

Orthodoxy means soundness of doctrine; but the different sects to which the term is now applied cannot be all sound, since soundness implies truth—and truth is one, not many. Besides, as Dr Hook has well observed, "if two men take Scripture for their guide and professing to have no other guide, come to opposite conclusions, it is quite clear that neither has a right to decide that the other is not orthodox. On this principle, it is as uncharitable and illogical for the Trinitarian to call the Socinian not orthodox, as it is for the Socinian to predicate the same of the Trinitarian. But if we interpret Scripture by the sense of the Church, then we may consistently call those orthodox who hold the doctrines which she deduces from Scripture, and those heterodox who do not hold those doctrines. So that orthodoxy means soundness of doctrine, the doctrine being proved to be sound by reference to the consentient testimony of Scripture and the Church." In this view, therefore,—and it is the Church one, we may depend upon it,—they are all heterodox together, only differing in detail and in degree. And it is an instructive fact, that the Socinians of the present day are chiefly the descendants and representatives of that branch of the early Nonconformists who received the denomination of Presbyterian, and they are still known by that name, though no Presbyterian form of government, properly so called, had ever existed, either among them or their predecessors. A smaller body are Baptists, and a few societies, now Socinian, originally belonged wholly or partially to the Independent sect. We see, therefore, that when separation once takes place, there is no knowing the depth of fatal error into which it may fall.

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Canada, July 7

CONVOCAATION—QUEEN'S LETTERS.

A gravamen on this subject was presented to the Lower House by the Archdeacon of Norwich, suggesting that the withdrawal of the Queen's Letters rendered it necessary that the Bishop should establish some uniform system of collections:—

"It is suggested that the Convocation might agree to a Church extension canon, which with the consent of the Crown, might make it binding upon every incumbent to bring before his parishioners the objects for which assistance is necessary.

"If it were imperative to have two yearly collections for home purposes and for missionary purposes abroad, it might be left to the option of the clergy which of certain societies named they might make the medium of the collections.

"For instance, in the case of foreign missions, it might be optional whether the Propagation of the Gospel or the Church Missionary Society were to be adopted.

"It would be most desirable, and in accordance with the comprehensive spirit of the Church of England, to allow much freedom in that respect.

"These two annual authorised collections would not preclude others from being made as at present—(Signed.)"

GEO. HILLS, B. D., Proctor for the Archdeacon of Norwich."

The subject was referred to a committee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A suggestion on a gravamen of Dr. Coleridge that a diocesan surveyor should be appointed, to be consulted or referred to in matters of dilapidations of chancels and parsonage-houses, was sent up to the Upper House, and their Lordships promised to consider it.

The Archdeacon of Bristol complained of the inadequate notice given to members of the meeting of the Convocation, and proposed to refer the subject to a committee. The motion, however, was negatived on a division. It was explained that a recent mistake arose from the actuary having consulted an almanack of '54, instead of the present year.

The Rev. R. Seymour gave notice of the following for next session:—"That, in adopting the address to her Majesty the Queen, which has been submitted to us by your grace and their lordships the Bishops, of the Upper House, we beg to remind your grace that the report alluded to in the address on the reform of the constitution of the Lower House, calls attention to a question of the representation of the laity with a view to some co-operation on their part with the clergy in their deliberations; and inasmuch as any express reference to that question is omitted in the address to her Majesty, we respectfully pray your grace so to order the adjournment of this House as to enable us on some early occasion, to deliberate on this question.

The Rev. F. Mossingford said that upon the matter of the Church services coming on for discussion he should move the following:—"Respectively to submit to his grace and their lordships that it might be a question upon which some high legal authorities might fitly be consulted, whether the existing law does not admit of such division of the services,

with the sanction of the Bishop, as is here proposed, with or without the authority of the Crown; and whether the uniform practice of putting forth occasional services by royal proclamation does not establish, in concurrence with earlier precedents, a power in the Crown of authorising the use of such supplemental services as are recommended by the committee, such services being first submitted to, and approved by Convocation."

At five o'clock on Friday, both houses were prorogued till Thursday, the 30th of August.

It is said to be the intention of the Government to apply to Parliament for a vote of public money, which is to be applied in erecting a monument in commemoration of our soldiers who have died at Scutari. A design for the monument has already been prepared by the Baron Marochetti. This tribute of respect to the memory of so many brave men, the victims of disease and neglect, will, we are sure, be willingly rendered by the nation. It was suggested some time ago by Miss Nightingale, and her Majesty is said to feel a lively interest in its realization.

THE BALTIC.

Admiral Seymour reports a visit to Narva, in the Baltic, in obedience to the orders of his superior; the only result of the expedition being, however, to give the gun-boats a few hours' good target practice, and keeping the enemy on the alert, the position being too strong to run the risk of a useless waste of a large amount of ammunition. The fort guns were well served with hot shot, but the only casualty reported is a splinter-wound in the chest of Capt. Seattle, of the Royal Mirrice.

The main portion of the fleet are again off Cronstadt, gradually drawing within five miles of the fortifications, and within sight of the domes and towers of St. Petersburg, but with much care, sailing as they are upon gunpowder. Here is two days' narrative of discoveries on the 20th and 21st of June, from the journal of the *Times* correspondent:—

"June 20th.—The infernal machines, which were last year looked upon as myths, have turned out to be realities, sown over almost every yard of ground over which the first division of the fleet is anchored. Two struck the *Merlin* and one the *Firefly* when we were here last time, and one exploded under the *Vulture* today, just as she was anchoring, and another as she was swinging to her cable. The first was rather a severe shock, smashing everything in the galley, making the old cook run faster than he has done for many years; and throwing the 68lb. shot out of their racks; but doing no further damage. The enemy has not been idle while we were away. Another two-decker has completed her rigging, and shows an enormous red funnel, but whether she has engines or not is doubtful, for no smoke has been seen to come out of it. The steam-gunboats have been increased in number from fifteen to twenty-one, another two-decker has been added to the line of hulks along the three fathom bank to protect the northern entrance, and the earthen batteries along the coast have been completed, and look very great. As soon as we anchored the gunboats got up steam, and continued for two or three hours carrying men from the town to the hulks, from which it appears they are not always kept fully manned.

"21st.—This morning each ship commenced sweeping for the infernal machines, and before night gathered in a capital harvest of them. The way in which the sweeping is done is this—two boats take between them a long rope, which is sunk to the depth of ten or twelve feet by means of weights, and held suspended at that depth by lines attached to small corks, which float on the surface at intervals of forty or fifty yards; the boats then separate as far as the rope will allow them, and pull in parallel lines until one of the corks stops behind, which tells them, as a fishing float tells the angler, that they have caught something; the two boats then approach each other, keeping the rope taut, then haul it in carefully, and up comes the machine. The *Exmouth* found the first, she *Ale* the second, and then the catching became so numerous that in some instances two at a time were hauled up; they were at first supposed to be only buoys to the machine, but I am sorry to say Admiral Seymour proved them to be the machine itself in a most unpleasant manner. He was examining one on the poop of the *Exmouth*, and incautiously tapping a little bit of iron which projected from its side, saying, "this must be the way they are exploded," when bang the thing went off, and everybody round was scattered on the deck. Admiral Seymour was so injured in his eyes that for some time it was thought he would lose the sight of both, but I am glad to say he can see out of both to-day, and no fear is entertained now of either. Lieut. Lewis, R. M., was severely wounded in the knee-joint, and badly burnt in the hands and arms; the signalman, who was holding the machine in his hands, was severely burnt down the front of the body and legs; and Mr. Pierce, flag-lieutenant, had his whiskers

burnt off and his face singed, and every one was more or less burnt. It was a wonderful escape for them all. Each machine consists of a cone of galvanised iron, 10 inches in diameter at the base and 20 inches from base to apex; it is divided into three chambers; the one near the base being largest and containing air causes it to float with the base uppermost. In the centre of this chamber is another, which holds a tube with a fuse in it, and an apparatus for firing it. This consists of two little iron rods, which move in guides and are kept projected over the side of the base by springs, which press them outwards. When anything pushes either of these rods inwards it strikes against a lever, which moves like a pendulum, in the fuse tube, and the lower end of the lever breaks or breaks a small leaden tube, containing a combustible compound, which is set on fire by coming in contact with some sulphuric acid held in a capillary tube, which is broken at the same time, and so fires the fuse, which communicates with the powder contained in the chamber at the apex of the cone, and which holds about 9lb. or 10lb. At the extreme apex is a brass ring, to which is attached a rope and some pieces of granite, which moors them about nine or ten feet below the surface, so that the only vessels they can hurt, the gun-boats, float quietly over them, and now we know what they are they have been disarmed of all their dread. But they prove dangerous playthings: the Commander-in-Chief was examining one of the fuse tubes that was supposed to be spoilt, for it was full of mud and water, when he accidentally touched the lever, and it exploded in his hands, scattering the mud into the faces of all present, and literally throwing dirt into their eyes, but doing no hurt."

The *Times* has a despatch from "Vienna, Thursday," stating that Sir George Brown, General Pennefather, and General Codrington are sick. The same despatch states that Ali Pacha and General Scarlett have arrived, and that three hundred of the Foreign Legion have arrived from England.

The Austrian Government has determined on adopting measures to remove the obstacles to the navigation at the mouth of the Saba, and to protect neutral vessels. Accordingly, one of Lord's steamers is to be stationed there to assist vessels, and an employe of the consulate of Galatz has been sent to Sulina to act as consular agent, and to give the documents required for navigation to all the vessels that may demand them.

The Austrian Government requests the directors of the railways in the empire to plant young trees, of a description indicated, at convenient distances along the lines, intending them to replace eventually the posts upon which telegraph wires are at present affixed.

Abd-el-Kader has received the permission of the French Government to reside at Constantinople, in consequence of the partial destruction of Brousa by earthquakes.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Frankfort Journal*, states that all the military authorities in that city are agreed upon the fact that Russia is preparing for a long and extensive war, and that any intention of giving way is far from her thoughts, that many signs indicate that Russia is making preparations for a change both in respect to diplomacy and war; and that in Asia a new theatre of war will be opened.

A letter from Odessa states that additional troops are daily expected there, General Luders having received orders to send forward a part of his regular troops without delay, in order to form a corps between the Dnieper and Persep. Large supplies of provisions were being forwarded from Odessa to the Crimea.

CANADA.

AFFAIR OF HONOR IN KINGSTON.—The *Kingston Herald* of Tuesday last gives the particulars of an "affair of honor" between two gentlemen of that city, one of whom is a corporation officer. The combatants were J. Flynn and F. Weymer, Esqrs., and the difficulty arose out of an argument on the question whether the sun or the earth was necessary to produce an eclipse of the moon! From learned discussions angry words proceeded. The warred in high dudgeon—each threatening summary vengeance. The aid of friends was invoked, but nothing less than blood would satisfy the gentlemen, and Mr. Weymer was wounded. By the use of restoratives he came to life, and was carried bleeding on a sinter to the Star Chamber, where he was properly cared for, and is recovering.

UNITED STATES.

PRICE OF FLOUR.—Accounts from different parts of the country indicate that breadstuffs will soon be had at cheaper rates than at present. The *Indianapolis Journal* of the 6th inst., says that a large dealer in that city offers to give bond for the delivery of 5000 bbls. of flour by November, next at \$5 50 per bbl. The *Mobile Tribune* of the 19th ult., says that new flour is selling there at \$6 per bbl. It predicts that three weeks hence flour will be had at that place for \$3 50 per bbl. New flour will soon be in the markets in abundance. The recent rains throughout the country have raised the mill streams, and milling is going on with all possible despatch, each miller being desirous of getting ahead of his competitors before the prices recede to lower figures. —*Boston Journal*.