

Right Reverend and dear Brethren—We, the Bishops, clergy, and laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, in General Convention assembled, beg to return our united and hearty thanks for the fraternal expressions toward our branch of the Church which you have been pleased to convey to us by your worthy and highly esteemed Metropolitan, the Lord Bishop of Montreal.

In consenting to be with us and to preach the sermon at the opening of our session, his Lordship afforded us another gratifying proof of those friendly sentiments which have so manifestly animated him since he first came, soon after his succession to the see of Montreal, to participate in our services and to unite in the consecration of one of our Bishops.

Recently, and for the third time, he kindly took part with us as one of the co-consecrators of a Bishop of our Church, thus presenting a visible demonstration of the union of the Mother with the Daughter—admingling again the Anglican with the American element in the succession originally derived by us from Christ and His Apostles, through your branch of the Church.

His Lordship's presence in our House of Bishops and the kindly words spoken by him there and the interesting address of the venerable Dr. Beaven, Prolocutor of your Lower House of Convocation, in our house of Clerical and Lay Deputies, together with the part taken by the Ven. Archdeacon Leach, his Lordship's chaplain, in several of our most solemn services, have all contributed to the interest of this session of our General Convention, while at the same time they have greatly strengthened the feelings of fraternal regard and sympathy which we are always so much inclined to cherish toward our brethren in your province as well as toward all the members of the Anglican communion.

Our late distinguished visitors were witnesses to one incident in our General Convention which, it is trusted, they and you will regard with no ordinary interest. We refer to the emphatic expressions of sympathy with the noblehearted Bishop of Capetown, in his stand against error, which were unanimously adopted in both branches of our body. It is an incident to which we look back with peculiar satisfaction.

For while it makes manifest our sympathy with your branch of the Church, it gives additional weight and large catholicity to that condemnation of error, which has already been pronounced in so remarkable a manner by nearly the whole body of the Anglican Bishops and clergy, it also suggests the thought of the great benefits which our two branches of the Church may derive in times of trial from united action in support of the faith once delivered to the saints, and we earnestly hope and pray that our communions may ever be found standing together against every assault upon the truth as it is in Jesus.

With grateful acknowledgements to you for the sympathy with which we look upon the happy circumstances of our present meeting, and with fervent prayer that our Churches may ever be united in the bonds of peace, and that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost may be with you, with us, and with his whole Church, we remain your faithful brethren in Christ.

THE launch of Archdeacon Reibey's Missionary Yacht, is thus described in the *Church News* for the Diocese of Tasmania. This paper is forwarded to us regularly, and we shall hope very often to quote from its interesting columns. On St. Luke's Day, after a short religious ceremony, the Venerable Archdeacon Davies read some very interesting extracts from the published Reports of Bishops Nixon, Archdeacon Reibey, and several others as to the social and religious state of those far off islanders in Bass's Straits among whom the little vessel is for the most part to pursue her labor of Christian charity, and also spoke in grateful terms of those to whom this work is to be attributed, mentioning especially Bishop Nixon, Lady Franklin, and other friends in England who had contributed the greater portion of the funds; the passengers of the London who, at the end of Archdeacon Reibey's last voyage from Melbourne to England had presented him with one hundred guineas for his Mission Boat; Dr. Moore, of New Norfolk, who had kindly allowed a legacy of £100, left for Church work by his brother to be devoted to this object; and last, but not least, Mr. Ross, her builder, who had generously made his work a labor of love, and had built the vessel for £600, when, if he had wished to make any profit from her, he might reasonably have charged £1000. It was quite evident, said the Ven. Archdeacon, that all who saw the vessel, saw that she was not made for a pretty pleasure yacht, but rather that she might prove a really good and serviceable sea boat capable of battling with the sudden storms that sweep our coasts, and that she would, if all were well, carry the ministrations of the Church to the most desolate and storm-girt portions of the diocese of Tasmania for many a long year.

The address of the Ven. Archdeacon having closed arrangements were made for the launch in the presence of a large company, who had by this hour assembled in the yards, on the deck of the *Derwent* steamer lying on the slip, and in the boats in the harbour. The display of bunting, and the attendance of so many visitors imparted altogether a very animating appearance to the scene. Upon the first movement of the ship towards the water the flag bearing her name was hoisted, Mrs. Davies pronouncing the name to be "The Gift; and the vessel, as the shores were knocked away, glided rapidly down the ways into the water amidst loud huzzas and wishes of "God speed." We may mention in connection with the launch, that it is intended to celebrate a more complete Dedication Service as soon as the vessel is ready for sea, when it is hoped that the Ven. Archdeacon Reibey will be present. The vessel is built as a fore-and-aft schooner, and has a keel of 47 feet; beam 13 feet; depth of hold 7 feet; length on deck 53 feet. The bottom is blue gum planking, with pine top-sides, decks, &c., copper-fastened throughout.

THE Parish Church of St. Mary, Datchet, near Windsor—an edifice which, since the year 1857 has been completely restored, almost piece by piece—was lately opened for Divine worship by the Bishop of Oxford in the presence of a crowded congregation. Her Majesty has contributed liberally to the funds; the east window of the chancel, and one on the south aisle, the west window of the small north aisle, and the vestry window were all put in by public subscription in memory of the late Prince Consort.

ON the 27th of December last, there was a service at Westminster Abbey in celebration of the 800th anniversary of its completion by its first founder, Edward the Confessor. Dean Stanley gave an eloquent historical sketch on the occasion.

AT a Meeting held in the Mayor's parlor, Manchester, it was resolved to erect a church, with schools and parsonage, in Salford, and to raise one or more exhibitions to the University of Oxford, as suitable memorials "of the eminent labors, zeal, and consistency of the late Canon Hugh Stowell, during forty years."