

We think it right, however, to press one point. The whole question is not one merely of expediency. Nor does the report of convocation so represent it. Far otherwise. There is surely some speciality in a Bishop's office. It may be a question of expediency whether a Bishop should be sent at first, or after Presbyters had broken up the ground. It may be a question of expediency, as the report of convocation suggests, whether the number of Clergy sent out, and the magnitude of the scheme, render the presence of a Bishop at first desirable. But it is not a question of expediency, but of grave and deep principle, whether missions are to be made on a large scale, and continued a long time without Bishops. There may be few instances, there may be no instances adducible (though the contrary is the fact), of Bishops being sent where there were not persons disposed to be Christians, and in that sense "converts," already. But it is quite certain that whenever the Churches in the ages sent any missionaries at all they sent Bishops, or persons who were almost immediately to be made Bishops. A Church without a Bishop, a Clergy and people without a Bishop, were things absolutely unheard, unthought of, in the early and purest ages of christianity. The supposition is entirely inconsistent with the whole current of their ideas, with the whole method on which the religious system of that age was conducted. To assert the contrary implies an utter want of appreciation of what Primitive christianity was.

The whole matter results in this. There must be ere long missionary Bishops, and we cannot doubt that the difficulties which now stand in the way will yield to an earnest and hearty resolution to carry out the principles of the Church in her missions as well as in her internal government.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM INDIA

We are to have stirring times at Lahore very shortly. The Bishop of Calcutta is here now. Lord Canning, in his vice regal tour, is to be here in a few days. This tour, although an expensive one, is a good stroke of policy, I have no doubt, and assimilates with the native idea of imperial rule and control. It is bringing the greater part of the more influential natives and princes of India under the imperial canopy of British supremacy; it introduces them to the great dominant power, gives them a place, as it were, in that imperial society; it thus ennobles and elevates them, and may, we hope, make better subjects of them. I hear that a seat in the Durbar is much coveted by the natives at each large place where the Governor General holds a reception.

A confirmation is to be held here of course. I think that christianity is working its way into the hearts and convictions of many natives in this country, although the outward show of progress is poor.

All the nations of the world (China has been spoken of) are being brought within hearing of the Gospel; so that whatever we,—creatures of a little epoch, or of successive epochs—may experience of trouble, the great Creator's work of evangelization is progressing.

The rebellion is really now prostrate, trampled down, I believe, but the costs of our Indian possessions are quite undefended in case of a European war, and years will be required to erect defences.—*Ch. Chronicle.*

THE BISHOP OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The following letter from the Bishop of Columbia, dated "Victoria, Vancouver's Island, Jan.

13, 1860," appeared in the *Guardian* of March, 21:—

"I arrived here on the 6th inst., the Epiphany of our Lord. May my efforts be indeed for the manifestation of Christ to the varied people in this interesting land.

Victoria must be, I think, the most lovely and beautifully situated place in the world. I never saw any thing before like it. In summer it must be exquisite. I was surprised to see the size and rapid growth of the town, there are some thousands of people who are putting up houses every day. It will be a large city ere a few years are over. How important is our work! The Church of England here is in a feeble state; had it been left long so, it would almost have been trampled out. Our only church is of wood, holds about four hundred, and stands nobly on a site which one day may be occupied by a cathedral. My iron Church will come at the most fortunate moment, and we shall be prepared for the further influx of people in the spring. I shall work this myself for awhile, and superintend the supply of all the wants of the town and neighbourhood; whether my residence will be here permanently or not I cannot say. There is immediate want of a collegiate school or college. I shall require a good head for this, it will be well supported, I doubt not. I should like to find a man who would take a lead here in education. I find there are several important posts immediately requiring to be filled up. As to the work now going on—Mr. Dundas, Court House, Victoria, morning and evening; Mission Chapel at Esquimaux in the afternoon. Mr. Sheepshanks, New Westminster, much liked; three full services on Sunday, several Chinese under instruction, a church will shortly be built here. This place during the present year is expected to make much progress. We begin now to expect the *Athelstone* with mission house and church, and the *Heather Bell* with other three missionaries of my little staff, who are still on their long voyage. Some ships are out a long time, so they may be a month or two months yet before arrival. The work will, I believe, be deeply interesting, and if well supported by the right men, and sufficient means at first, will lay a good foundation of true religion in this important colony of Britain. God give us all grace to spend and be spent for Christ's sake, and the souls of many, now scattered as sheep without a shepherd. There is no use having any man out here who is not an effective preacher; that must always be a qualification—better without him, unless so gifted.

Some things here are dearer than in England. Servants and house-rent are the worst. Beef, 16d. per lb., excellent mutton, 1s.; butter, 2s. 6d. per lb., coals, 32s. per ton. But other supplies are very reasonable.—Soft sugar, 4d., loaf sugar, 6d. per lb.; tea, 2s. 6.; fish, very cheap and good, also potatoes, flour, same as in England; milk, 6d. per pint; washing *terribly* dear. Single men, however, live as cheaply as in England. Dundas pays £140 per annum for board and lodging, and is very comfortable indeed. Prices are likely to fall much lower, and I should not be surprised if one could soon live here as cheaply as in England.

There are some pleasant people here. I have had many visitors. A good number of young men are waiting to be employed. Artisans of any kind can make enormous wages. Even gentlemen are day labourers on account of the good pay, and doing any thing rather than be idle. Very rich gold-beds have been discovered within the last two months, and it is expected there will be a great influx of people in the spring. I must conclude; thank God I am well. Greet all inquiring friends with my best wishes and desires for their prayers. No mission, I feel sure, has

left the mother Church with more powerful sympathy directed towards it. I am encouraged by this. We can expect no prosperity, no success, except we lean alone on our merciful and watchful Father who is in heaven."

Believe me, affectionately yours,
G. COLUMBIA

The following is an extract from the letter of the Correspondent of *The Times*. It appeared on March 16, and was dated "Victoria, Vancouver's Island, January 25th":—

"The new Bishop has been here for three weeks. His fame as an able and efficient pastor had preceded him, and insured him a kind and hearty reception. His presence, social intercourse, and the performance of his sacred duty have confirmed the estimate we had formed by reputation of his character. He has been exceedingly well received by all classes of Protestants—Dissenters as well as Churchmen. Much of the favourable impression which the Bishop has made is due to his very candid declaration from the pulpit, on the first Sunday after his arrival, that his Church is self supporting, and unconnected with the State. He threw himself boldly and confidently upon the affections, zeal, and good feeling of the laity, for the future maintenance of religious instruction; and, as a large majority of the people is averse to State connexion, the declaration has had the desired effect.

My own individual opinion is of no weight or importance, but I shall not commit myself entirely to these sentiments. They are very pleasing in theory, and, as a general principle, have much to recommend them. I think, however, that a moderate endowment in real property in aid of religion, where, as is the case here, it can be done without any injustice to existing interests, is a duty incumbent on the State; such endowment not to be limited to the Church of England. This done, the further future support of every Church might, with a good grace, be left to the members of each persuasion.

A clergyman who knows his part well, and plays it, will find support under the voluntary system, but I have yet to learn that this system possesses vitality and attraction sufficient to induce the education, training, and devotion of such a body of learned men as the Church of England draws, under State endowment, to her service. Having seen much of the voluntary system, where it exists on a large scale, I cannot hesitate to declare that it has not yet produced, and is not preparing, an educated body of clerical gentlemen in any part of the world which comes up to the standard I have mentioned. There is much practical philosophy in Sydney Smith's doctrine of 'prizes' in the Church."—*Ch. Chronicle.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED TO JUNE 1.

TO END OF VOL. VII.—H. C. Coldwater; W. B. S., Kingston; Rev. T. S., Bongard's Corners; Rev. J. G., Dawn; Rev. J. V., Lindsay; Rev. J. A. M., Fitzroy Harbour; Mrs. E., Kingsley; Rev. S. C. H., Durham; Rev. E. S., Birr; A. R. R., Toronto.

THE
Canadian Ecclesiastical Gazette
IS PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH,
BY HENRY ROWSELL, TORONTO.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

7s. 6d. per annum; from which a discount of 2s. 6d. is allowed if remitted (postage free) within one month from commencement of the volume.

ROWSSELL & ELLIS, PRINTERS, KING ST. TORONTO.