

one generation—I have therefore put down the comparative statement and send it to you for your columns, that at this season of thankfulness for past mercies, it may take its place in the list of blessings for which churchmen should offer unto God thanksgiving for the past, while they strive and stangle—trusting in Him for the future.

Table with 3 columns: Year (1819, 1851), Increase, and Clergy count. Rows include New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, N. York, etc.

Beside, there are now eleven dioceses which had not been any Church Clergyman in them, but which now contain 204 clergymen, viz:

Table with 2 columns: State (Tennessee, Mississippi, Michigan, Alabama, Illinois, Florida) and Clergy count (17, 17, 34, 23, 30, 8).

So that, in one generation, the Church has grown from 281 Clergymen to 1595 Clergymen, showing an addition of 1314 clergymen, nearly a six-fold increase. The congregations have increased in about the same proportion.—Banner of the Cross.

Communication.

[We deem it necessary to follow the example of the London Church periodicals, and to apprise our readers that we are not responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.—Ed. Ch.]

To the Editor of the Church.

Parsonage, Cornwall, Feb. 10th, 1851.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—In common I doubt not, with many of the readers of The Church, I was much pleased with the excellent letter of our respected brother, the Rev. W. S. Darling, describing the manner in which his congregations had been endeavouring to carry out the Scriptural principle, which "the Lord himself hath ordained, that they who preach the Gospel, should live of the Gospel." I have also just read your Editorial, suggested by that letter, with the general tenor of which, I need scarcely add, that I also most fully concur.

When, however, you state your objections to donation parties, as "inferring an unnecessary and unprofitable expenditure both of time and money, on the part of the clerical recipients;" and leading them "to expend a large percentage of the value of the offerings tendered to them in exercising hospitality towards their guests," it becomes very evident, (independent of your admission of the fact) that you have never had a donation party yourself. In reply to your objections, and for the benefit of others, permit me, then, to mention what has happened to myself.

In addition to my congregation in the town of Cornwall, (the members of which pay annually a stipulated sum from the pew rents towards the support of their clergyman) I have also a congregation at Moultonette, a small village seven miles distant, where every Sunday afternoon I officiate with much pleasure to an orderly, attentive and devout congregation. Their number is but small, yet there are amongst them those who appear to appreciate their spiritual privileges, and are grateful to the humble instrument by whom God is pleased to convey those privileges to them. For two successive winters, between twenty and thirty of the heads of families belonging to this congregation, have paid to their pastor and family a visit, both pleasing and profitable. They arrived about seven p.m., in some seven or eight sleighs, which, besides the kindly disposed visitors, contained also a miscellaneous, but goodly collection of things useful in house-keeping, such as tea, coffee, sugar, hams, cheese, wine, oats, wheat, corn, raisins, &c. After tea, we had about an hour's agreeable conversation, and then, as all the choir was present, we were entertained with music, both vocal and instrumental. At ten o'clock the whole party united with us in family prayers, and then returned to their respective homes, apparently pleased with the manner in which the evening had been passed, while for ourselves, to say the least, we were no less so.

Now, as the time spent on the donation party by the Clergyman himself, only amounts to one evening in the course of the year, the expenditure cannot be regarded as very extravagant; and when these parties are properly conducted, I very much doubt whether he spends many other evenings in the year more profitably than that which has such a happy tendency to promote a kindly feeling of attachment between a clergyman and his people, who are thus brought together on terms of social and friendly intercourse, in a manner which neither lowers his position, nor diminishes their esteem and respect. I am indeed sensible that the system may be abused, and that these donation parties, instead of being useful, social and rational reunions between a pastor and his flock, may degenerate into a mere frolic for the young, who may meet on such occasions to spend the evening in dancing, and other frivolous amusements, such donation parties I should greatly disapprove of, as tending, indeed, to lower the position of a clergyman, and to weaken his moral influence in his parish. Other proceedings I have also heard of, such as bazaar-like money-raising, coffee, and other refreshments; collecting whole parties for entering particular rooms, &c., the merry-making gatherings to be reconcilable with my ideas of what these meetings ought to be.

But to return to your objections, that which you have raised on the score of expense to the clergyman, in providing for the hospitable entertainment of the party, has no existence in fact, inasmuch as the whole of the refreshments, including tea, sugar, butter, coffee and cakes is provided in most abundant measure by the committee of ladies, without one farthing's expense to the clerical recipient. Then, again, there is not the slightest cause to fear that the clergyman would be rendered feverishly uncomfortable, and nervously sunk in his own esteem, on account of the quality of the viands set before the guests. When any of our friends are kind enough to visit us, we endeavour to set before them the best we

have, but we certainly have never attempted to grace our tea table with such a profusion of good things as were displayed upon at the last donation party, when the variety of rolls, cakes and preserves rendered it very difficult and tantalizing to select, while the whole was ornamented with a handsome pyramid of cakes in the centre, beautifully iced, and decorated on the top with a pretty bouquet of artificial flowers. Oh! dear Mr. Editor, I can assure you, that in face of such a display your objections would speedily vanish. I trust, at all events, that I have now met your two chief objections with regard to time and expense, and I would submit, whether the donation party may not, after all, be as unexceptionable as the "sleigh system," which you have so deservedly lauded. But, indeed, my object in writing to you is not to discuss the merits of the donation, versus the "sleigh system," as you term it, but rather "componere hanc litem," to settle the dispute, by proposing a compromise between the two systems, on the basis of uniting in one, the chief features of each.

There may be, as you suppose, some, who would hesitate to give at a donation party, from "a feeling of false shame," because unable to give as much as others, who have more abundant means, but are perhaps not more kindly disposed towards their pastor. In order then to give to such persons the opportunity of contributing according to their means, let the "sleigh system" be combined with the donation party system.

I know but little of the mode of getting up these parties, but I believe the plan is, for several members of the congregation to meet at the house of one of the parties, to organize their system of operations. To this end they appoint committees of management, consisting, the one, of a certain number of ladies, who are to preside over the refreshment department, and the other of gentlemen, who are to invite the attendance and co-operation of the other members of the congregation. Now, in order to combine the essential principles of both plans, how easy would it be for the latter committee when going their rounds, to give notice of the intended donation party, to take their sleighs with them, and thus collect the contributions of those, who, from any cause, might feel either diffident, reluctant, or unable to attend personally, and yet would rejoice in the opportunity being afforded them of manifesting (even by the small offerings they might be able to make), the kindly feelings they entertained towards their clergyman.

I have written at this length, chiefly, (as already remarked) for the benefit of others, as I have long thought that some such system might be extended more generally amongst our rural parishes with very good effect. There are many congregations unable to contribute much money towards their clergyman's support, who could yet very easily furnish from their united resources, a most respectable amount of hay, wood, oats, flour, hams, poultry, and many other specimens of the produce of their farms, which are all very useful in a family, and to supply which, occasions an annual expenditure to a very inconvenient amount.

I remain my dear Sir, fraternally yours, HENRY PATTON.

From our English Files.

STATIONS OF THE BRITISH ARMY, On the 1st of January, 1851.

[Where two places are mentioned, the last mentioned is that at which the depot of the regiment is stationed.]

Table listing military regiments and their stations. Columns include Regiment Name and Station Location. Includes units like 1st Life Guards, 2nd Do., Royal Horse Guards, etc.

HOUSEHOLD SONGS HARMONISED FOR THE BELLOWS.—In some countries the good housewives are in the habit of blowing their fire by means of a long tube like a gun-barrel. The thought is easy to avail oneself of a musical pipe for this purpose. The solitary amateur might blow his fire through his flageolet. The blind piper might by the aid of his union pipes keep the hospitable hearth at which he was entertained in a blaze, while playing "The Cushla macree" or "St. Patrick's day in the morning," and Donald might blow up the smouldering embers of the last night's peat fire to the tune of "Lassie, are ye waking yet?" The Doric reed would thus be put to its old use of fostering a flame. This notion has recently been adopted practically by a self-taught artist, Mr. John Heard, of Chittlehamholte, who means to produce his work, at the coming Great Exhibition, in the shape of a pair of musical bellows. This novel instrument plays "God save the Queen," while the operator blows the fire; and, after blowing up the loyalty of the visitors to the Exhibition, is intended as a present to her most gracious Majesty, who will thus have the National Anthem domesticated in her establishment. By the aid of this ne plus ultra of economy in the article of wind, when it has become general, those notable women who rouse out their domestics at half-past two on a winter's morning, may, while raising their fire, duly whistle their notice that "There is no comfort in the house," &c.—Cook's Musical Miscellany.

THE SUCCESSION OF THE ROMISH BISHOPS IN IRELAND.—In the leading article of the Globe of the 9th instant, the following passage occurs:—"In Ireland the Catholic hierarchy has maintained its unbroken succession from the days of St. Patrick." The Roman Catholic hierarchy is, of course, what is here meant, and it must be well known to all even moderately acquainted with history, how utterly unfounded is this statement. It may, however, be well perhaps to repeat that the only hierarchy in Ireland that maintains an unbroken succession from the days of St. Patrick, are the prelates of the Established Church. On the accession of Queen Elizabeth every Bishop in Ireland, with the exception of two, Severons of Kildare, and Walsh of Meath, conformed to the established religion. Severons and Walsh were deprived for refusing to take the oath of supremacy. It is remarkable that these two bishops were themselves intruders, their predecessors having been deprived because they were married men. The present Roman Catholic hierarchy in Ireland derive their orders from a foreign source—the Church of Spain. In order to preserve an episcopate, the Pope sent over Moqueran, from Spain to Armagh, in 1598, and "in the see of Dublin there was no Roman Catholic bishop from 1559, when Curwen abandoned his faith, until 1660, when Mathew, of Ocoiedo, a Spanish Franciscan, was appointed." From these Spanish ecclesiastics the present Romish bishops derive their orders. O'Sullivan, "Hist. Cath. Ibernia," states that in 1621 there were but two Romish bishops in Ireland, and two others who reside in Spain.

Mr. John O'Connell has put forth a scheme of conference, to be attended to by Roman Catholic Members of Parliament, to resist any attempts of the Whigs to re-enact any penal enactments against their body. It appears from the support it has hitherto gained to be a more hopeful scheme of agitation than any the Liberator's son has hitherto propounded.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AND THE EXHIBITION. A report that the French President intended to visit England on the occasion of the forthcoming exhibition is erroneous. By a special law of the Constitution he is forbidden to leave the country. In a conversation with an English gentleman, it is said he thus spoke:—"My position is curious; three years ago I was not allowed to enter France; now I am not permitted to quit it."

Mr. George Drummond, the banker of Charing-cross, attended divine service on Sunday, at Belgrave Chapel, and received the sacrament, apparently in good health. Immediately on his return home he was seized with sudden illness, and died before medical attendance could be procured.

At each of his last two ordinations, the Bishop of Exeter has ordained a Wesleyan Minister into the service of the English Church. Died, in the parish of Lanchester, Durham, December 27, 1850, Thomas Milburn, born October 11, 1743, and consequently 107 years and 3 months old. He had been an agricultural labourer, and was in the possession of good health and all his faculties until a few weeks previous to his death.

POPERY IN IRELAND.—Amongst other articles of domestic news we find the following in the Mayo Constitution of Tuesday:—"On Friday night last, at Partry, a multitude of people broke into the house of a man named Stanton, and cut off one of his ears, because his children were going to a Protestant school." So that the Papal law down west is—"If a man send his children to a Protestant school, cut off one of his ears." He should be thankful for not loosing both. Again—"Same night a party of men broke into the house of Biddy Berry, at Drimcoffy, and took her out of bed and swore her to go to mass on Christmas-day, and pay the Priest 2s. 6d. She was in the habit of going to Church." This second looks like a case of warning. It is not consistent with sound, or at least secure sleeping to be "in the habit of going to Church."—Dublin Warder.

CONVERTS FROM POPERY.—The Dublin Evening Herald mentions three respectable Romanists who renounced the errors of Popery, and received the holy communion in St. Thomas's Church. One of them had been a student in Thurlow College, and intended for the Romish Priesthood. He will, after probation, be taken under the charge of the Priests' Protection Society.

Colonial.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Toronto, Feb. 15, 1851.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased make the following appointments, viz:

The Honourable Joseph Bourret, Assistant-Commissioner of Public Works, to be Chief-Commissioner thereof, in place of the Honourable Wm. H. Merritt, resigned.

The Honourable Hamilton Hartley Killaly, to be Assistant-Commissioner of Public Works, in place of the Honourable Joseph Bourret, appointed Chief-Commissioner thereof.

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to grant License to Wm. Henry Ewart of Port Hope, Gentleman, to practice Midwifery in Upper Canada.

The Orange Lily has come to us in a new dress and much enlarged.

A fire broke out on Friday the 14th instant, in the Town of London, by which some property was destroyed. The Town Council have voted £300 for the purchase of a fire engine.

APPROACHING CIVIC ENTERTAINMENT.—We learn that his Worship the Mayor has issued cards of invitation for a grand civic dinner, to be given at the St. Lawrence Hall, on Saturday next, that day being selected to suit the convenience of His Excellency the Governor General, who has accepted an invitation to be present. The list of invitations includes, besides the members of the Corporation, the Heads of Departments and the chief officers of the several public bodies, with a large number of our leading citizens, amounting in all to over a hundred guests. The Mayor is evidently resolved to set an example to his successors, to spare no expense in maintaining his position as chief of the first corporate body of Canada West; and we have no doubt that his generous hospitality will be highly appreciated by his fellow citizens.—Patriot.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CORNWALL "CONSTITUTIONAL" OFFICE BY FIRE.—We learn by a circular from the office of this paper, that the Printing Office, with all the types, account books, and whatever else fire could destroy, were utterly consumed on the morning of Saturday the 8th instant. No insurance was effected, and the proprietors are compelled to call on their debtors for immediate payment, to enable them to procure new materials.—Patriot.

The Governor-General has accepted the invitation of the members of the Mechanics' Institute of Hamilton to be present at their festival, on the 25th instant.—Patriot.

ONTARIO, SIMCOE, AND HURON RAILROAD.—Mr. DeWitt, the representative of Mr. Seymour, and the intended resident Surveyor on this line, arrived in Toronto yesterday. He states that the principals, together with their staff, will assemble at Buffalo on Wednesday next, for the purpose of coming over here, with the intention of commencing operations as speedily as possible; and we have no reason to doubt that we shall have early evidence of "breaking ground" the moment the survey is completed and the precise route decided upon. Where the termini are to be is at present not known, but the grant of land so liberally made by the Corporation will of course be availed of for a central and convenient station, and will, no doubt, be the spot fixed upon for the erection of the necessary offices of the Company. We sincerely wish to see the work in progress, being assured that every advance in public improvement and enterprise is an advance in the interests of every individual in the community.—Colonist.

TORONTO INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—The General Committee of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, met on Friday evening last, at the Mechanics' Hall, for the purpose of closing its transactions, when the financial report of J. S. Howard, Esq., Treasurer, was submitted to the meeting by the Auditors, Messrs. A. Christie and William Edwards, whereupon it was Moved by H. Y. Hind, Esq., seconded by Mr. J. E. Pell,

That the Secretary be requested to condense the Report of the Financial transactions of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, now submitted by the Auditors, and obtain its insertion in the City papers.—Carried.

Moved by William Thomas, Esq., seconded by John Harrington, Esq.,

That the thanks of this Committee are eminently due, and are herewith tendered to J. S. Howard, Esq., for his kind and efficient services as Treasurer of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition.—Carried.

Moved by George H. Cheney, Esq., seconded by Alderman Thompson,

That the onerous duties performed by Mr. Thomas Wheeler, as Secretary to the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, entitle him to the warmest acknowledgements of this Committee, for the untiring zeal and ability with which he has discharged his duty, and that in consideration of the sacrifice of his valuable time and attention to promote the interests of the community in connexion with the Exhibition, it is the opinion of this Committee that a suitable testimonial be presented him, as an acknowledgement of his services, and that the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee for that purpose, leaving the selection and price of the article to their taste and judgment.—The Mayor, Professor Croft, William Thomas, and Geo. H. Cheney, Esquires.—Carried.

Moved by John Harrington, Esq., seconded by Mr. William Edwards,

That the thanks of this Committee be presented to the Press, for their efficient assistance in carrying out the objects of the Exhibition.—Carried.

CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Table with 2 columns: Receipts and Amount. Rows include City Corporation, County Council, Canada Company, Mechanics' Institute, etc.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Table with 2 columns: Disbursements and Amount. Rows include 48 Prizes awarded, Stationary, Printing, Gas, Candles, Carpenter's bill, etc.

£333 19 9

The Prize of £25, which was offered by the Corporation, for the best view of the City, will be allowed to stand open for competition at the next Exhibition of the Mechanics' Institute. Toronto, Feb. 15th, 1851.

SEPARATE ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.—The Roman Catholics of this city have made application to the Court of Queen's Bench, requesting that the School Trustees of the city of Toronto may be called upon to show cause why a mandamus should not issue commanding them to establish separate exclusively Roman Catholic Schools within the city. After