

Synod. The clergy and laity should meet and deliberate together, not being presided over by the Bishop. One of the senior Archdeacons or Canons might preside. There must be no restraint on discussion—there must be a free and uncontrolled expression of opinion. To ensure this, it is desirable that the Bishop should not be in the Synod. There would be nothing to fear from such a constitution. A sense of duty and personal responsibility would tend necessarily to promote good feeling, and dispose all to devote their energies to the general benefit of our Church.

(Conclusion next week.)

Correspondence.

CHESTER, Novr. 28, 1857.

To the Editor of the Church Times,

Sir,—Knowing that many of your readers are interested in the welfare and progress of any Society for the improvement and edification of our people, I beg leave to send you a brief statement of the past year's proceedings and present prospects of the Church of England Young Men's Christian Association of this place.

During the past year the following Lectures were delivered:

By the Revd. C. J. Shreve, President, 4, viz.—Electricity, Fulfilled Prophecy, Prophecy in connection with Turkey, and Temperance.

Revd. R. Payne, V. P., 5, viz.—Benefits of Scientific Knowledge, Pneumatics, (with experiments,) Study of Nature, and two on the Early History of the Jews.

By M. B. Deabrisay, Esq. V. P., 1—Importance of Youth.

By A. F. Morgan, Sec'y, 1—Electricity.

By Wm. Pearson, Esq., 2—Life, Death.

It is only due to the Lecturers to state, that the lectures were well calculated for the objects of the Association, and that our warmest thanks are due those Gentlemen for their zealous efforts in our behalf.

We have still to regret a deficiency of scientific apparatus so necessary for illustration at lectures. Our air pump is almost useless for want of requisite apparatus, although we very nearly exhausted our funds for its purchase. As our subscriptions are small I might perhaps be excused for this allusion to our deficiency, and for intimating to those able and willing to assist us, that donations for this purpose will be thankfully received. Our Library has been well circulated, and I trust to the lasting benefit of our Members. An addition to our volumes is much needed; and I would intimate that any spare volumes from well filled shelves would be of much service among our Members.

We numbered 33 Members during the past year; and altho' this is small compared with the number of those in this vicinity who have not connected themselves with us—yet as this is the day of small things, we would be thankful and take courage. We commenced the new year under discouragement, arising partly from the pressure of the times and a falling off of Members for that season; but we are now thankfully enabled to perceive some indication of a change for the better. A number are resolved to rally around the standard floating over us, and to do all that they are able to increase their numbers.

Apologizing for encroaching so far on your time and patience, and hoping that the time is near when kindred Societies will be established throughout this county, I remain,

Your obt. servt.

A. F. MORGAN, Sec'y.

News Department.

Extracts from Papers by Steamer America.

ENGLAND.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts have drawn up a statement anticipatory of the meeting to be presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury, with a view to the extension of the Episcopate in India, upon which the appeal to the public in aid of the new movement will be based. This statement has received the sanction of the Archbishops and Bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland, the Duke of Buccleugh, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Harrowby, Earl Nelson, Lord Lytton, Lord Wensleydale, Mr. Gladstone, M. P., Mr. Justice Coleridge, Vice Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, Sir John Patteson, M. P., Mr. Mowbray, M. P., Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, the Dean of Westmin-

ster, the Dean of Norwich, the Dean of Canterbury, Mr. Puller, M. P., Sir H. Dukenfield, Archdeacon Hale, Archdeacon Sinclair, and other noblemen and gentlemen who compose the council of the society. They stated that the see of Calcutta was erected in 1814, and that in 1834 an Act of Parliament was passed, enabling the Crown to erect two new sees at Madras and Bombay. The extreme length of the diocese of Calcutta in a straight line from Peshawur to Singapore is nearly 3,000 miles, almost as great as the distance from London to Jerusalem. It is proposed to subdivide this diocese by the erection of two additional sees—one for the North-west Provinces and another for the Punjab. The North-west Provinces with Oude would form a diocese about 500 miles in length, and containing an area of 109,000 square miles, with a population of 34,000,000—a diocese which would be 19,000 square miles larger than the whole of Great Britain. The diocese for the Punjab would be almost as large as Great Britain, its extreme length from Umballah to Peshawur being about 470 miles, and its area 86,000 square miles, with a population of 13,000,000. It is also proposed to subdivide the diocese of Madras, by the erection of a see near Tinnevely, the most southern district of India. The Bishop would be a missionary Bishop living in the middle of a diocese where there are few Europeans, and of which almost every part would be within a day's journey. The income required for such a see would be much less than in the case of a Bishop residing at Madras or Bombay, with vast distances to travel in every direction. There can be no doubt (says the official statement) that if her Majesty's Government shall think fit to recommend the appointment of a Bishop for Tinnevely, the necessary funds will be cheerfully contributed by the supporters of English missions. The three bishoprics, therefore, which the meeting on the 26th will recommend for immediate formation are, one at Agra, for the North-west Provinces; one at Lahore, for the Punjab; and one at Palamcotta for the missionary province of Tinnevely.

The panic bears unexpected fruit in the shape of a short session of Parliament before Christmas. The two Houses meet on the 3rd of December, for the special purpose of passing a Bill of indemnity, and with little time for straying off into more inviting subjects. But men will talk when they meet together, of what is uppermost in their minds. *Postquam introgressi et coram data copia fundi*, we shall probably find that India produces a multitude of questions and more than one great speech.—*Guardian*.

The *Maidstone Journal* states that there is again a report in ecclesiastical circles that the Bishop of Rochester, who was consecrated in 1813, will, in the course of a few weeks, resign his see. Nearly two years ago the Bishop said, when addressing his clergy—

“Notwithstanding the co-operation I have received from the clergy, and more especially from the Archdeacons and the Rural Deans, I shall feel deeply the responsibilities which rest upon me—so much so, in fact, that if I were permitted to resign my charge I should gratefully accept the relief it would afford me, under the anxieties occasioned by the duties of my office—duties which, in this extensive diocese, require a degree of activity, both of mind and body, which is incompatible with advanced age and increasing infirmities.

The “special services” about to recommence at Exeter Hall have been stopped by a notice from the incumbent of the small district in which the concert room lies. The impediment starts up at once so abruptly and so late, and issues from such an unexpected quarter, that the incident has a touch of the ludicrous, though nothing can be less ludicrous in fact than a remonstrance by a clergyman against his Bishop's setting up an unconsecrated “place of worship”—a pulpit for *undequaque* preachers—in the parish of which he has charge, without even asking his consent and hard by his own church doors. The question on which both parties appeal to the law is simply whether, either with or without the help of Lord Shaftesbury's Act, the Bishop has power to do this or no.—*Guardian*.

The authorities at the War office have it in contemplation to send a large body of stewards, ward-masters, and orderlies of the Medical Staff Corps to Alexandria, for the purpose of being employed in the transit of the troops who are proceeding overland to India, and also of rendering assistance to the sick and wounded soldiers who are returning to England.

The American engineers, who undertook by means of a special apparatus to raise the Russian ships of war sunk in the Harbour of Sebastopol, have given it up and returned to Constantinople, declaring that their contract cannot be performed,

except at an enormously disproportionate cost. It appears that the River Tobernaya has brought down immense quantities of silt and gravel, which being accumulated in the harbour, the ships are now embedded in this deposit, and cannot without much labour be extricated.

With the exception of five or six firms, the whole of the cotton manufactories and spinning wheels in Preston are now either closed altogether or working short time.

The Rev. Mr. Hanna preached again on Sunday last in Belfast, from the old scene of his labors, the Custom-house steps. He had a congregation of 2,000. There were no riots at that spot, but in other parts of the district the former animosities manifested themselves, though not seriously.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1857.

WE published a fortnight ago, a communication signed “An Obstructive, so called” with reference to an expression applied to the intrusion into the Diocese of another Society; and followed it up with a few explanatory remarks in reply, and to justify our use of the term. They were not intended to excite controversy, but to lead to the consideration whether it were not much better to pursue the interests of the Church in this Diocese by an united effort, than to endeavour to promote them by separate and divided Societies. Our correspondent under another signature, has sent a second article, in which he loses sight altogether of the design of our remarks, and pursues the subject in a strain more calculated to increase division than to promote that unity of action which for many reasons would be so desirable. We do not think it would be at all assisting the object of our previous observations were we to publish the article we have received, which might perhaps provoke a warm controversy, but could lead to no practical amendment in the direction we desire. Giving our correspondent, therefore, full credit for his zeal in behalf of the C. C. & S. S., and for his preference of its working, and desire to forward its operations, we are yet sorry that he does not seem disposed to reconcile the division which exists, and the strife and contention which we fear, by an amalgamation, so to speak, of its objects, with those of the D. C. S. so that both might be prosecuted under one Diocesan organization. All our suggestions and remarks have been dictated by the hope that this attainment is not impossible—and we do not therefore think that any part of our observations with reference to the C. C. & S. S. claim notice upon any other grounds—nor should we consider ourselves justified in leading our readers away from its contemplation, by discussing the question whether the Society at home controlled its servants, or the Bishop here. For the rest, we have no desire to cast any reflection whatever upon the legitimate operations of the Colonial Church and School Society, nor to detract from the character to which it is fairly entitled, nor to misrepresent either the Society or its work.

R. M. STEAMER AMERICA.

THE news by the R. M. Steamer *America* from England, is a confirmation of all the previous telegraphic despatches, with full details of the recapture of Delhi and the relief of Lucknow. In addition to what we have already published, the following particulars will be found interesting:—

“A scene of carnage and desolation was presented by the guilty and devoted city. Women and children—rushing about with wild distraction—everywhere protected. The non-combatants received safe conduct out of the city. The rebels had shown no mercy—they looked for, and they met with none. According to the correspondent of the *Daily News*:—

“The people of the city came into camp and sought protection from the army, craving pardon, and disavowing all participation in the rebellion, saying that they were compelled to remain prisoners in the city, and denying having taken any active part in the insurrection. They were told to prove their loyalty by removing the bodies of the dead Sepoys, which work they at once commenced, and were clearing the city of them apparently with right good will. It was a necessary labor; for heaps of mangled bodies covered the roads in all directions, on the streets and in the ruined houses. The city, as far as we had gone, exhibited little else but ruins, from the midst of which helpless women, unmolested, it is said, by our soldiers, rushed frantic and wild. Dogged resistance still met us in the narrow thoroughfares, in which our troops fought from house to house. Forty and fifty men were sometimes found congregated in one building, and of these, when encountered, our soldiers spared no single soul.