

The motion was seconded by Dr. Almon, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Salter gave notice that he would at a future meeting move that an organist for St. Luke's be paid out of the parish funds.

Mr. Cogswell had no objection to vote as a matter of courtesy, but as a matter of justice, he was decidedly opposed to it.

Mr. Creighton remarked that an organ had been given to St. Luke's by St. Paul's.

Mr. Lynch replied that that organ was perfectly useless, and if any charge was to be made on account of it, it should be a charge for storage on the part of St. Luke's (Laughter.)

REPAIRS OF ST. PAUL'S.

Mr. Hill called the attention of the meeting to the South Porch of St. Paul's, which, he said, was very leaky.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that the roof of the Church was in a very bad state; that the windows were very loose, and admitted the snow. He urged the necessity of these defects being at once remedied. He concluded by moving a resolution that the Parishioners be assessed for said repairs, according to their ability, in the same manner as the city rates were levied.

Mr. Salter stated that he should refuse to pay any such assessment, because he considered the congregation of St. Paul's quite able to repair their own Church. He was willing to contribute towards the repairs of St. Luke's, which Church he usually attended.

Mr. Chamberlain.—I think it very hard that, after we, the congregation of St. Paul's, have subscribed towards the erection of St. Luke's, that the congregation of the latter Church, when our Church is rotting down about our ears, should tell us that we must repair it ourselves.

Mr. Silver.—It is very ungracious on the part of the congregation of St. Paul's, every time a parish meeting is held, to remind us (the congregation of St. Luke's) that they have given us a church, and that we are under everlasting obligations to them for it. We have never been backward in assisting them, and we felt a deep interest in the old Church. The day for assessment has forever passed away in this parish. Difficulties existed in carrying it out, when authorised by law, and these difficulties would be increased if an attempt were now made to revive it. The only way by which the sum needed for the repairs, &c., can be raised is by appealing to the feelings of the parishioners. I do therefore move that the churchwardens and vestry be a committee to lay the case before the parish at once, and to solicit subscriptions. No further survey need be called; £500 at least will be required, and it may be collected in a short time.

Mr. Chamberlain thought that persons should pay according to their ability, and if the sum was raised by subscription, a liberal poor man would pay nearly as much as a miserly rich man.

Mr. Silver's resolution was then seconded.

Mr. Hare wished before the question was put to state that the Rectory should be taken into consideration; that the Rector's family were living in rooms which were absolutely untenanted.

Mr. Townsend stated that nothing could be worse than the condition of the eastern gallery of the church.

Mr. Cogswell thought it was a waste of money to repair the old Rectory; it should be sold and a new one built.

Mr. Hill stated that this had been suggested before, but that the Rector was very unwilling to leave the old house.

Dr. Almon thought that the discussion showed the necessity for the division of the parish.

Mr. Creighton observed that the parishioners had no power to divide the parish, as the Bishop had not defined the limits which should be appointed to the two proposed parishes.

Dr. Almon.—There is a power beyond the Bishop or the churchwardens. I am not as frightened of Bishops as some people are; and I think more of public opinion than many people do. Public opinion will yet compel this division.

Mr. Chamberlain thought that if the Lord Bishop were here he would approve of the Resolution.

Mr. W. H. Tully thought that Mr. Silver's suggestions met the views, and also the wants of the Parish, and that both the congregations (St. Paul's and St. Luke's) would cheerfully subscribe towards the repairs.

Mr. Lynch.—I think the whole difficulty may be obviated by keeping separate accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the two Churches. We may have a division *de facto* though not *de jure*. Both the parsonage and the Church of St. Luke require repairs. The congregation of St. Paul's have a room for their Sunday School. We (St. Luke's congregation) have none. The roof of St. Luke's Church is in a very bad condition, the shingling is very bad, causing the roof to leak in several places. These defects must be at once remedied. I move that the accounts of the Churches be hereafter kept separate, the expenses of each Church being defrayed out of its own funds.

Mr. Hill.—There is a surplus of income over the expenditure in St. Paul's Church; it is not so in St. Luke's.

Mr. Creighton.—We (St. Paul's congregation) pay £8 a year for our pews, in St. Luke's they pay much less.

Mr. Lynch.—If we are a burden to you, cast us off. We do feel those taunts. We have given you a Church, Parsonage, Glebe lands, &c.; let us have a division of accounts. I press my Resolution as an

amendment to Mr. Silver's Resolution. I believe that what it proposes can be easily done.

Dr. Almon.—On the principle of the old adage, that "half a loaf is better than no bread," I second Mr. Lynch's Resolution, although every word he has said will apply just as well to the division of the parish. It religious politics were out of the way, Mr. Lynch himself would be an advocate for the division.

Mr. Lynch.—I am much obliged to the Doctor for seconding my Resolution, but not for the accompanying observations.

Mr. Mellreth.—I suppose that Mr. Lynch's resolution is not intended to operate until St. Paul's church is repaired.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that, in deference to the views of Mr. Ritchie, to whom he had shown his Resolution, and who thought that it would cause a great deal of jealousy between the two congregations, he would now withdraw it.

J. W. Ritchie, Esq.—Although I quite agree with the principle of Mr. Lynch's amendment, I think that a great deal of consideration would be required before his proposition could be carried out. The original resolution and the amendment do not appear to me to bear much relation to each other. The former asks for the voluntary aid of the parishioners towards the repair of St. Paul's Church. I am quite satisfied that the only way in which the Church can be repaired is by voluntary contributions, yet I do not believe that these contributions will be made up by persons attending St. Luke's Church. Some few of the persons attending that church may subscribe, but the burden will mainly fall on the congregation of St. Paul's. If the sum needed for the repairs were to be levied by assessment, angry feelings would, I feel satisfied, be excited. I think that the two questions (Mr. Silver's and Mr. Lynch's) should be treated separately. For my own part I should like to see both pass. In the event of the passage of the latter, a careful arrangement would require to be made. As far as regards receipts, there would not be the least difficulty, as each church would of course receive its own pew rent. I think that St. Paul's church should not be required to pay the whole salary of the Rector and of one of the Curates. If that were done, the congregation of St. Luke's would enjoy an undue advantage, as they have a good church, and would have to pay only one clergyman. It should also be remembered that the residences in the vicinity of St. Luke's are increasing in number, while they are diminishing in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, which is becoming more and more the business part of the city. I am not myself interested more in one Church than another, having pews in both. I hardly imagine that Mr. Lynch himself intends that St. Luke's Church should pay only the salary of the Rev. Mr. Bullock.

Mr. Lynch.—I did not say so.

Mr. Ritchie.—I thought not.

Mr. Lynch.—My remarks arose simply from the fact that year after year our two churches remain out of repair, and nothing is done to remedy the evil. Let us do something. The present state of the churches is disgraceful to the parish.

Mr. Salter.—St. Luke's Church has been spoken of as in good order. Even two years ago it would have required £50 or £60 to repair it, and now it will take £200.

Mr. Hill thought that Mr. Silver's resolution met the whole difficulty.

Mr. Lynch.—I think the division of the Parish impracticable, but as regards the keeping of the separate accounts, I cannot see any difficulty, except in the adjustment of the portion which each Church is to bear of the salaries of the Rector and Curates.

Mr. Gosip asked whether a sum sufficient to effect the repairs of the churches might not be raised by loan, the interest to be defrayed by an increase in the pews.

Mr. Cogswell.—We never can honestly go in debt again. The persons who subscribed to pay for the former debt, did so with the express understanding that the Parish would not again incur debts.

Dr. Almon.—I prophesy that the adoption of Mr. Silver's resolution will end in nothing.

Mr. Hill.—If gentlemen are determined to fulfil their own prophecies (by not subscribing to the repairs) no doubt they will come to pass.

Mr. Dunbar suggested that Mr. Silver's resolution be amended to include the repairs of St. Luke's Church.

The resolution was accordingly amended, and being put by the Chairman, passed nem. con.

The resolution as finally passed is as follows:

That the churchwardens and vestry be a committee to solicit subscriptions for the purpose of repairing St. Paul's and St. Luke's Churches and the rectory.

(Remainder next week.)

News Department.

Extracts from latest English Papers.

ENGLAND.

The tale of members returned is now complete, and the endeavour has been made, with indifferent success, to sort them into classes and ticket them with party names. The county and borough elections are on the whole of a pretty uniform colour. As regards the former indeed there have been fewer contests and rather fewer changes in the representation; but the general characteristics are much the same; the tone of independence, and the repudiation of party ties, are, amongst the Conservatives

at least, much the same; the encroachments of Liberalism are more marked perhaps in the counties than in the boroughs, being counterbalanced by no advance on the other side. The farmers, disappointed canvassers will tell you, could not be induced to vote. In Devon, Durham, Dorset, Berks, Essex, Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Derbyshire, Cambridgeshire, Herefordshire, Glamorganshire, and the Isle of Wight, seats have been lost and won, either by cession or by the fortune of war, and the Ministerialist candidate has in several cases been returned at the head of the poll.

Among the particular losses and casualties we may note the disappearance of the Aoland family from the representation of Devon, the defeat of Sir Stafford Northcote in a neck-and-neck race with the brother of Mr. Rolle, that of Mr. Floyer in Dorsetshire, and of Mr. Farrer in Durham. The attempt to eject Sir E. Dering unseated Mr. Dettles, a man of weight and sense, and the attack on Mr. Bramston in South Essex proved fatal instead to Sir W. B. Smith.

The immediate result of this election unquestionably is to place Lord Palmerston in a proud and commanding position, and to shed splendour over the evening of his long political life. When Parliament meets, he will have at his back a powerful majority, and before him a diminished and disorganised body, nine-tenths of whom have professed themselves ready to give him an "independent" support. This profession, it is true, in numerous cases is awkward and insincere, but its very insincerity is a proof that it was known to be acceptable to those in whose presence it was made. Nor is it insincere in all. Many and many a man will take his seat on the Opposition benches determined to support Lord Palmerston in the first place, and intending to play the independent member whenever he chooses, towards his own nominal chief. Comparing the speeches with the returns, and making due allowances for extravagances and incoherencies, the gross result appears to us to be a marked expression on the part of the public at large, of preference for Palmerston and dissatisfaction with the Chinese vote—an opinion, as our readers are aware, not unforeseen by us, and to which the best conclusions we have been able to form are diametrically opposed. Analysed, this preference reduces itself to elements which a proud and scrupulous man might well despise. But Lord Palmerston is not proud nor scrupulous. He is a man of the world, who takes things at their current value, and is well content with a popularity—no matter what it is made of—which secures him power.—*London Guardian*.

Her Majesty's accouchement is now daily expected, and there seems to be little doubt that the next week will witness this auspicious event. Her Majesty has enjoyed uninterrupted good health during the past week, but the royal dinner circle has been gradually contracted, and the last day or two it has been limited to the immediate members of the Court. All visits to theatres have been entirely suspended, and the Ministers hold themselves in readiness for attendance.—*Court Journal*, April 7.

We are now fully able to authenticate the rumour which we alluded to last week of the probable postponement of the marriage of the Princess Royal till January next. Several reasons have conduced to this postponement, and one is, that the residence preparing for the Prince and Princess in Berlin will not be completed and fit for occupation until the close of the year. This palace was the residence of the father of the present King of Prussia, but has been for many years much neglected. Its furniture as well as its decorations required a complete renewal, and the building itself a great extent of ornamental repair, with the additions necessary to modern notions of luxury and comfort. Prince Frederick William it is expected will arrive in this country about the latter end of May, or the beginning of June—the precise time may, perhaps, be influenced by the Queen's recovery. Had the marriage taken place in the autumn, as originally proposed, the royal bride and bridegroom were to have remained some time in England; but as the nuptials have been postponed some months, the Prince and Princess will, it is expected, proceed at once to Berlin.—*Court Journal*.

The apprehension of an approaching murrain has called forth an Order in Council, published in the *Gazette* of Friday night, prohibiting the importation of cattle, or of horns, hoofs, hides, or skins, from those territories of Russia, Prussia, or Mecklenberg-Schwerin which lie on the Gulf of Finland, or between the Gulf and the city of Lubeck.