

Selections.

TORONTO, December, 1857.

The whole of the Province, from Sandwich to Anticosti, is at present boiling and seething under the influence of a general election. Parliament was suddenly dissolved, two or three weeks since, though a year of its allotted time had yet to elapse. There is nothing of any moment to go to the country upon, but the ministry, I presume, thought it a favorable time to get a four years' renewal of the manifold sweets of office, when everybody had his hands full of his own difficulties, owing to the financial crisis, and had little leisure to get up an opposition.

These, however, are subjects I should not have touched upon in your columns, were it not that there is positively a "new thing" in this election, altogether unprecedented in Canadian annals. During every former election, as far back as the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" goes, the Church had a battle to fight, of some kind or other, at the hustings. The clergy were compelled by their sense of duty, to be, to a great extent, politicians. Some went full tilt into the *mêlée*, and did no light service, in many cases, by their pens, their eloquence, and their physical energies, in getting the right men into the right place; and even the most listless and apathetic could not forbear imitating the old divine, who was at Basing-Hall, writing his Church history, at the time it was *swarmed* by the Roundheads, when

"Worthy Master Fuller, in his sable garments dight,
Lifted up his chamber window, to see how went the fight."

Either actively or passively, the whole of the clerical body were deeply interested in these former contests. But now we have touched bottom—the worst that can happen has happened. Our property is squandered over the whole Province. Covetous municipalities are still fighting over the spoils, like wreckers over the plunder of a noble, stranded ship; and as those who have no money need not exercise their minds much concerning the solvency of Banks, so the Church is relieved from troubling herself about the result of the elections. This certainly is an unmixed good, coming out of a great deal of evil. We do not entertain a very high respect for the party now in power, still we are generally of opinion that if they went out a *warren* would probably come in; but we look out of "the chamber window," caring little how the fight goes. French Romanism compels every shade of Upper Canadian politicians "to *emigrate*." It is the price of the tenure of office, and has been paid by the most leveling Radicals, as well as by professed Conservatives, and will be paid so long as the two sections endure. Lower Canada tolerates no party that will not give a willing aid in making Parliament, to a great extent, a House of Convocation for the advance of the interests of Romanism.

In a former letter I stated that the broad and easy road for politicians, was to magnify the secular school system of the country. All our Church candidates for Parliament are now travelling along it joyously, and have no sympathy for any scruples of conscience on the subject, save those entertained by their Romish electors. They, and they only, are to have separate schools. The Church, if she establishes one in a parish, must support it by voluntary subscriptions, in addition to paying heavy taxes for the endowment of those against which her whole history is a solemn protest.

While on this subject, I may mention a curious instance of a step in the right direction. The prayers of the Church in King's College, and at which only members of the Church were required to attend, was the terrible spectre that haunted the minds of all our anti-Church agitators, a few years since, and there was an immense amount of the usual cant spoken and written, with respect to the inculcation of religion being the duty *only* of pastors and parents, and totally out of place in a University. This was the chief war-cry in that crusade, in which, eventually, the Church was expelled from her own institution, and compelled to build up Trinity College. The falsity of the theory that led to such momentous consequences, is now actually admitted in the Toronto University. A form of prayer to be used each morning, was introduced during the present term. This is a testimony of the necessity of the Bishop's noble labours for the founding of Trinity College, from an unexpected quarter. How long it will be permitted to be used, is a question difficult of solution. There is a distinct recognition of the Trinity in the form appointed, and one, at least of the leading Professors is a Unitarian. If he is very zealous on behalf of his mutilated faith (and, I be-

lieve, while he lectures on week days, he preaches on Sundays), he may soon raise a storm about the introduction of what he would call "an heretical piece of sectarianism." The form is to be used, I believe, by the senior Professor present at the hour appointed. Should this gentleman happen to be the senior present, he would be placed rather in a dilemma. He would either have to give his sanction to what he considers false, by reading it publicly, or else transgress the College regulation, by refusing to read it at all.—*Correspondent N. Y. Church Journal.*

HOW DO THE CLERGY LIVE DURING THESE "HARD TIMES?"—This may be seen from the following extract from a private letter just received from a Brother Clergyman in a Diocese not very far off:—

"It is a bitter truth, that for months back, and at this very moment, my receipts of salary have not been sufficient to feed and clothe myself, my wife, and little ones.

"Let me breathe a fact into your ear. I am Rector of two parishes. I accepted the charge of them seven months ago, on condition of receiving from one \$150, from the other \$300. As yet I have received but \$125 from them both. From —, a manufacturing place, its life all depending on the work in nine factories, I am not encouraged to hope for any more salary before Spring. It is silent and bankrupt. On — I must lean, humbly speaking, for the bare means of subsistence for my family during the Winter. I cannot look for more from it.—*N. Y. Ch. Journal.*

SPECIAL LABORERS.—Rev. Mr. Finney, the revivalist, has been engaged to hold a series of meetings in Boston this Winter. There is considerable dissatisfaction with this movement among the clergy, but the orthodox Congregational churches, with two exceptions, united in the call to Mr. Finney, who receives a salary equal to that of half a dozen pastors during the brief period of his ministry. Mr. Finney is the only revivalist employed by Congregationalists, of the large force that used to canvass the country a few years ago. The general verdict of the Congregational churches is that the employment of this class of special laborers has been the chief cause of the unsettled and precarious tenure of the pastoral relation, and that the churches lose in the end more than they gain by these sudden blasts of excitement, got up to order.—*Springfield Republican.*

Lord Derby, in the most complimentary sarcasm ever uttered, described Lord Brougham's mind as far exceeding *sal volatile*, or any other ethereal essence in its pugnancy, and on which he defied any human power, *even that of the noble lord himself*, to put an effectual stopper of glass, leather or any other substance.

We are glad to hear that the Prince of Wales is going to plant Dartmoor. His Royal Highness has ordered a large number of larch, Scotch fir, oak, and other plants for forest planting, of Mr. Addiscott, nurseryman, of St. Thomas's.—*Western Times.*

A report is in circulation that Mr. Scott Russell, the builder of the *Leviathan*, offered to launch her for £50,000. This was thought extravagant, and Mr. Brunel undertook to perform the task for £10,000. It is said that the unsuccessful efforts to set her afloat have already cost upwards of £10,000.—*Literary Gazette.*

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM'S SILVER.—The plate chest of his Grace the late Duke of Buckingham, with its contents, consisting of 173 pieces of sterling silver, of great elegance of workmanship, will be sold to-day (Thursday) at auction, in this city. The silver is all warranted, and each piece is marked with the ducal crest. The pieces will be sold separately or in small lots, thus affording an opportunity to those who value such to obtain a specimen of ducal splendour.—*New York Paper.*

Last Thursday, about noon, Mr. Thompson, a merchant transacting business in the Manchester Corn Exchange, suddenly missed his pocket-book, which he laid down for a moment on a stall, and which contained £3,000 in bank notes.—

Immediately the robbery was discovered the doors of the Exchange were closed, and intelligence was conveyed to the detective police-officer; the officers at once went to the railway stations. Sergeant Shandley, with a gentleman from the Exchange, went to one of the stations, where they arrived just as a train was about to move off. They were passing a first class carriage when the gentleman with Shandley said (pointing), "I saw that person in the Exchange about the time of the robbery." Having seen no one else who could be spoken to as having been noticed

in the Exchange, Shandley and his companion at once joined "the person." Shortly after the train moved on Shandley began to converse with him, and ultimately questioned him as to certain matters. Awkward answers were given, and the confusion of the man became so great that at length he told Shandley he was a most impudent fellow, and ought to be ashamed of himself for putting such questions to a foreigner and stranger. Shandley then told the now thoroughly suspected person that he was a detective officer; that his answers had been such as would induce him to take him back to Manchester, and that he must prepare to get on when the train next stopped. At Newton Junction the prisoner was searched, and upon him was found the whole of the money that had been lost. Shandley telegraphed to Manchester that he had captured his man, and an immense crowd assembled outside the terminus, who saluted the clever detective with three cheers.

Messrs. Crossley, of Halifax, are just completing a new chimney in connection with the work at Dean Clough, which will be of extraordinary dimensions and weight, and will outstrip every other that has ever been built, even in Lancashire. Although placed in a valley, it has attained a level with the summit of Beacon-hill, its height is 127 yards, the width at the bottom being ten yards. The weight of brick and stone used in the erection is estimated at 9,685 tons.

News Department.

From Papers by Steamer Niagara.

ENGLAND.

The following minute of the proceedings of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has been made public:—

In consequence of a communication received from the Earl of Shaftesbury expressing his readiness to contribute to the fund for a Memorial Church at Cawnpore, and to advise others to do the same, on the understanding that the selection and nomination of the incumbent of the church should rest with the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London, it was resolved "That the appointment of the missionary incumbent of the projected Memorial Church at Cawnpore, be vested in perpetuity in the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Bishop of London for the time being."

The President and Vice Presidents of the Church Missionary Association have addressed a memorial to the Queen, setting forth that the Government of India had not been consistent with the duty of Christian rulers, and by its unchristianous aspect exposed itself to the charge, falsely alleged against it by the mutineers, of designing to make them Christians by fraud or coercion.

Your memorialists would therefore humbly beseech your Majesty to have it declared to the public authorities in the East Indies—

1. That the existing policy will be no longer professed or maintained; but that, as it is the belief of your Majesty and of this Christian nation that the adoption of the Christian religion, upon an intelligent conviction of its truth, will be an incalculable benefit to the natives of India, the countenance and aid of Government will be given to any legitimate measures for bringing that religion under their notice and investigation.

2. That—since the Government, in addition to maintaining its own educational establishments, offers grants-in-aid to all other schools which provide a prescribed amount of secular knowledge, according to the principles laid down in its Educational Despatch of July 19, 1854; the Bible will be introduced into the system of education in all Government schools and colleges, as the only standard of moral rectitude, and the source of those Christian principles upon which your Majesty's Government is to be conducted.

3. That any connection which may still subsist between the Indian Government and the revenues or ceremonies of the Mahometan, Hindoo, or other false religions, shall at once cease and determine.

Your memorialists humbly suggest that it should at the same time be made known to your Majesty's Mahometan and heathen subjects, that attendance at Government schools and colleges is, and will be, purely voluntary; that Christian principles forbid the employment of fraud, bribery, or coercion of any kind whatever, as the means of inducing men to profess the Christian faith, and allow to every man the free exercise of his choice or conscience in religious matters; and that in conformity with these principles none of the rights or usages of the Hindoo or Mahometan religions will be interfered with, unless at variance with humanity and public decency.

Finally, your Majesty's memorialists humbly submit to your Majesty that there can be no fitter time for inaugurating these changes than when the armies of England have gained a signal triumph through the blessing of Almighty God, and British authority in India appears again in its strength and confidence.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

The *Record* announces that a numerous and influential deputation of lay members of the Church of England waited on the Archbishop of Canterbury on Friday afternoon in reference to the recent inhibition of preaching by clergymen of the Established Church in Exeter Hall. The reception took place in the library at Lambeth Palace. Among those present