

The Bishop of an obscure diocese in the remote West had attained such influence as to be enabled to compose the troubles of Christendom.

The remoteness of the spot where he laboured during the far greater part of his life, conceals from us very much of his history; and he is one of that numerous class of men who are famous for their writings, but little known as to the occurrences of their lives.

THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1840.

In renewing our observations upon the RUBRICS of the Church, we repeat the remark that, in acts of praise, standing is the most appropriate posture, and in adopting this, we follow the example of the early Christian Church.

A rich provision, as we have observed, is made in the ritual of the Church for the public reading of the Word; and many a poor and unlearned individual enjoys in this, we know, his only opportunity of hearing the truths and consolations of that blessed book.

On some occasions also, it will happen that the Ninety-fifth Psalm will occur in the regular psalms of the day; in which case, the Rubric provides that it be omitted in this place, and read in its usual course as one of the ordinary psalms.

It is to be remarked that the Gloria Patri, on which some observations were made on a previous occasion, is appointed to be always used at the conclusion of each Psalm; an act of special praise to the Triune Deity appropriate after such animated portions of the Divine word, and peculiarly so from its recognition of a doctrine so prominent in the belief of Christians as that of the Trinity.

The observation of some diversity of practice in the case, induces us to offer it as our opinion that the spirit of the Rubric requires that each Psalm should be commenced by the clergyman; that is to say, if it prove to be his turn to repeat the second or closing part of the Gloria Patri, the people ought not to take up the psalm which follows, but allow the minister to commence it, contenting themselves with the usual response of Amen.

We shall conclude this portion of our rubrical expositions with observing, how great an advantage and how peculiar an excellence it is in our service that the Psalms should be made to constitute so regular and so prominent a portion of it.

It will be conceded by all that no service can be regarded as complete or appropriate, which contains not a provision for the reading of the Holy Scriptures.

may be set in their appropriate juxtaposition,—the latter not annulling, but fulfilling the former,—a lesson both from the Old Testament and the New is always appointed to be read. The minister is directed to stand, while he makes this direct appeal to the "Law and the Testimony;" and the listeners are required to sit, while this word of exhortation from God's own revelations is promulgated.

We consider that it would very much assist the attention, in hearing the Word of God thus publicly read, if the members of congregations should always furnish themselves with a Bible on such occasions, and follow the minister as he reads. This is a useful practice to a very considerable extent already followed; but we should by all means recommend its general adoption.

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The hymn which succeeds the first lesson at Morning Service, is called the Te Deum Laudamus; and although of human composition, is so interwoven with Scriptural doctrine and language, that all admire it as much for its spiritual soundness as for its devotional beauty.

Before concluding our remarks upon this portion of the Service, we must allude briefly to the Rubric, which requires that the Minister in reading the Lessons should "turn himself, as he may best be heard of all such as are present;" that is, as Bishop Sparrow remarks, "towards the people; whence it appears that before the Lesson he looked from the people. This," he continues, "was the ancient custom of the Church of England, that the officiating minister in all those parts of the service, which were directed to the people, turned himself towards them, as in the Absolution, the Benediction, the reading of the Lessons, and of the holy Commandments.

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We shall not deny that some evils are found to result from the system to which he refers, for where is the system which, from the fallibility of the agents who are to work out its details, does not exhibit, in some of its results, traces of man's imperfection, yes, of man's depravity? But we must inform our contemporary, upon a testimony, too, multitudes of his own persuasion are ready to substantiate, that the evils upon which he animadverts are but exceptions,—few and straggling exceptions, we venture to affirm,—to the soundness of the general rule.

Having disposed of this assertion against our venerable Establishment, we proceed to another assertion contained in the same paper and obviously introduced in disparagement of the real strength of our cause,—that "the members of the Established Church do not constitute one half of the population of England."

The Church of England is, by no means so weak and unstable a fabric as our contemporary would make his readers to believe it; nor, we can assure him, is the State so feeble as to be peculiarly endangered in its foreign enterprises by the fact which the Baptist Advocate so gravely announces in the same paper, that "three American sea-captains have entered the service of the Chinese government in the present war."

Our contemporary has endeavoured to exhibit some of the darker hues of the glorious and hallowed institutions of our father-land: let us, then, refresh our readers with some of their brighter colourings, revealed to our fond and filial gaze by the Christian historian of the French Revolution, Mr. Alison:—

"The Established Church is peculiarly 'the Church of the poor man.' Was there ever a truth more undeniable than this, or one more pregnant with vast and awful consequences? The parish church is open to the whole community. The humblest inhabitant of this wide realm, the most destitute pauper that knows not where else to seek a resting-place, enters therein with a spirit, humble indeed, as befits him, towards his Maker, but towards man, erect in conscious equality of brotherhood with the wealthiest and noblest of his fellow-creatures.

Our best thanks are due to the friend who has lately forwarded to us so acceptable a present as the "Church Almanac for 1841;" a compilation which, while it reminds us of the flight of time, improves that common warning by many a lesson of exhortation gleaned from the stores, old and new, of our pious and learned Church divines.

A very considerable number of copies of this useful little work would, we believe, be readily disposed of if placed on sale at the office of our Publisher at Toronto, should it subserve the interests of its originators, the Protestant Episcopal Tract Society, to extend its circulation; for some time must elapse before we can undertake the publication of a similar manual at our own Diocesan Establishment.

fore to counteract the influence of the moral and political poison which is so often diffused throughout these Provinces under the popular caption of Almanacs. The "Brockville Almanac for 1841," published by W. Buell, is not, for its general contents, liable to this heavy charge; but the loyal portion of the community will put no favourable construction upon the introduction of the reminiscence contained at the end of the following sentence, which appears on its title-page: "Being the first year after Bixestile or Leap Year; and until the 21st June, the 4th year of the Reign of Queen Victoria; also, until the 4th of July, the 65th year of the independence of the United States."

From the Ecclesiastical Gazette for October, we learn the gratifying intelligence that the Honourable the East India Company, with a munificence worthy of a better age and indicative of more cheering times, have contributed the sum of £40,000 in aid of the projected Cathedral at Calcutta.

It is highly satisfactory to observe in that rich and influential Company so anxious a concern for the eternal interests of those to whom their superintendence extends; but it is even more gratifying to witness from that body the acknowledgment that "it is the duty of Government adequately to provide for its civil and military functionaries, the means and services of our religion."

His Lordship the Bishop of Calcutta cannot erroneously calculate upon the further Christian liberality of the Indian Government, when he confidently appeals to them for a supply of at least twenty-eight new chaplains, in order to meet the urgent necessities of his vast Diocese. Their recent large donation in aid of the cause His Lordship has so much at heart, viewed in connexion with the spirit which so obviously prompted it, forbids the apprehension that the now inquiring people of those immense and benighted territories will be suffered to "perish for lack of knowledge."

In a late number, we furnished some extracts from our recent English files in reference to the opposition started in London to the election of Alderman Harmer as Lord Mayor of that great metropolis. The objection to this individual was not, it will be recollected, on any personal or even political grounds; but in the maintenance of a high moral and religious principle by which, it is to be hoped, Englishmen will ever continue to be influenced.—Alderman Harmer, it appears, is a shareholder in an infamous London periodical, called the Weekly Dispatch, in which thrones and dignities—not sparing the throne of England—are evil spoken of, Christianity ridiculed, and its ministers coarsely vilified.

The constituents of London rose, on this occasion, in the might of their moral power, and despite all the influence which wealth and station could command, the obnoxious alderman was signally defeated. The vote at the close of the election stood thus:—Aldermen Pirie, 2741; Johnson, 2713; Harmer, 2264. The Lord Mayor was consequently chosen from the two first, and the choice of the Court of Aldermen fell upon Mr. Johnson.

Our notice last week of recent Clerical changes in this Diocese, we omitted to mention that the Rev. C. O. Wiggins, late of New Brunswick, had been appointed to the charge of Chatham, in the Western District, for some months vacant in consequence of the removal of the Rev. T. B. Fuller to Stamford, in the Niagara District.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese held a Confirmation on Sunday last, at the Cathedral Church in this city, when 89 candidates received the sacred ordinance. At the close of the ceremony His Lordship delivered a most impressive address to the youthful members of the Church who had come forward to ratify the solemn vow made for them at Baptism.

A sermon, appropriate for the occasion, was preached by the Rev. H. Scadding.

ECCLIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

CHRIST CHURCH (CHELSEA) BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL.—The establishment of a national school in the district assigned to Christ Church had been considered as highly desirable ever since the erection of that sacred edifice. The subject had frequently been brought under the consideration of the Rev. W. H. Howard and a committee of gentlemen residing in the district, whose efforts for the accomplishment of this desirable object had been much stimulated by the anxious solicitude evinced by the parents of the poor children for daily instruction. But the funds for building a school-house on the site adjoining the church, munificently granted by Earl Cadogan (lord of the manor of Chelsea, and patron of the school) having hitherto been insufficient to induce the committee to commence the erection of a permanent edifice, the present school-room, situated in Queen street, nearly facing the road leading to the church, has been therefore fitted up, and is calculated to hold about 70 or 80 boys. It is intended as a temporary substitute for the larger edifice proposed to be hereafter erected by means of a public subscription. On Monday morning, October 12, pursuant to public notice, a most respectable assemblage of ladies and gentlemen met at the new school-room, together with many of the poorer inhabitants, to be present at the opening of the school by the Rev. W. H. Howard, the much-respected incumbent of Christ Church, to whose zealous and indefatigable exertions the establishment of the school is to be mainly ascribed. At nine o'clock Mr. Howard commenced an impressive and lucid address, explanatory of the intended system of instruction to be pursued in this school by Mr. Hardingham, the master. The former part of this discourse was addressed to the parents in a most feeling and kind manner, and the latter part applied to the children who had been brought by their parents to be admitted to the school. The whole ceremony was concluded with an appropriate prayer and hymn. The number of children admitted amounted to nearly 50—a fact sufficiently proving the urgent necessity of a national school in this poor and densely-populated district.

NEW CHURCH AT WEST STOWER, DORSET.—On Thursday this new church was re-opened for Divine Service. The neat and convenient edifice has been rebuilt, with the exception of the chancel, and enlarged to accommodate 180 persons in a population of 220. The church was crowded in every part. The services were performed by the Rev. H. Deane, Vicar, and the Rev. J. Lawes, Curate; and a most forcible and impressive sermon was preached by the Venerable Archdeacon of Dorset, from Mark xi. 28; after which a collection was made amounting to 26l. 16s. 3d. There was a large attendance of the gentry and clergy of the neighbourhood. After the service a collection was provided in the new school-room, near the church—and in the afternoon upwards of 120 children of the East and West Stower schools were entertained with tea and cake.—Dorset Chronicle.

CONSECRATION OF BURLEY CHURCH.—The new church at Burley, in the hamlet of Edington, in the parish of Moorlinch, was consecrated on Friday last by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, in the presence of a very large assemblage of the clergy, gentry, and inhabitants of the neighbourhood. The ceremony, presided over by the bishop, was headed by the Rev. R. J. Luscombe, jun., Incumbent of Chilton and Edington. The service of the day was impressively read by the Rev. W.

Bracher, the appointed minister, and an admirable sermon preached by the Right Hon. and Rev. Lord John Thynne, D. D., from Isaiah lvi. 7. After the sermon a collection was made amounting to upwards of 90l., which was to be appropriated to the building of a school-room.—Somersetshire Paper.

NEW CHURCH AT HEREFORD.—The foundation stone of the parish church of St. Martin's was laid, on Thursday week, by Lady Emily Foley. The proceedings of the day commenced with a sermon, preached in All Saints Church, by the Rev. F. Close, M. A., Incumbent of Cheltenham, from Exodus xxxvi. 5, and three following verses. A more eloquent, masterly, or appropriate discourse has seldom been given on a similar occasion; the delivery occupied three quarters of an hour, and a collection amounting to 54l. was made after the sermon. The day was beautiful, and the procession from the church to the ground was preceded by a band of music. Upwards of 40 clergymen were upon the ground, and almost a countless number of spectators, including most of the leading personages of the neighbourhood. Lady Emily Foley having laid the stone with the utmost grace, the Rev. F. Close delivered a beautiful address, in the course of which he stated "that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to confirm the original grant of Lord Goderich and the subsequent governments, and to order 1000l. to be advanced from the money voted for special services, in aid of and for the completion of that building, whenever the sum of 2500l. to be raised by subscription, shall be certified to the Treasury as forthcoming." The children of the several schools, in number exceeding 200, were by direction of the worthy and benevolent Vicar, Dr. Symons, ranged on the platform, and a bun given to each child. They, on signal, gave several rounds of hearty huzzas, when they proceeded to their respective schools, to partake of tea and bread-and-butter. The workmen were also regaled with a hearty supper. The laying of the first stone of St. Martin's Church is the more interesting, from the circumstance of the original church having been destroyed during the siege of Hereford, by the parliamentary forces in the year 1646; since which period this extensive parish and numerous population have been without a place of worship connected with the Established Church, and without a place of sepulture. Too much praise cannot be given to the Rev. Dr. Symons, for his unwearied and persevering efforts for very many years to obtain that justice for the parish of St. Martin's, which their ancestors devotedly loyalty to their Sovereign so richly merited; and we heartily congratulate the Rev. Dr. Symons on the now assured prospect of success.

CAMBRIDGE, OCT. 16.—The election of Chancellor of this University, in the room of the late Marquis Camden, will take place on Wednesday next. It is not expected that there will be any opposition to the return of the Duke of Northumberland.

The following is a list of the gentlemen appointed University Officers, at the congregation on Saturday last:—Proctors.—Rev. C. H. Maturin, M. A., King's College; Rev. J. E. Dalton, M. A., Queen's College. Moderators.—Senior Moderator to be appointed at a future congregation; Rev. E. Stevenson, M. A., Corpus Christi. Scrutators.—Rev. J. Burdakin, M. A., Clare Hall; Rev. H. Arlett, M. A., Pembroke. Tutors.—Rev. A. Thurtell, M. A., Caius; J. Pulling, Esq., B. A., Corpus Christi. Auditors of Accounts.—Rev. W. Hodgson, D. D., St. Peter's; Rev. J. Shaw, M. A., Christ; W. N. Griffin, M. A., St. John's.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS. The following information, collected with much trouble by the Committee of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, is extremely important:— Christians, 260,000,000; Jews, 4,000,000; Mahometans, 96,000,000; Idolaters of all sorts, 500,000,000. Total population of the world, 860,000,000.

BRITISH COLONIAL DOMINIONS, 1840.

Table with 4 columns: Country, Area in Square Miles, Population, Clergy of the Church of England. Rows include England and Wales, Lower Canada, Upper Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, West India Islands, British Guiana, Cape of Good Hope, British India, Australia, and Van Diemen's Land.

Civil Intelligence.

FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM OUR FILES BY THE BRITANNIA.

DEVONPORT, October 14. LATE FIRE AT DEVONPORT DOCKYARD.—THE ORIGIN OF THE FIRE ACCOUNTED FOR.—I believe, and I speak upon very good, although not official, authority, that the origin of the fire has at last been satisfactorily accounted for. Admiral Warren, who honoured me this morning with an interview, expressed himself perfectly satisfied that the fire was not caused by design, and said he was fully convinced that the foreigners who have so long been sought after, whatever their character and objects were, never contemplated the destruction of the arsenal. If the fire was not the work of an incendiary, it must have resulted from accident or from spontaneous combustion; and to ascertain from which of these it arose, became the object of the dockyard authorities, and that it was from the latter I believe there can now be no doubt. The Admiral and Mr. Eastlake both refused to confirm the information which I had obtained before I saw them, but they did not deny its correctness, and both said that the investigation would, in all probability, be concluded in a day or two. I have, however, no hesitation in saying that, I have been accurately informed, or in stating decidedly, that that has now been satisfactorily established that the fire resulted from spontaneous combustion. The information I have received is as follows:—

It appears that what is called a "bin" had been placed under the shed which covered the Talavera. This "bin" is an erection of wood made for the purpose of containing the offal collected from the neighbouring parts of the yard till it can be conveniently removed from the arsenal, and the one constructed under the shed over the Talavera was of the extent of about 400 square feet. It was placed on the south side of the shed, and at the distance of about 30 feet from her. The refuse from all the neighbouring works and offices had been thrown into it, and it contained, as I am informed, a large mass of oil, composed of oakum, tallow, waste of paint, old canvas, sawdust, chips, &c. This mass generated a high degree of heat, and spontaneous combustion was the result. The fire thus originating communicated with the shed over the Talavera; for it is now proved, I am told, that the shed, not the ship, was first on fire. From the shed the Talavera was kindled, and the coal tar with which that vessel was impregnated to saturation, generating gas in large quantities by the heat of the burning shed operating upon it, an easy medium for communicating the flames from one part to another, was thus provided, and the rapidity with which they spread from stem to stern in this manner accounted for. This solution of the mystery appears to me perfectly satisfactory. The contents of the bin are exactly such as would give rise to spontaneous flame, and this is not the only instance of spontaneous combustion in the arsenal. The Rev. Admiral mentioned the following facts to me this morning:—Some time since a quantity of vegetable oil having been drawn off from a cask, a portion of it was split upon the floor. Sawdust was thrown upon it in order to dry it up, and when this object was accomplished, it was then swept into a mass, and placed in a small cart in a position where it was exposed to the sun. The day was extremely warm, and not long after it had been exposed in this manner a report, as if a musket had exploded, was heard, and immediately afterwards the wood near which the cart stood was found to be on fire, as well as the mass itself which the cart contained. The Admiral also mentioned that a quantity of rope-yarn had once been laid out in a heap, and the heat which it soon generated was so great, that it raised the thermometer to 180°. These facts, which the gallant gentleman mentioned solely to show that spontaneous combustion was very possible, and not with the view of explaining the origin of the recent fire, for he refused, although with much politeness, to give me any information on that subject, taken in conjunction with the facts that a bin was placed under the shed which covered the Talavera, and that it contained such materials as I have stated, satisfy my mind that the information I now convey to you relative to the breaking out of the fire is correct.—Correspondent of the Times.

CURIOUS BIBLE.—There is at present in the possession of Mrs. Parkes, of Golden-square, a copy of Macklin's Bible, in 45 large folio volumes, illustrated with nearly 7000 engravings, from the work of Michael Angelo to that of Reynolds and West. The work also contains about 200 original drawings by vignettes by Raffaele, Bourgo. The prints and engravings include the works of Raphael, Marc Antonio, Albert Durer, Callot, Rembrandt, and other mas-