

could carry. It consisted of about forty courses, eight feet diameter, and eight feet in depth, when cleared, but only five in height from the base of the upper cone as we opened it.

"Most carefully was every stone removed, every atom of moss or earth scrutinised, the stones at the bottom also taken up, but without a trace of any record, or of having been used by any human being."

At a point farther on were discovered "two structures rather in European form, and apparently graves; each was similarly constructed, and like the dome, of large selected slabs, having at each end three separate stones, laid as we should place head and feet stones.—So thoroughly satisfied was I that there was no delusion, I desisted from disturbing a stone until it should be formally done by the party assembled.

"The evening following (for where the sun is so oppressive to the eyes by day, we travel by night) we ascended the hill and removed the stones. Not a trace of human being!

"At various places we have found apparent marks, and had fancied that some of the explorers from the *North Star* had sought Jones's Strait by this channel, but invariably every such mark had been placed where it could not serve the purpose of a geographical pile. One in particular, found by Mr. Grove on Pitch Mount, which he kept untouched until I examined it, was so methodically constructed of five stones, that on the disturbance of any one the others would tumble, and yet, if Esquimaux were concerned in its original structure, how many years had it stood? My own opinion is strongly in favour of a late visit, or within the last ten years."

Reaching safely again the ship, they set out on a new excursion to examine a group of islands they had seen from a hill on the former excursion. They reached the islands in five days, and called them "Victoria Archipelago." Sir Edward says—"To separate, survey, or make any further examination, with a view to name them, was quite out of the question. The heavy, even, solid state of the floe surrounding, or where nipped, the almost berg-like lumps which protruded, afforded a fair inference that the sea is seldom seriously disturbed in these latitudes."

On returning to the ship they met with Lieutenant Cheyne, who was the bearer of intelligence forwarded by Commander Richards, of the safety of the crew of the *Investigator*, and that the vessel was icebound in a port of Bank's Land, to which Commander McClure had given the name of Baring Island.

On the 14th of July the *Assistance* left her winter quarters, leaving behind, *en cache*, under a beacon constructed on Mount Beaufort, a quantity of provisions; and moved forward, reaching the entrance of Sir Robert Inglis Bay on the 17th, and on the 26th, passing Cape Beecher at Dunbar Island a boat was discovered pulling towards the ship, and Captain Pullen came on board, having come to seek despatches, which had been deposited there. "He was the bearer," Sir E. Belcher says, "of much additional interesting matter relative to the *Investigator*, a few of whose officers and men had safely reached the *North Star*. Fully aware of the anxiety, next to the fate of the *Erebus* and *Terror*, respecting the *Investigator* and *North Star*, having two medical officers, as well as ample accommodation for the crew of the *Investigator*, I directed Commander Pullen, on the arrival of the commander and crew, whom I trust Captain Kellett will forward without awaiting the chances of his own extrication, to proceed at once to England (waiting until the 1st. of September for invalids, &c., and further despatches), and report his arrival to their lordships' secretary.

Proceeding now back towards Beechy Island the ships met with continual obstacles from the ice, and were eventually, as we have seen, deserted when they got frozen in, about fifty miles from Beechy Island, the crews reaching the land by travelling over the ice.

The *Phoenix* has been taken alongside the wharf at Woolwich, to discharge the stores—upwards of twelve months' provisions—which she had conveyed to Beechy Island, and brought back without discharging them in the Arctic regions. During her Arctic voyage she struck on a sandbank, and separated her entire false keel from her bottom, but did not injure any other part of the vessel. Her homeward passage was greatly accelerated by the discovery of the coal mine by Capt. Inglefield, on the island of Disco. A formal court-martial is to be held on Sir Edward Belcher and his officers for the loss of the ships left in the ice. Commander Sherard Osborne, additional of the *Assistance*, came home from the Arctic regions under arrest by order of Sir Edward Belcher in July last. He has now applied for a court-martial, that all the circumstances of his case may be made known. A court of inquiry is also to take place at the Admiralty to ascertain what has been done by the expeditions in carrying out the orders they received. The court will include Rear Admiral Sir William Edwards Parry and Rear Admiral Beechy.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, NOV. 4, 1854.

COLLEGE AGENCY.

No. 16.

To P. O. HILL, Esq.

Secy. of the Incorp. Alumni.

In conformity with the wishes of the Governors and Alumni, I resumed my journey in behalf of the College, which I would have preferred, considering the lateness of the season, to have brought to a close, at least until another year. However, I set off on Wednesday the 25th, and after spending nearly 24 hours in the coach, packed as close as herrings, reached Picton between 8 and 9 on Thursday. We were favoured with a moderate passage across to Charlotte Town, where we arrived between 4 and 5 of that day. From that day to this, with the exception of yesterday, the weather has been uncommonly pleasant, even uncomfortably warm, which, together with an "increasing moon," has encouraged me in the prosecution of my arduous work.

I am happy to say, that I have besides found warm hearts and ready hands, to help me therein, notwithstanding some of the usual prophecies that I would get but little here—and that if I had "waited till next year" I would have done better. The first day of my walk through this pretty town I was cheered by £100 from one individual, and £80 from another. I have been only five days on the Island, and I have been enabled to add to the Endowment Fund upwards of £800, Halifax currency. Thanks be to Him who openeth the hearts of His people, and blesses the endeavours of His unworthy servants.

On Sunday I officiated twice in St. Paul's Church, to large congregations. On Monday evening I called a meeting in the commodious Schoolhouse adjoining the church. The weather was against us—and the walking formidable for ladies. Nevertheless we had a profitable gathering. One lady in particular showed her interest in the College by coming forth. Her mother was a native of Windsor, now passed to her rest. Her father an alumnus of the College and afterward Chief Justice of this Island, and her two brothers educated at the same place.

The Rev. Mr. Lloyd, Eccles. Comy. and Rector of Charlotte Town, presided. After singing (and good singing they have here) and prayer, the Chairman opened the business of the evening in a lucid and appropriate address. The first Resolution, touching the benefits already conferred by King's College on the surrounding Colonies, and on the necessity of supporting it, was moved and ably and warmly advocated by John Lawson, Esq., a Master of Arts of King's College, for many years resident of this Island, but still mindful of his first love. He was followed by Mr. Atty. General Hensley, brother of the Professor of Mathematics. The second Resolution as to the importance of the College as a nursery for the ministry of the Church, was moved by Capt. Orlebar, B. N., who entered with all his heart into our object, as he does into every thing good. He rendered us essential service, and dwelt particularly on the additional advantages now secured to the Institution by the appointment of a Professor of Pastoral Theology. Other speakers did the same, and I am happy to find that the selection made by the Governors has been very satisfactory to the friends and contributors to the College in this quarter. The Rev. D. Fitzgould, assistant minister of Charlotte Town, seconded the Resolution. He is from Trinity College, Dublin, for which as he ought, he avowed his preference; but next to that declared he would rather send his son to Windsor under the present management, than either to Oxford or Cambridge. He particularly dwelt with approbation on the addition of the Chair in Pastoral Theology, to the previous means of Education. An animated conversation followed, and various questions proposed were so ably and so judiciously answered, as appeared, by the subscriptions then entered into by those present. I have since been busily engaged in endeavouring to enlarge the list, and the result so far, is before you. Several persons however, seem inclined to add their names, so that I think we may calculate on at least £100 more, besides what parties unfortunately absent, may be inclined to do.

The £300 I have mentioned is independent of £100 previously contributed by Capt. Orlebar, and £12 10s. by others.

I am sure our friends at Halifax will look upon this response to our appeal, as highly honourable to the Church people of Charlotte Town, especially when their liberal contributions for Church purposes of a local nature, (amounting to more than £600 this year,) are taken into consideration.

I intend, D. V., leaving this on Thursday morning for St. Eleanor's, from whence I hope to get by steamer to Shediac, on my way to St. John, N. B. I wish I may be able to report from that quarter in the same strain as from this. Jas. C. COCHRAN.

Charlotte Town, 31st Oct. 1854.

CHURCH AFFAIRS.

Our readers will find in this day's paper several interesting documents, having reference to the Synodical movement which is taking place in the Church, almost simultaneously, in Australasia, in North America, and in Scotland.

Were this movement confined to a single diocese, or to one particular country, it would be nothing extraordinary; and might be accounted for by the thousand causes of discontent or innovation, that might be supposed to influence its promoters. But that it has taken place at one and the same period, in different parts of the British Empire—in Scotland in particular, where hitherto the principle of lay participation in Church government has been strongly opposed—may be regarded as the special working of Divine Providence, moving men's minds to a just appreciation of their religious privileges. It is a claim put forth on the part of the laity, to be considered not only as recipients of the Church's grace, but also in their proper place, and within scriptural bounds, as an essential feature in the Church's government. It may be a long or a short period before the State will fully acknowledge the principle in its application to the national religion; but in the meantime Omniscient Wisdom appears to be directing upon the Mother Church from every side, and in all places to which her polity has spread, those examples for her guidance, and the efforts auxiliary to her own exertions, which seem to all human probability the best calculated to produce the desired effect.—The contrast even now is most striking, between the Church of England circumscribed in her Convocation, and the freedom of Constitution, untrammelled by State policy, whereby her offshoots can enjoy the full light and liberty of the gospel.

The proceedings of the Canterbury Mission in New Zealand, may be taken to be a fair exposition of the sentiments which animate Churchmen in every Colonial dependency. The forcible observations of the Rev. H. Jacobs, find an echo in every corner where the subject is understood; and although the time has been short for decision, and the minds of many among the Clergy and also among the laity, may not be quite made up as to the necessity for immediate action, there is we apprehend an entire unanimity upon the principle. There is not, we venture to say, a Colonial Diocese under the British Crown, that is not ready at any moment to protest against the thralldom in which the Church in the Mother Country is held—and to assume for itself that independent action in spiritual matters which is enjoyed by every other denomination.

It might not be altogether out of place, had we space at our disposal, to enter upon a consideration of the advantages which every Colonial Diocese must enjoy, by the open and active participation of its several orders, in its own ecclesiastical government—contrasted with that inert system which when it was tied to the Establishment, vested the sole management of Church affairs in one person, or in a few individuals who from their position were called upon to perform, to interest themselves in her welfare.—While however, we believe the former system is gathering favor, will not fail to enlist the exertions of the whole Church, will banish the apathy which had become almost a proverb, and promote her expansion by proving her inclusiveness—we may for the present content ourselves with a hope that the latter is fast receding out of sight to dwell amongst the things that were. It was not the fair working of the Church, and could not tend to her prosperity. It was an unfair stress laid upon the zeal and energy of the few, which yet did not enlist the sympathies of the many. It was prejudicial, inasmuch as it had a tendency to beget a dominant power in the Church, which would care nothing for her general interests, so long as it could maintain those that were special. But enough for the present. The exclusive system has been sufficiently exposed. The Bishops, Clergy and Laity united in exertion, have a great work before them, which demands the prayers of all to the Supreme Head of the Church, that He may be pleased "to direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of His glory—the good of His Church—and the honor and welfare of our Sovereign, and her dominions; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations." w. c.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

From C. B. Dewolf, Esq. with £5. From Revd. H. L. Owen—directions have been attended to.