

go through the duties of his high office in this Parish. The Rev. C. Shroff, Rector of Chester; the Rev. W. H. Snyder, of Mahone Bay; and the Rev. J. Ambrose, of New Dublin, took part in these interesting and important services, which we may term the Centenary Services of the Church in the Parish of St. John, Lunenburg.

Before the administration of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, the 18th, a Collocation was taken in aid of the Fund for the relief of Widows and Orphans of the Clergy, amounting to £5 16 s. Both the Bishop and Mrs. Dinney visited the Sunday School in connection with St. John's Church.

Lunenburg, May 21, 1855.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

#### THE VISIT OF THE LORD BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE TO THE PARISH OF ST. STEPHEN, CHESTER.

Notice having been given that the Rite of Confirmation would be administered at Hubbard's Cove, on Tuesday, the 8th of May, about 300 people assembled at the Church. His Lordship, accompanied by Mrs. Blaney, arrived a few minutes after 11 o'clock. The Burial Ground was then consecrated, and the whole congregation came forward to witness the legally setting apart for ever from all common uses, of that spot in which the remains of many a friend and relation lay slumbering. It is much to be regretted that the Church being yet unfinished, could not at the same time be consecrated. It was filled with an attentive congregation, and the hope is entertained that the advice there given by the Bishop will be acted upon, and that ere long his Lordship will be called upon to dedicate it exclusively and forever to the service of Almighty God. At the conclusion of Morning Prayer thirty-four candidates were presented by the Rector. They had been previously instructed as to the nature of their Baptismal vow; and the Bishop now earnestly addressing them, exhorted them not to come forward unless, with God's grace assisting them, they determined to keep that solemn vow. The Sermon was preached by the Bishop, and about 3 o'clock his Lordship proceeded towards Chester, and was met by the Churchwardens, about three miles from the town. The next day, Wednesday, accompanied by the Rector, his Lordship visited Sherbrooke, where they were hospitably entertained by Mrs. Ross, widow of the late Lieutenant Ross, and G. S. Turner, Esq., for many years a Catechist of the S. P. G. Society. On Thursday, although the snow was fast falling, upwards of 200 persons crowded into the Church. The Services occupied three hours. The Burial Ground was consecrated; the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper were administered, and the Rev. T. D. Ruddle presented 22 candidates for Confirmation, to whom, for several months past, he had been giving Catechetical instruction. Friday, 11th inst., appointed to be observed as a day of fasting and humiliation and prayer, because of the troubles which are coming upon the inhabitants of the earth, was also named as a day for administering the Scriptural rite of Confirmation at Chester. Upwards of 600 persons were gathered together in the House of God to offer up their united prayers, that he would in mercy look upon, forgive, and spare our sinful nation. They were assembled to witness the solemn dedication of many on that day to the service of God. It was a day not to be forgotten, when the young and the middle-aged knelt together before God, and publicly pledged themselves to be His servants. They could not be ignorant of the nature of those vows which they then took upon themselves. Week after week, for a long period, they had assembled together, and were reminded of their solemn obligations and the fearful responsibility which they would incur who would presume to come into God's presence and declare with their lips what their hearts did not feel. As the subject was unfolded to them, there were those who felt that they were not prepared to take those solemn vows upon themselves in the spirit which the Word of God and the Church required; and the plain and serious address of the Bishop added to this conviction, that it was no light thing they were called upon to do, they considered that it was better not to vow, than having vowed not to pay the vow; and no doubt it is so. But there is guilt—there is danger in delay. 42 persons were confirmed at Chester, making in all 97 in the Parish. Evening Service was held at Chester Basin, about 5 miles distant from the town. A small party from Chester accompanied the Bishop. Prayers were read by the Rev. R. Payne, and an excellent Sermon, for the most part extemporaneous, was preached by his Lordship. Our prayer is that this Episcopal visit may serve to strengthen her members to our beloved Church, and that the more they make themselves acquainted with her Scriptural services the more thankful they may feel for their high and holy privileges.

Chester, May 22, 1855.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

#### FUND FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF CLERGY

DEAR EDITOR:—Although I cannot have any personal interest in the above fund, yet I sincerely hope for its successful augmentation. The following notice, from the London Times, so well accords with the views expressed by you, in a recent Editorial, that I must beg for its insertion in your excellent paper.

In many of the Dioceses of our Sister Church in the

United States, the above and similar institutions are in useful operation

MAY, 1855.

Yours truly,

SIGMA.

BICENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE BOND OF THE CLERGY, in Aid of the Funds of the Corporation for Assisting Necessitous Clergymen, Penitencing their Widows and Aged single Daughters, and Educating, Apprenticing, and Providing Outlets for their Children.

The cause of this Charity cannot be pleaded in more powerful or appropriate language than that which was used by His Royal Highness Prince Albert at the Festival on the 10th of May, and the following extract is therefore inserted from the newspaper reports of the next day:—

"This nation has enjoyed for 200 years the blessings of a Church establishment which rests upon this basis (a clergy united with the people by every sympathy, national, personal, and domestic), and cannot be too grateful for the advantages afforded by the fact, that the Christian Ministers not only preach the doctrine of Christianity, but live among their congregations, an example for the discharge of every Christian duty, as husbands, fathers, and masters of families—themselves capable of fathoming the whole depth of human feelings, desires, and difficulties. Whilst we must gratefully acknowledge that they have, as a body, worthily fulfilled this high and difficult task, we must bear in mind that we deny them an equal participation in one of the actuating motives of life—the one which amongst the children of this generation exercises, perhaps of necessity, the strongest influence—I mean the desire for the acquisition and accumulation of the goods of this world. The appellation of "a money making parson" is not only a reproach, but a condemnation for a clergyman, depriving him at once of all influence over his congregation. Yet this man, who has to stave opportunities of acquiring wealth open to most of us, and who has himself only an often scanty life income allotted to him for his services, has a wife and children like ourselves; and we wish him to have the same solicitude for their welfare which we feel for our own. Are we not bound, then, to do what we can to relieve his mind from anxiety, and to preserve his children from destitution, when it shall have pleased the Almighty to remove him from the scene of his labours? You have given an answer in the affirmative by your presence here to-day; and though the Institution can do materially but little, morally it gives a public recognition of the claims which the Sons of the Clergy have upon the sympathy and liberality of the community at large, and, as such, is of the greatest value. May it continue for further hundreds of years as a bond of unity between clergy and laity, and on each recurring centenary may it find the nation ever advancing in prosperity, civilization, and piety."

### The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1855.

#### THE EPISCOPAL VISITATION.

His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese is engaged in a Visitation of the Churches, along the coast to the Westward, and interesting reports of his progress will be found in this day's impression. There is much to make Episcopals satisfied with their Church, in the supervision which is imposed upon him who has the care of a Diocese. The duty is Apostolic in its origin, and must commend itself to the conscience of all; and hence, in the country especially, these seasons of refreshment are earnestly desired, and are always followed with good results. They bring the Diocesan into more intimate connection with the people; he knows his flock and is known of them. He thus proves his interest in them, and they in return have an opportunity to show him all the respect which his high station warrants, and which his office as their chief minister in spiritual things, the dispenser of many of their Christian privileges, their Father in God, entitles him to receive at their hands. The Office of a Bishop is a high and responsible one—holy and full of reverence and dignity—arduous in its duties—weighty in its cares; for the safeguard of the Churches and the salvation of the souls of men depend upon its faithful fulfilment. Go with him in the performance of his duties. Is an edifice to be set apart for the worship of Almighty God according to the forms of the Church, or the last resting place where shall repose the ashes of the dead, to be consecrated—none but he is the authority by which these things may be performed. The Churchman rejoices that a seal is thus set upon them by an act, so accordant with the genius of Christianity, and so grateful to its spirit, and that henceforth no profane rite, no unholly observance can be permitted within their precincts. Is the rite of Confirmation to be administered—the Bishop by the laying on of his hands reminds the youthful Christians that it is time for them to renew the Baptismal covenant, and hereafter be prepared to quit themselves like men, to act worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called, and depending upon the grace of God, to face the world in their own persons; and

in proportion as they receive the grace, they know that so will they be able to renounce the pomp and vanities of the sinful lusts of the flesh, that will harass and beset them, in their progress towards the heavenly inheritance. The solemn service of Ordination is another of those duties, imposing the weightiest obligation upon its recipient—a careful and anxious thought upon the Chief Pastor, who thus admits to the fold, and that under the gravest responsibility, the under shepherds, who are to feed the flock, to lead them into green pastures and give them to drink of the water of the river of life freely. These duties and observances have already met the Bishop in his Visitation, as will be gathered from the accounts which we publish of his progress, or which are yet to be published. How many more anxieties which will not be enumerated, may beset him. Difficulties to reconcile—rebuke to be administered—advice to be tendered—unity of sentiment to be promoted—and consolation to be imparted. All these and more, and they beget the serious question—Who is sufficient for these things? Doubtless none more than the Chief Overseers themselves find the insufficiency of themselves, and go not forth in their own strength, but in dependence upon the assistance of Him who has sent them on their mission, "to teach all nations," and promised them His presence, "Lo I am with you even to the end of the world." But there is also a duty incumbent upon the people in this matter. They can strengthen the hands of their Chief Pastor, by prayer, individually and collectively,—that through him the Churches may be established in the faith, and that his labours may be crowned with success to the promotion of the glory of God.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTH DAY.—The Anniversary of Her Majesty's Birthday, was celebrated by the Military and Naval Authorities in this command, on Thursday last. The Royal Standard was hoisted at the Citadel, and the flagstaff decorated with colors. At 12, noon, a royal salute was fired from the brig of war *Espeyde*, in harbour, and instead of a Review on the Common, (which was precluded by the wet state of the ground, and by the weak state of the garrison, the 76th Regt. with a company of Artillery and Sappers, forming the whole disposable force,) there was a very effective military display at the Citadel. The artillery with their field pieces were drawn up on the glacis on the east front, and the 76th with the Sappers, lined the ramparts around the works. At 12 a royal Salute was fired from the heavy guns mounted inside, and from the field pieces outside the works; and the infantry had a *feu-de-joie*, after which three hearty British cheers made the welkin ring. General Gore, Commander-in-Chief, and Staff, were present, and a large number of inhabitants of the City, who appeared highly delighted with the novelty of the spectacle.

#### R. M. & AMERICA.

THE R. M. Steamship *America*, arrived on Thursday morning, bringing British dates to May 12. The news in its details, is a corroboration of that received before by electric telegraph, via New York, with but little additional intelligence from the seat of war.

We have given elsewhere, an account of the attempt upon the life of the Emperor Napoleon. Its failure was owing to the bad aim of the assassin, who is supposed to be the agent of parties in London, from whence, it would appear, he had returned to France a short time previously. The real name of the criminal, who seems to have had many aliases, and to have been a desperate villain, is Pianori. His trial has taken place,—he has been convicted and sentenced to undergo the death of a parricide. The sentence had not yet been carried into effect, owing to a hope that he would make revelations that would lead to the discovery of an extensive revolutionary conspiracy, having its centre in the British capital: but up to the latest date Pianori had confessed nothing.

The hopes for success had not attended the bombardment of Sebastopol, altho' the approaches thereto are now within twenty-five yards of the Russian batteries. Nothing further, it is thought, can be done, until the arrival of large reinforcements, and the Sardinian contingent was anxiously looked for, when the allies would be able to take the field with every prospect of occupying the country and beating the Russians. This would enable them to make a complete investment of Sebastopol, the fall of which would be no longer doubtful.

A grand reconnaissance had been made by the Turkish force, aided by British and French cavalry and artillery, and a large extent of country in the vicinity of the Tchermaya examined, which will materially assist future operations.

While we trust that it will not be deemed expedi-