

He said he believed the meeting would be satisfactory in affirming the principle that the property of the settlement for the Church should be administered by and for the use of the settlement. This having been seconded by Capt. Swinson, was carried unanimously, and the meeting shortly after separated.

### Missionary Intelligence.

#### SOCIETY P. R. F.

The annual meeting of the Liverpool branch of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was held on Sept. 25, under circumstances of unusual interest. The hall of the Collegiate Institution was crowded in every part, notwithstanding the counter attraction of the British Association, which continued its session on the same evening. After an eloquent address from the Bishop of Chester, who was in the chair, the Archbishop of Dublin moved the first resolution, and in doing so made the following observations on the principles and present position of the society:—It was the first object of the society to provide for the spiritual wants of their own people; and in doing this they would most effectually promote the conversion of the heathen. It was in vain for missionaries to go among the heathen, so long as the heathen saw the European settlers neglectful of the religion which the missionaries advocated. Let the colonies be taught religion, and they would become by far the most effectual missionaries. It was from a strong and well settled conviction of the importance of promoting religion extensively among the European settlers, and of the high claims of this society, that on being appointed to the see of Dublin, he exerted himself to establish and encourage as far as possible, a diocesan branch of the society. He found that the fault of its non-encouragement in Ireland did not lie with the society itself, or the great part of the Irish people, but because they had been left almost entirely ignorant of its existence; and as an instance he mentioned the refusal of a dignitary of the Church, who was applied to for aid, on the ground that he did not approve of new societies, and that there was no need for them. (Laughter.) He was indeed ignorant that the society had actually been in existence for nearly a century and a half. Very different, however, was the feeling and conduct when the public were duly informed of the true character and claims of the society. There had been a strong disposition amongst some persons in Ireland to raise calumnious charges against the society; he was thankful to say, however, that under Providence they had turned to the society's advantage. Investigation of the charges had proved them to be unfounded, and this produced such a reaction, that the suspicions had not only been quieted, but had been turned into a strong recommendation of the society.—(applause)—because among honest and fair minded men there was always a tendency to sympathise strongly with those who had been calumniated. (Renewed cheering.) He (the speaker) concurred with the chairman that neither this society, nor any of its individual members, pretended to perfection. But it aimed at perfection; that was about what we should all do; and therefore they had taken every opportunity of enquiring into every point, whether any evil could be remedied, any objection obviated, or any improvement introduced into the working of the society. In some details improvements had recently been made; but no change had taken place in its fundamental principles, which were to promote what they considered to be true religion, according to the principles of their own Church.

The Rev. F. Barker, Bishop-designate of Sydney, who seconded the resolution, bore testimony to the liberal support which the society has afforded to Sydney, and stated that since his appointment he had received most cordial and ready assurance from members of the committee that equal or even increased assistance would still be afforded. He stated that the population of Sydney had increased within the last four years from 35,000 to 60,000; while the number of the clergy had diminished during the vacancy of the see.

The Bishop of New Zealand, in the course of a long and deeply interesting speech, alluded thus to his own future connection with the Bishop of Sydney. When Mr. Barker was appointed to the high office of metropolitan of Australia, the society from that moment respected the office, and gave a promise of the most cordial support. He himself knew little or nothing of the opinions of the Bishop-designate; he hoped, however, hereafter to become more cordially acquainted with them; and it was sufficient for him that he had been appointed to the high office which he hoped he would long hereafter hold. Whether his own (the speaker's) diocese would or would not, still remain connected with

the province of Australia, was not yet settled, but if it should be decided by the authorities of the church, he could assure the Bishop-designate, in the presence of many of his late parishioners, that he should always give him every assistance in his power; and he hoped that the new bishop would find him not the least obedient of his suffragan bishops. (Loud applause.) It might be interesting to them to know that his last meeting with him was on the waters of the Cam, and that his next would be, he trusted, on the waters of Port Jackson. It was somewhat surprising that his friend the Bishop-designate of Sydney, his dear friend and brother the Bishop of Newcastle, and himself, would occupy the three contiguous dioceses of Newcastle, Sydney, and New Zealand. It might perhaps be interesting to know that when the last missionaries were sent out to New Zealand by the Church Missionary Society, an excellent worthy friend of his was rowing with him in a little two-oared boat, when his friend suddenly exclaimed, "Well, Bishop, I hope we shall always pull together." He dared to say the Bishop-designate of Synod would not be offended if he said the same to him.

The Rev. V. W. Ryan, Bishop designate of Mauritius, entered into a full account of the state of that island. Speaking of the Hindoo Coolies, who form a considerable portion of the population, he said he might mention many instances of their zeal and energy in endeavouring to supply their spiritual wants. On one occasion, in particular, when a family were leaving for the Mauritius, they invited their friends together, and determined to pay a catechist of their own. Now, with regard to the more extended operations of this mission station, he might allude to the testimony of Dr. Krapf, who had said that he regarded this appointment as of great importance to the slaves of Eastern Africa, for by its operation they might soon get a native missionary agent for that locality also.

### Selections.

#### RETURN OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The despatches brought home by the Arctic exploring expedition have been published this week. Sir Edward Belcher has returned in the *Phoenix* sent out in the spring with instructions to him, having been compelled to abandon, while they were yet uninjured, his four vessels engaged in the work of discovery, viz., the *Assistance*, his own ship, the *Resolute*, Captain Kellet, the *Intrepid*, Captain McClintock, and the *Pioneer*, Captain Osborne. It will be remembered that Captain Collinson went out in 1850 in the *Enterprise*, accompanied by Captain McClure in the *Investigator*, to look for Sir John Franklin and the North-west Passage; and that Sir E. Belcher's expedition, as enumerated above, was despatched in 1852 to look for Collinson and McClure. In the spring of the year the *North Star*, *Phoenix*, and *Talbot* were sent out with stores to Sir Edward Belcher. By means of the first of the despatches just published we are enabled to follow the voyage of the *Phoenix*, which was accompanied by the *Talbot*.

Capt. Inglefield reached, on the 12th of July, Four Island Point, and went on by Proven, where a supply of dogs was purchased, to Upernavic, where foul winds keep them till the 21st. On the 21st, the wind having changed an attempt was made to get through Melville Bay. They then passed Cape Shaktleton, the Loom Bookery, where 553 birds were killed, and sighted Duck Island, from which so much ice was seen that the attempt to get through Melville Bay was relinquished, and course was changed to the southward. On the 25th they entered the Waigatael. On the 29th they shipped 70 tons of coal from the coal-mine discovered near Lievely, which was a few days after made up to 270 tons. On the 9th of August they "took the pack" abreast of Upernavic:—

"For ten days we pushed on through heavy ice, blasting, boring, charging the ships, and making but slow advance—they lay ice forming strong every night, much retarding our progress; and on the 17th we were closely beset at the edge of a large floe some miles in extent; luckily, a strong gale from the westward broke up the edges of this floe, and, on the weather moderating, slackened the ice sufficiently to admit of our pushing through, and on the 19th we were fortunate enough to get into the west water. Deeming it beneficial for the service upon which I was employed, I determined upon examining the depot near Wolston Islands deposited by the *North Star* in 1850. For that purpose I made the south shore of Lancaster Sound, and on the 21st, about 8.30 p.m., we passed near enough to Cape Hay to observe the coals deposited there in 1849 by Captain Parker, of the *True Love*, for Lady Franklin. Observing that the staff and two casks containing letters and provisions were missing, I landed, and found that no trace remained of these but

a portion of the head of one of them, and some broken preserved meats. The coals, too, had been either carried away by the Esquimaux, or the ice, there being only twenty-one bags. A little after 10 we rounded Cape Carlrough, and shortly found the remains of the *North Star's* depot. On landing I found that this spot had also been visited by the Esquimaux, and plundered. Of the 600 casks and cases that were landed by Mr. Saunders, only 14 remained, and each had been stove to examine their contents, which consisted of flour, peas, 8-inch barley, oatmeal, and tobacco. Finding the snow only partially destroyed for each cask, I determined on embarking all that still remained, and the whole was shipped off in the *Phoenix*, with ten tons of patent fuel."

Proceeding on by Cape Warrander and Dundas Harbour, they steamed for Beechy Island, which was reached by midday of the 26th August; then "the *North Star* was observed through the fog, standing off and on, and shortly an officer boarding us acquainted us that the whole of the officers and crews of the *Investigator*, *Resolute*, *Intrepid*, *Assistance*, and *Pioneer* were on board that ship, the first three having been abandoned by Sir Edward Belcher's order, in May last, and Sir Edward himself, with his own party, having just deserted the *Assistance* and the *Pioneer* about fifty miles from Beechy Island." The store ships had, therefore, nothing to do on their arrival but to take on board the crews of these vessels, and return home, which accordingly has been the course pursued.

The *Enterprise*, therefore, the companion of the *Investigator*, whose commander, McClure, has just come home in the *Phoenix*, is the only ship now in the Arctic regions which has not, as far as we know, been deserted. Capt. McClure thinks it most probable that her crew have deserted her also, and are making their way home by land. The latest intelligence brought of the proceedings of Captain Collinson, of the *Enterprise*, bears date August 27, 1852, when it appears, by records found by Lieutenant Meekham, of the *Resolute*, on the 9th of May last, that he had passed the winter of 1851-2 at the entrance of Prince of Wales Strait, had not lost a single officer or man, and that they were at that time in the best health and spirits. Captain Collinson's course was, therefore, precisely that of Captain McClure, whose first winter roosting place was attained by the *Enterprise* four days only after it had been vacated by McClure. Failing, as his predecessor had done, to accomplish the North-west Passage through Investigator Strait, Captain Collinson ultimately found his first winter harbour in 1851-2, in Walker Bay, on the south side of Prince Albert Land, and he is known to have pursued in the following summer an easterly course along the North American shore, through Dolphin and Union Strait. It is thought that he may thus possibly be able to carry his ship through Victoria Strait and Peel Sound into Barrow Strait, which would be effecting the North-west Passage, though not by the channel that has been sighted, and so nearly accomplished, by Captain McClure. The fate of the Franklin expedition appears to remain unaffected, except negatively. We do know that our missing countrymen have not been thrown upon the north-western shores of Melville Island, but we remain in doubt whether, after passing up Wellington Channel, their course was not directed to the unsearched lands then in sight, rather than towards the northern shore of Melville Island. It is therefore, upon Dr. Kane, in command of the American expedition, that we now mainly depend, since his intended course, after passing up Smith Sound, will be towards the unexplored lands seen, but not visited, by Sir E. Belcher's expedition, lying to the north of Wellington Channel.

The second of the despatches published by the Admiralty is an account by Sir E. Belcher of his proceedings while the *Assistance* was blocked in the ice in Wellington Channel, dated August 8, 1853. These consisted chiefly of a search in Jones' Sound, which was reached by travelling over the ice. On his way toward the entrance by Jones' Strait Sir E. Belcher discovered an island, which he named "Princess Royal," and a height on the coast was named "Mount Parker," in compliment to Rear-Admiral Parker. Another point was called "Cape Disraeli." On the 18th of May, however, progress was suddenly stopped by finding before them open water instead of ice. The party, therefore, tried to get on overland, but again in a few days they came face to face with open sea, lying between them and Jones' Strait. On the way back some remarkable appearances were observed:—

"In the first place, I discovered on the brow of a mountain about 800 feet above the sea, what appeared to be a recent and a very workmanlike structure of a dome (or rather a double cone, or icehouse), built of very heavy and tabular slabs, which no single person