

Correspondence.

SONGS OF THE CHURCH.

No. 47.
THE CHURCH ON THE SEA
PART II.

"So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, he delivereth them out of their distress. For he maketh the storm to cease so that the waves thereof are still."
Psalm ciii, 28, 29.

Thou temple of the Lord Most High,
We make this spacious dome,
Its canopy the arching sky,
Its floor the Ocean's foam.

Deep calling to the answering deep.
Is vocal with a song;
And the wild waves that o'er us sweep,
The rapturous strain prolong.

Our altar is the rolling Deck,
As on our course we fly;
Or on the fragment of the wreck,
When stranded deep we lie.

Far from the land which gave us birth,
The home of early love;
Cut off from all our friends on earth,
We look to One above.

Our Friend and Father who controls
The earth, and sea, and sky,
Our loving Lord on whom our souls
In confidence rely.

We need not fear when Thou art nigh,
Thine arm salvation brings;
We cannot perish while we lie
Beneath Thy sheltering wings. W. D.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

THE LAST DAY.

Oh! "Day, for which all other days were made,"
Since Time's first course began!
Whose pomp shall cast all other pomps in shade!
Greatest of days that man
E'er look'd upon, since Adam saw arise
The first bright morn in Eden's cloudless skies.

How shall the day preceding thee be pass'd?
In preparation meet
For the great summons, when the trumpet's blast
Sounds o'er the crowded street,
And o'er the lonely wilderness, and where
The boundless ocean meets the boundless air?

Will those—the living—breathing—ready be
For Thy approach sublime,
When the vast Ocean of Eternity
Submergeth that of Time;
When trembling Earth doth to her centre quake,
And all the powers that be in Heaven shake?

When sackcloth seems to veil the sun's bright face,
And blood to stain the moon;
And atmosphere meteors fiercely blaze,
Forming the only noon:
And mountains melt beneath the fervent heat,
And boiling surges to their depths retreat?

When Ocean's teeming breadth shall covered be
With forms of living men,
From the Antarctic to the Arctic sea,
(No longer frozen then.)
All rising at the startling summons dread,
Blown from the trumpet, "Thou sea, give up thy dead."

"Behold, Earth her myriads casting from the tomb,—
The dead of yesterday,
And those of ages,—on the fiery gloom,
Shall gaze in sad dismay,
Or look with ecstasy—till in the air,
The Judge shall on His great white Throne appear?"

No! men will marry, and in marriage give,
And they will buy and sell.
And feast, and merry-make, and careless live—
As if no gloomy hell,
Or glorious Heaven existed! and no day
Like that one, then so near, were on its way.

Oh! day of rapture and felicity!
Of horror, too, and fear!
May my replenish'd lamp bright burning be,
When, "Lo, the Bridegroom's near,
Go forth to meet Him!" sounding through the earth,
In thunder, calls the "wise" and "foolish" forth.
Shelburne. A. B.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

MR. EDITOR.—A few days ago in company with a friend, I left the city, to enjoy a few hours drive in the country. The farmers on the Peninsula were working with much cheerfulness and activity, produced doubtless, by the abundant hay crop with which their labors have been rewarded. The scenery round the North West Arm at this season, is indeed picturesque and entertaining, and its effect is much enhanced

by the numerous lakes in the vicinity. It is impossible to pass the latter, without feeling how much benefit has been derived from them by the Citizens of Halifax, through the instrumentality of the Water Company.

Leaving the post road to Chester, we travelled towards Turn's Bay, or Terence Bay, lying about one mile distant from Prospect. The latter part of the road is in rather a bad state, but from the improvement going on, promise is given that all difficulties will be speedily removed. The settlement is inhabited by a number of Fishermen in the employ of Mr. Charles Lordly, who has erected for them a number of comfortable dwellings, established a school for the children, and done much to add to the appearance of the place. A spacious Episcopal Church will be erected on a prominent site, in August, and will be seen from vessels approaching the coast, and from the main road passing the head of Mackerel Cove. This Cove is about three miles long, rather narrow, and bears a very appropriate name, if one may judge from the quantities of mackerel which frequent its waters. The land on one side is covered with trees, while on the other nothing is to be seen but huge rocks, piled heap on heap, in many places surmounted with smaller ones, apparently ready at the least touch, to roll into the depths below.

We arrived at the Bay late in the evening, the people having finished their day's work. The boats were moored, the seines covered, and every thing in readiness for the labours of the next day. As we passed along, two fishermen were sitting on the road side, consulting together on the result of their labours; and the thought at once occurred—can it be possible that Nova Scotia Legislators will ever barter away for any thing that may conveniently be called an equivalent, those invaluable appurtenances of our country—the Fisheries—the only stay of that large and industrious class who line our coasts, and one of the chief sources of our country's wealth. Nothing could justify such wanton, wholesale disregard of dearest rights and privileges, as such conduct would betray. May the time never come when the poor Fisherman, who after a day of toil, sits down to a scanty evening meal, and endures privations that others know not of, will feel that by the intrusion of foreigners, almost to his very hearth stone, even small and hardly earned comforts are denied them.

It must be gratifying to you, sir, being as I learned the first Protestant Clergyman by whom this place was visited, to observe the improvements going on there. By these means the prosperity of the people will be increased, and even in this small spot much may be done to add to the general welfare of the Province.

Yours, M. B. D.

Dartmouth, July 27, 1853.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1853.

HOUSE OF REFUGE

FOR THOSE WHO ARE DESTITUTE OF REPUTABLE HOMES.

WE have just met with a paper (not sent to us) with the above title, and signed by twelve Ministers of various denominations, and dated 5th May last, strongly recommending an effort for the reformation of an unfortunate and too numerous class in this city, who seem to be by general consent consigned to irretrievable ruin. We most cordially approve of the object set forth in this paper, portions of which we subjoin, and we believe there is no house more wanted at this present time than the said House of Refuge.

The person who shall be led to devote a share of his substance to the raising of such an establishment need not fear being accused, in the great day of account, of "wasting his master's goods."—Much as a Lunatic Asylum is required, much as an Hospital is wanted, we conceive that, when we look at the question in the light of Eternity, an asylum for rescuing hundreds of the one sex from a life of infamy, and everlasting destruction, and for shutting up from the others numerous sources of temptation no less destructive to them, is the most important of all.

Better would it be that the disordered minds of our afflicted fellow creatures should so remain,—better that the bodily diseases of suffering humanity should continue without a place for their cure, than that the bodies and the souls of those wretched outcasts should be suffered to pass into inevitable destruction, with no hand put forth to save them, and no effort to remove this foul and loathsome moral leprosy from our midst.

We remember that several years ago, a benevolent project of this nature was set on foot, and we believe a large sum subscribed under the ministry of the lamented Rev. Wm. Cogswell, of beloved memory, but we know not why it was then abandoned. We should think that there need be no difficulty in setting up such an establishment on a small scale at first, and after an experience of its beneficial tendency, we are sure the funds would be forthcoming for its enlargement. But we abstain from further remarks at present, and give the words of the Prospectus.

Inquiries have recently been instituted respecting this class of persons, which lead to the belief that their number, and the difficulties surrounding their escape from a life of pollution greatly exceed what is generally supposed. The reproach attending their condition renders their reception into respectable houses, as servants, almost impossible; and the alternative appears, in many cases, to lie between a continuance in their present life, and perishing in the streets.

Particular conversation with many individuals of this class has been lately had in this City, under the direction of the City Mission, which confirms this view of their condition, and at the same time justifies the belief that some of them, at least, would gladly escape their pernicious life, if any suitable retreat were offered.

A respectable Clergyman of this City, recently found at his door a person of this class, who had, it appears, called in vain at several other places, to seek for service, and who wished to reform her life, but asked emphatically, "What could she do?"

Another case was recently met with of a young person, who, for the same purpose, had called fruitlessly at no less than twenty places.

Another honored Clergyman of this City now deceased, is known by his friends, to have been induced, from the necessity of the case, to take a person of this class into his house, who became thoroughly penitent and reformed, and now deservedly enjoys a character of the utmost respectability.

Among such persons the Saviour of the world was frequently found, labouring to imbue them with the principles of virtue and of salvation; and the distressing increase of Infanticide in this community of late, gives painful evidence of the urgent need for some strenuous effort towards reclaiming this unhappy portion of our fellow creatures.

It is now proposed to seek funds, to a moderate amount, by personal application to the various Congregations, to be placed in the hands of suitable persons of acknowledged reputation, who will constitute a Provisional Committee for the procuring and putting under proper regulation in this City, a HOUSE OF REFUGE FOR THE PENITENT, AND OF SAFETY FOR THOSE WHOSE HOMELESS CONDITION EXPOSES THEM TO THE DANGER OF A VICIOUS LIFE; to commence such Establishment on the most moderate scale, and to enlarge its extent only as success and public approbation shall warrant.

We observe in our Quebec exchanges the following obituary notice of the death of Sir James Stuart, Bart., Chief Justice of Lower Canada. He and his brother, the late Archdeacon of Kingston, C.W., received their early education at Windsor under the late Rev. Dr. Cochran, prior to the granting of the Royal Charter, and we believe they both had the degree of D. C. L. conferred upon them by order of the Governors of King's College.

"The Honorable Chief Justice, Sir James Stuart, Baronet, died this morning. Sir James has been declining for some time past. Having gone to Europe for the benefit of his health, he returned lately to this country much improved. Time was however too much for climate, and that which France and Italy had done, ago again undid. Sir James had not been long at home when he began again to get frail, and a day or two ago became so very seriously ill, that he could not take his seat as President of the Court of Appeals. The painful result of this illness is the death of a most distinguished politician, and an able and upright Judge, one whose like Canada may never see again."

D. C. S.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of D. C. S. June 17, 1853, the following Report was received:

"The Sub Committee appointed to invest the Fund for the Endowment of the Bishopric beg to report, that subsequently to the last meeting of the Executive Committee they have invested the sum of fifteen hundred pounds on a very eligible property in the City of Halifax, secured by bond and mortgage on the premises, with interest at the rate of five pounds ten shillings per cent per annum, payable half yearly. There is also £250 in deposit receipts from the Halifax Banking Company, at 3 per cent interest, besides a small amount in the hands of the Treasurer of the Committee.

EDWIN GILPIN, Jun.,

Sec'y D. C. S.

LOCAL AND OTHER ITEMS.

The Supreme Court has set aside the verdict in Dr Gesner's Asphalt Case.

Mr. Edmund Ward, well known in this Province for many years as the Publisher of the Free Press, and other defunct periodicals, is publishing in the Sun "Notes by the Way" of a tour he is now taking through the Canadas. They contain much information interesting and important to travellers in that direction.

It is said that by the railroad just opened from Portland to Montreal, the journey is performed in 12 hours, and the fare is six dollars.

The waters of Lake Ontario, are higher by three feet, than they have been known to be before—the cause of which puzzles the scientific.

Several persons have been held to bail at St. John, N. B. as engaged in the late outrage in that neighbourhood, as noted in our last:—