

the country were conveyed away by false pretences or secret means, and few would have reached Trebizond but for the corruption of the Russian commanders, who received an addition to their wretched incomes by the reward of their connivance. The attention of the British Ambassador has been especially directed to this subject, and after many representations, he has succeeded in obtaining firmness, worded in the most stringent language, for the total abolition of the Circassian and Georgian slave-trade. Not only may the women be taken and set at liberty, so far as a Musulman female can be free, but the dealer will be subject to the punishment of a grave offence. Whether the extinction of a white or concubine slavery, will follow this edict, it is difficult to say. Turkey is the country of high sounding reforms never carried into practice, and imperial orders execute only where a foreign representative is present to urge on their enforcement. But no doubt the Porte and its advisers are in earnest, and the trade will cease for the present as far as Constantinople is concerned.

QUEBEC, Nov. 7.—Last night on the suggestion of Mr. Hinks, the Legislative Assembly came to an understanding to vote a sum of money, to be applied to the relief of the widows and orphans of Soldiers of the Army who have fallen or may fall in the present War.—The amount would probably be \$100,000. Private subscriptions are also making for that purpose in Canada.

Editorial.

SYNOCDICAL ACTION.

We have never seen an objection to the Synodical principle that ought to weigh for a moment on the mind of a conscientious Episcopalian, desirous to assist in perfecting the ecclesiastical polity of his Church: indeed it seems to be generally conceded as one that ought to regulate not only the Church, but all government constituted upon the broad basis of securing the greatest happiness to the greatest number. The principle appears never to have been acted upon before the Apostolic age. It was left for a time when all things were fulfilled which the Prophets had foretold concerning the redemption of mankind—when all old things had passed away, and all things had become new—for the infant Church to show in the elements of her organization, an example of government adapted alike to the ecclesiastical and civil requirements of society—a type of what the nations are now aiming at as forming the just counterbalance of power, but which scarcely one, with the exception of our own favoured England, has ever attained to. It is remarkable, that when the Church departed from the primitive simplicity of her government, and it was in a great measure lost, the mercy of God raised up our nation, to attain by slow degrees, to a perfection of civil polity which of itself will mainly conduce to guide the Church back again to her original excellence. For seventeen centuries, it may be said, has the Church, by her declension into Antichristian and schismatic error, forfeited, or been deprived of the privilege, by her organization, of being a model for the best system of secular administration—a striking lesson to mankind, showing that however easy it may be to wander from the right path, and to become bewildered in devious ways, that it is difficult indeed to retrace the various complications, or to find the lost track, by the highest efforts of human wisdom. Still, the proof is extant, after the interval of ages, that Apostolic order and Constitutional Government, are very nearly synonymous terms—and that the operation of either, as it relates to Church or State, is that of a system of the greatest perfection of which our fallen nature is capable—while a departure from them, on the other hand, realises all those consequences which follow a violation of rules which unerring Wisdom has appointed for the proper guidance of the human family.

But it has been said, and arguments have been attempted in support of the assertion, that the full time has not arrived when Synods should be held in the Provincial Church. One class of objectors would wait to receive them at the hands of Her Most Gracious Majesty—although they are the inherent right of the Church in all circumstances, independent of any earthly potentate. Another, allege, that no proceedings of the body assembled to form a Synod, can be binding upon those who dissent from them—forgetting that in this respect we are in no worse position than other denominations. One would have us to wait the passing of the Colossal Church Bill—as though we ought to acknowledge the heterogeneous Imperial Parliament as supreme head of the Church, and should subject ourselves to the tender mercies of a body, nearly one half of whom may be said to be inimical to Church principles. Another, have so poor an opinion of their fellows and themselves, as to imagine that a Synod would be the mere creature of the Bishop of the diocese, and only of use to sanction his acts, however arbitrary. The most absurd, fear that Synods would bring upon us the very evils

they are intended to rectify. These, and such as these, constitute the main objections to an Ecclesiastical management, where the Bishops, Clergy and Laity, form three separate branches, and the consent of all is necessary, to make rules for the better guidance of the Church in her temporalities and discipline. Now it is time for any thing when a necessity exists that it should be done; and it is the time to supply that which is needed when it can be done to the best advantage; and we may go further and say, that it is quite time that Churchmen should assert their right, when that is opposed, or unfair obstacles are presented to its requirement. The necessity is so generally understood, that it does not need a word of observation. Our youthful condition, while we have full freedom of action, with no complicated Church interests to reconcile, no just grounds to fear any evil consequences, is certainly the best time to establish in their purity, and to take care that they are so established, those religious privileges, lay as well as clerical, which as Episcopalians we have a right to enjoy, and which we cannot possess until the Church, complete as she is in her orders, has a competent ecclesiastical organization to make their working harmonious and efficacious. With reference to the third reason, it is always time for action, when great interests are thwarted or unjustly impeded—and that time had arrived in the Colonial Church, when the State disavowing its claims as part of the Establishment, and consigning it to an equality of condition with every other Christian profession, left it exposed and defenceless. Thanks to many causes of attachment, but chiefly to the noble Societies which have sprung up in the Church of England, the bond of union has not been severed,—and it may be hoped that the Colonial Branch of the United Church of England and Ireland, is now in a condition to influence in some degree the restoration to the Mother Church of that full ecclesiastical authority, that will enable her to regulate her own household, to the satisfaction of the realm, and with benefit to every part of the habitable earth to which her ministers shall carry the glad tidings of salvation. W. G.

It is due to the Clerical Editor of the Church Times, as well as to its Proprietor, to notice, that the Paper during the last four issues, this day's inclusive, in the absence of the former has been conducted by the latter; and that the Clerical Editor is in no wise responsible (except in the Colloge articles, addressed to P. C. Hill, Esq. and an extract or so of little moment,) for either the original or selected matter.

We observe in the Colonist of Thursday last, an extract from an English paper, on the subject of Church Synods. The author apprehends confusion in the Church from their adoption, and seems to be totally oblivious of such a body as General Convocation. We need only look to their operation in a neighbouring country, for a proof of the fallacy of his reasoning. Nor does it follow that the practice would alienate the Colonial Church from that of the Mother Country; in fact, if we take again the example of the United States, we shall see in the success of the practice that it tends to promote Christian unity, and to draw more closely together their mutual relations. And so it will be in the Colonies. Its result in them will be, that in a short time they will become worthy allies instead of dependent offshoots. We regret that "A Churchman" does not entertain more enlarged and elevated views of the destinies of his Church, which would make him more earnest for the establishment of Synods, than speculative upon their influence.

We publish *Crito's* second letter, because unwilling to refuse insertion to any communication on the subject to which it refers, when the language and style is unobjectionable; but we would remind our correspondent that brevity is desired. After a careful perusal it appears to us that his argument might have been comprehended in much less space, and that it is based upon a groundless assumption. The sum of the letter is this. Every Clergyman takes the Oath of Supremacy—the Clergy cannot meet to consult about the affairs of the Church without being guilty of perjury. Is *Crito* serious in this? We would recommend a careful perusal of the said Oath. It will be found that it is only an abjuration of the power of the pope, whether in things temporal or spiritual. But perhaps he has made a mistake, and intends to refer to the Article in the 36 James, in which it is stated that the "Queen's Majesty under God is the only Supreme Governor of this Realm and of all other Her Highness's Dominions and Countries, as well in all Spiritual or Ecclesiastical things or causes as Temporal." This however is only subscribed, and no Oath is taken to it. But without insisting upon this distinction, we ask what this can have to do with

Assemblies for the settlement of our own local affairs? Why, it is equally potent to prevent any Parish Meeting, and still more any general meeting of the D. C. S. It is not proposed to interfere with the constitution or order of the Church of England, but only to supply a deficiency, so as to adapt ourselves to our particular circumstances; and with this view we believe, notwithstanding *Crito's* assertions, that what has lately been decided at Halifax may lead to very beneficial results.

We have copied from the *British Canadian* of Oct. 15, an Upper Canada paper, an account of the first and second day's proceedings of the Church Synod convened at Toronto. They will be found interesting to our readers generally.

An able document on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, by the Lord Bishop of Toronto, has just issued from the press of Upper Canada. It is also published at length in the Toronto Church of Oct. 26. We shall probably allude to it in our next number.

The Funeral of the late Hon. H. H. Cogswell took place on Tuesday last, with many demonstrations of respect, although it rained incessantly. At a meeting of the Bench and Bar on the Saturday previous, at which the Honble the Chief Justice presided, Resolutions to attend the funeral in a body, to wear crapes for one month and of sympathy with his family, were passed.

Our obituary last week announced the death of Joseph Whidden, Esq. Clerk of the House of Assembly, and a barrister of much early promise. His funeral took place on Monday last. Resolutions similar to those on the occasion of Mr. Cogswell's death, were also passed at the meeting of the Bench and Bar, the previous Saturday.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

DIGBY VIA YARMOUTH.

[By Telegraph to Merchants' Reading Room.]

The Steamer from St. John, N. B., arrived at Digby, on Wednesday evening, with the following European intelligence.

Steamship Atlantic, arrived at New York on Monday at noon.

The siege of Sebastopol was progressing favourably—two Forts had been destroyed.

A breach had been made but it was not yet practicable to storm.

Prussia had sent a Note to the Czar, requesting his acceptance of the terms of the four powers.

Flour has declined 2s. per barrel. Wheat has declined 6d. per bushel.

On Tuesday, His Honor the Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty, in the case of the ship *Creole*, seized by Capt Campbell, for infraction of the Fishery Treaty, gave a very elaborate decision in favour of the Defendants, who clearly showed that they were British subjects, that the vessel had never lost its character as a British vessel; and that they were entitled to all the privileges of fishing on British territory. His Honor the Judge justified the seizure on the ground of the very suspicious circumstances connected with the vessel, and which could only be removed by a judicial investigation. He thought that if the matter were fully represented to the House of Assembly, they would grant the Defendants the amount of costs incurred in their defence, and such other remuneration as they might be entitled to.—*Chronicle*.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in Council, has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

William H. Rogers, Esq., to be a Commissioner for taking Affidavits and Recognizances of Bail, and for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, for the County of Cumberland.

Rev. John Stannage, to be a Commissioner of Schools for the Western District of Halifax, vice Rev W. R. Cochrane, removed.

Daniel Dimock, Esq., to be one of the Coroners for the County of Lunenburg, vice James Thomson, Esq., resigned.

Benjamin J. Cochrane, Esq., to be one of the Coroners for the County of Annapolis, vice Asa Foster, deceased.

Thomas Kenny Cragg, Esq., to be a Justice of the Peace for the County of Lunenburg.

James M. Lent, Esq., to be a Justice of the Peace for the County of Yarmouth.

James M. Lent, Esq., to be one of the Commissioners of Schools for the District of Argyle, in the County of Yarmouth.

Robert G. Halliburton, Esq. to be a Notary and Tabellion Public.

THE BISHOP thanks those persons who have kindly sent some of the Reports of the S. P. G. required to complete the Set for the Decade of Clergy, and at the same time repeats his request to the Clergy and others throughout the Diocese, to endeavor to procure and to forward to Mr. Gossip the numbers still missing, for the years 1780, and all of earlier date, 1783, 1787, 1792, 1797, 1800, 1804, 1806, 1807, 1837-8.