturally interested in enquiring how any thing so singular as this could possibly happen. They did examine into the cause, and, with some shew of reason, attributed it to the superior excellence of her political constitution. Had the common sense of mankind been left alone, it would soon have found out that it was by the combination of many principles, each of the most distinctive character, producing sults equally distinctive, that this glorious e had attained its superior excellence. It would also have found out that to alter or take away any one of these dis-tinctive principles would materially affect the working of the whole constitution. Common sense would soon have ound out all this, for it had all been previously explained n former days, when practical questions were understood o require practical explanations. — But it was saved the ouble of making the examination, for the economical illosophy was now prepared with its theories, and soon ade the whole matter very simple after its own fashion. The division of the government into three estates is

vidently that distinctive part of the British Constitution which is most apparent. This was quite enough; and, which is most apparent. after the manner of the system, a syllogism was soon constructed, which, I think, ran thus .- The British Governgovernment of three estates; therefore a government of three estates is the best in the world. The distinctive quence; it was, and is, beneath the dignity of this philosophy to pay the least regard to any such; her theoretic balance was finished, was declared to be perfect in all points, and was certified to work well in every case, no matter whether the pivot were well oiled, or clogged with

any or all manner of filth.

After the capture and detention of Ferdinand, the Spanish people were like sheep without a shepherd.—
There was pressure enough from without to unite them together, but there was no head to give them unity of the Core and Wellington Discourse.

The Appel Meeting of the Core and Wellington Discourse. ction within. A modification of their Constitution was necessary for the new circumstances in which they were hivalrons as Spain, there would have been little difficulty n procuring materials for constructing a constitution which would be sufficiently free, and yet so framed as to adopt itself to the habits and projudices of the people. It was quite notorious that something of the kind did exist in the Province of Arragon till within the range of very recent history; that something similar had flourished in ome of the other Provinces of old Spain till a period not ong anterior, was equally certain; and that constitutional privileges existed in the Basque Provinces even at that very moment every body knew. One would have thought ery moment every body knew. that from the knowledge of what then existed and from the recollections of the recent past, ample hints might have been obtained from which to construct a congenial constitution. But all this was thrown aside. History was valueless when compared with the faultless deductions of conomic science! A constitution was framed according to these deductions, and went into full operation while British bayonets were glistening in defence of the Penin-sula and a British Minister was at the seat of its governconsequence; -till the only hope which that fine country seems to have of eventual peace is that a Sovereign more able than usual, aided by Ministers of at least equal talent and of great integrity, may arise and again harmonize

Nothing is so bad as the despotism of a mob, except the spoken and English about it; its preparatory growlings are not concealed, its cheers for the attack give full notice for preparation. But your theory gives no such thing .e aim, forsooth, is for the advancement of human nature, and a corresponding increase of human happiness; creeps up to you with the fawning of an Indian Thug and luils you into fancied security, while it is all the time preparing the fatal handkerchief for your neck. A mob o has some generosity about it; but a theory must have every one dance to its own candle or not dance at This was exactly what happened in Spain. Provinces had great privileges, privileges which even t nipotent Charles V. and the despotic Philip had respected: they were free and contented; but they were not free after the fashion of the Cortes; those privileges were therefore invaded, and the consequence was that Biscay and Navarre became the strongholds of Don Carlos.

But the theoretic constitution balance of the economists having been publicly paraded, Spain, alone and by itself, was far too small a quantity to be weighed by it. About this time the Spanish colonies in America were constrained the necessities of their position, and more particularly the radical change of government in the parent state to assume independence. Never had people adhered more faithfully to their mother country. When she was trodden under foot, they did not spit at her; when she was distressed, they stretched out their arms towards her. But they had nothing in common with the new governotions were widely spread. A state of anarchy was the onsequence; British influence was exerted, and the grand anacea of a constitution of three estates was administered o them as an infallible cure for all their evils. I remem er well when Mr. Canning, after effecting this, and conuding treaties of commerce with the infant States, made is famous boast that he had called the new world into a second existence. I remember also how the achievement people. Mr. Canning was a well-intentioned man, a man of genuine and even most splendid talents; but the economical philosophy had got hold of him: he prided himself upon making constitutions according to its dictates; and hese, in this as in every other case, produced their nevitable and disorganizing results. Men of hot blood, ons as people whose pulses beat calmly in a cooler temerature, and a skeleton constitution was as unsuited to heir habits as any other atomy of skin and bones. These fine countries have been little else than hotbeds of murexperiments; and there seems but little prospect of any

diate change for the better. The working of a skeleton constitution has now, for ome years, been put upon trial with us here in CANADA. When the original Constitutional Act was passed, no Minister, however enlarged his views, could possibly do it to be filled up afterwards. Lower Canada was a conquered country, and yet it was the anxious wish of the then government to assimilate it gradually to the high working of really British institutions. Upper Canada was a desert, and yet it was in that desert that these institutions must be first put in operation, in order that the French Canadians, seeing, might believe, and, helieving, be induced to imitate! In all the debates upon the Constitutional Act, it was clearly laid down by Mr. Pitt, that the Legislative Council was intended to be ultimately filled by hereditary members, and this, he said, that he saw no difficulty of accomplishing by degrees. Mr. Burke advocated the same opinion with his usual energy, because he saw that there was neither any certainty for British opinions nor security for British connection, unless this were done. Even Mr. Fox admitted the necessity of riving great accidental weight to the Upper Chamber, nd seemingly made a form of opposition, more for the

form than any thing else.

Had Mr. Pitt lived, and even had the horrors of the French Revolution not occupied his whole attention during the few years which were spared to him after this debate, we should probably have seen very different institutions, -something approaching more nearly to those of Britain than we now have. For to say that without a second chamber of great influence we have any thing approaching to that balance-weight of the British Constitution, is a moral absurdity .- But Mr. Pitt died, and the age of the economists arose. With them, names took the place of realities, and realities were frittered into names. We had a constitution of three estates, and that was and is the British Constitution. With that we must be contented. And when the Union Bill was projected, the whigs saw very plainly that where there was a manifest probability that the House of Assembly would prove unruly, it would

and that was the British Constitution; and to them it was rest to all its members.' of the utmost consequence that, in case of any difficulty, they could assure the Imperial Parliament that they and tution of the Church Society affecting all its District Association that the Governor had the support of one other branch of the tions, your Committee gladly turn to the task of reporting the

I would willingly prosecute this subject, but I could not do so without departing from the plan of these letters. I shall merely remark, that this levelling of our legislative bodies has had the very worst effect,-bad enough in Up,er Canada, but far more so in the Lower Province, where the whole French society is framed upon a high aristocratic principle, a principle somewhat approaching to that of the old feudal times. They feel that there is something wrong in this breaking down of their habits; their nobility feel that they are shorn of their rights, and well may they feel so; well may they be puzzled, as Mr. Papineau so clearly explains in his plain gentlemanly address in the House of Assembly on the answer to the

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

THE SURPLICE IN PREACHING.

The use of the Surplice in preaching is now undergoing a warm discussion in England, and the following extracts from "The Remains of Archbishop Grindal" will settle the question, as far as the practice of the Reformers can settle it. In the article entitled "The Examination of certain Londoners before the Ecclesiastical Commissioners ists throughout the circuit of his labours of sound religious ne of whom was Grindal, the Bishop of London) June 20, 1567," are the following passages:-One of the Londoners, named Hawkins, makes this objection to the Bishop, "The Pope's canon law, and the will of the prince, must have the first place, and be preferred before the word and ordinances of Christ." The Bishop asks, "What is so preferred?" Nixon, another Londoner, replies, "Why, that which is upon your back, your copes and your surplices, and your laws and ministers; because you will suffer none to minister nor PREACH, except he wear them, or subscribe to them."—Page 206.

It is most clear from this, that none were, by law, then allowed to preach except they wore the surplice, or minister the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper except they wore the cope. In the Zurich Letters also frequent reference is made to the surplice and the cope as the sacred habits which, except the gown be included in this designation, (and that cannot be, for it is no sacred garment), were used in divine service. In fact, any reader of the volumes printed by the Parker Society must see, that the cap and gown were regularly worn by the clergy in public, and the surplice and cope in divine service.

The very important judgment of the Bishop of Exeter, n the case of the Rev. Walter Blunt, Curate of Helston goes more fully into the law on this question than the extracts above quoted: the latter prove the existence of the custom, whilst the former declares, ex cathedra, its egality and conformity to ecclesiastical order. Surely the two authorities, united, ought to convince every sound Churchman that the practice alluded to is no innovation, or fond conceit of Romanism, but Catholic in principle, and that it has descended to us from the primitive Church, "and in the old time before."

The Annual Meeting of the Gore and Wellington District Branch Association of the Incorporated Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, was held, agreeably to previous notice, on Thursday evening the 2nd instant. At 6 o'clock Divine Service was held in Christ's Church—the Prayers being read by the Rev. W. H. Ripley, the Secretary of the Parent Society, (who kindly re his assistance upon the occasion,) the Lessons by the Rev. J. L. Alexander. Immediately after the Service the con-gregation adjourned to the Sunday School Room, which was soon well nigh filled with a numerous and respectable audience,-being capable of containing from 250 to

The Chairman (the Rev. A. Palmer), after the usual prayers had been offered up, introduced the business of the evening by a few appropriate remarks, in which he took a cursory review of the progress of the District As-sociation, as well as of the Parent Society, both of which were subjects for congratulation and thankfulness. He expressed his satisfaction at the highly respectable audience he saw before him, and invited their attention to the Report of the Managing Committee, which he then called upon the Secretary to read.

REPORT.

Upon the return of an anniversary so important and so interesting as the present, the Committee of the Gore and Wellington Branch of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto may be permitted to congratulate the Members of the Associa tion on this occasion of re-union, and to invite them to an expression of gratitude to the Merciful Author of all their blessings, for having spared them to labour another year in the cause of Christ and his Church; and for having so far vouchsafed his the Church Society been sustained in the same state of promise and efficiency as during the first year of its existence, but ha also received an increase both in the number of its friends and

supporters, and also in the amount of contributions. That these results should have followed the active measures taken to make known the objects of the Society, and to enforce united Districts, might reasonably have been articipated. Unavailing without the assistance of God's Holy Spirit, your Committee feel bound to ascribe their success, not so much to the

ing continually descending upon their humble efforts.

The annual Visitation of the Parochial Associations by deoutations of the Clergy who assisted at their anniversary Meetngs, was attended with many gratifying disclosures with regard the estimation in which the Church Society was held, and o the removal of prejudices which had been entertained by weak omented by those who bear no good will to our Zion. Annua Meetings were held in succession at Galt, Paris, Brantford, Ancaster, Dundas, Oakville, Wellington Square, and Guelph, in ociety were found in a most satisfactory and flourishing state.

At one of these Meetings, a gentleman in moving a Re tion remarked that he, with many more whom he could mention, had looked upon the formation of the Church Society with feelings of diffidence, if not despondency; that it appeared to them a fitful effort of the Church to avert impending calamity, which, after a transient existence, would subside into its wonted calm; but that he had been agreeably disappointed, that he now discerned in it the foundation of a great and noble institution, destined to achieve, under the blessing of God, results of incon-ceivable importance; that henceforth they would not be faintearted, but would redouble their efforts to make amends for

their past remissness. Your Committee have no doubt that these apprehensions were in some portions of the District widely participated in; they rejoice therefore to find them giving way to more faithful

Since the last Annual Meeting of this Association, an im-Society, in consequence of the Royal assent having been given o the Act of the Provincial Legislature providing for the Inorporation of the Church Society. The Committee congra-date the Members of the Association upon the successful issue of this very important measure, - important, because necessarily calculated to give permanence and stability to its proceedings. facility for the transaction of its business.

On the 23rd October last a Special Meeting of the Church Society was convened, for the purpose of amending its Constitution, in order to adapt it to the terms of the Act of Incorpoation. One feature in the amended Constitution which it may e necessary here to notice, is the classification of the Subscriwhich cannot better be explained than by the following extract pointed to revise the Constitution :- "All contributors to the or make a donation of not less than five pounds, shall be Asso ciated Members of the Society, and capable of being elected Members of the Corporation. The Corporation will consist of the Bishop of Toronto for the time being as its perpetual President, -of all those who by the Statute of 7 Vic. cb. 68, are made Members, (in other words, of all those who at the time f the passing of the Act were members of the Society,) and of hose who shall be elected members at the stated Meetings of he Society, with the limitation as to numbers expressed in the the said Corporation, in addition to those who are made mem bers by the Statute shall at no one period exceed three hundred. Incorporated Members must subscribe one pound five shillings. annually, or contribute not less than twelve pounds ten shil-

lings in one sum.
"Another feature of the amended Constitution which cannot fail to be attended with the happiest results, is the regulation that four annual collections shall be made in aid of the funds of the Society in every parish and station in the Diocese, —one to be appropriated annually, for a time at least, to the augmentation of a fund for the support of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen,—two to be allotted to the fund for the maintenance of Travelling or Resident Missionaries,—and the fourth to be annually appropriated as the Society, under the sanction of the Bishop, may from time to time think fit."* The benefit of such an arrangement is unquestionable, and must he evident to all. By this means alone no less than twenty Missionaries will probably at no very distant period be maintained, and a very large portion of our destitute settlers regularly provided with the means of grace through the authorized

* The Church.

peril their reputation if the Upper House were to be equally restive; and, therefore, the writ of mandamus for stitution at which it is necessary to glance, is the discontinu-Another change introduced by the amendment of the Contife which formerly gave some little dignity to a Legisla-tive Councillor was changed into a patent appointment by the Governor for a term of years. It was of no conse-quence to us that such a changed diminished the influence of the Council for we had a government of the results.

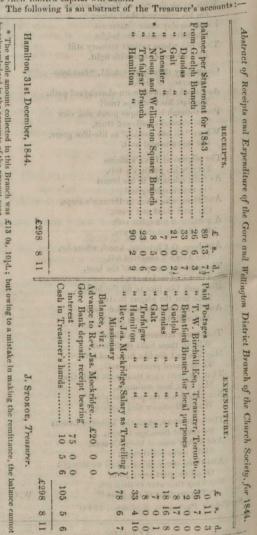
of the Council, for we had a government of three estates, | Corporate Body for the attainment of objects of common inte-Having thus detailed the material alterations in the Consti-

> Your Committee rejoice to inform the members of this Association that an additional Parochial Branch has been formed during the past year in the parish of the Rev. J. L. Alexander, orising Binbrook, Barton, and Stoney Creek. This Parochial Branch, though late in being brought into operation, owing to unavoidable circumstances, seems likely to make amends for the delay; indeed, its members have given most satisfactory proof that they have no wish to be behind their fellow Churchmen in other parts of the District, in aiding the glorious cause of the Church Society. They have enrolled 81 members, the amount of whose subscriptions is £20 10s. 7½d., the whole of which has been paid into the hands of the Treasurer;—thus setting an example of liberality and promptitude well worthy

> The Travelling Missionary whose appointment was announced at the last annual Meeting, has been pursuing his unwearied rounds through the several Townships entrusted to his care; cheerfully submitting to every species of farigue and privation, and zealously discharging his important and arduous duties. Your Committee are informed that no less than 10 stations are regularly visited by him, and supplied with the ministrations of the Church.

Your Committee have had frequent representations made to the Church to be supplied with them. They have therefore resolved to appropriate the sum of £10 annually, or £2 10s. quarterly, for that very important purpose. The Tracts to be

The Local Depositories established in the several parishes are reported to be in a satisfactory state of efficiency. They continue to be resorted to for Bibles and Prayer Books, and other publications of the Church, and are doing as much good as their limited capital will admit.



rer's abstract was drawn up .-

Binbrook, Barton, and Stoney Creek, £20 10 Brantford 199 15 02

Surplus over last year. £58 14 From this document compared with a similar statement last year, it appears that there has been a considerable increase, upon the whole, in the funds of this Branch of the Society during past year. In two or three of the Parochial Associations, it is true, there has been a small decrease, but there has been more than a corresponding increase in others, and better prospects still are held out by some of the Clergy who have not yet been able the control of the clergy who have not yet been able the control of the clergy who have not yet been able the control of the clergy who have not yet been able to control of the clergy who have not yet been able to control of the clergy who have not yet been appeared to the cler Your Committee, then, upon reviewing the progress of the able thoroughly to organise their extensive parishes.

Society thus far, see great cause to thank God, and take cold rage. The good which has been effected under the Divine ing should stimulate to renewed exertion, and the men of this Association should never rest till they attain the shiet suggested by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese at the first for tion of the Society,—that of enlisting in its ranks every hap tized member of the Church, and thus restoring the Church to -holding forth the Word of Truth, and sending her duly or dained Pastors and Teachers to extend her blessed influence to

the remotest corners of the earth.

Your Committee would conclude in the eloquent and ani-

mated language of one of the Parochial Reports :-"In this Society there is a concentration of all religious en terprise. It is essentially a Missionary. Bible, Prayer Book, Tract, Sanday School, and Widow and Orphan's Society. reaches from the depth of affliction to the highest, brightest prospect of eternal happiness, and with such a field as Canada presents for its operations, and with such promises as the Word of God contains for its beautiful and with such promises as the word. of God contains for its basement and support, your Committee

eel assured that it must and will succeed." The Report having been read, the following Resolaons were unanimously adopted :-Moved by John Davidson Esq., seconded by HENRY

WYATT Esq.—
1. That the Report now read be adopted, and printed in The Church newspaper, for the information of the Members of this Association.

Moved by Rev. W. H. RIPLEY, seconded by Rev. M. 2. That the Members of this Association feel it a duty mbent on them, again publicly to acknowledge the b of God in the success which has bitherto attended their humble

efforts. Moved by H. B. Wilson Esq., seconded by Rev. Tros.

3. That the Incorporation of the Church Society by Act of Parliament, is an event which calls for an expression of thank

and stability of the Society, and affording increased facility for

Moved by Rev. G. W. WARR, seconded by RICHARD JUSON Esq., Churchwarden—
4. That this Association are gratified to learn that the amended Constitution of the Church Society provides for for annual collections in every parish and station in the Diocestian aid of the funds of the Society, instead of a single collection as heretofore; and they trust that the members of the Chu throughout the united Districts will always be found ready and

cheerful to contribute on these occasions. Moved by Rev. W. McMurray, seconded by John O. HATT Esq., supported by Rev. J. MOCKRIDGE-5. That the objects intended to be promoted by these colctions are such as must commend themselves to the lib and unwavering support of every member of the Church, visthe sending out Missionaries to the Indians and destitute settlers-and when they have been worn out by their arduot

bours, or removed by death from their sphere of usefulness, to make suitable provision for their widows and orphans. Moved by Rev. J. L. ALEXANDER, seconded by W. A. HARVEY Esq.—
6. That the distribution of sound religious Tracts by the

Travelling Missionary is an object of such importance, this Association rejoice to learn that the Managing Commit have made provision for an immediate supply, by appropris Tracts to be selected by the Managing Committee

Moved by R. O. DUGGAN Esq., seconded by WILLIAM ATKINSON Esq.—
7. That the thanks of this Association be cordially given to

those gentlemen who have acted as its office bearers duril past year; and that (with the exception of the Lay Cor tee, whose labours cease under the Act of Incorporati be requested to continue their valuable services for the ensuing year; and that William Allan Harvey Esq. be requested to ac as Lay Secretary to the Association, de of shore