

delusion which, though laboriously propagated by the generality of sectarian preachers, can scarcely impose upon any person of ordinary observation. There is, we admit, a comparatively small number of lay Dissenters whose passion for congregational consequence compels them to vomit forth all manner of abuse against the establishment, which they know they could never exist in, except as unnoticed non-entities: but among the great body of quiet, comfortable, and pious individuals who attend Dissenting meeting-houses for other purposes than to cut a figure as political and denominational leaders, the church is held in a degree of estimation much higher, we think, than she herself is aware of, or is sufficiently careful to cultivate. Our evidences of this fact are both numerous and conclusive. In the first place, from the trifling amount of marriage business done in the many Nonconformist chapels licensed for that purpose, it seems to be the opinion of these respectable persons that holy wedlock is not to be had at meeting. The system of superintendent-registrars is not in favour with them. The loveliest sex of puritans won't endure being pointed at as the superintended of the young Mr. Thingumbobs; so, in nineteen cases out of twenty, they prefer to be regularly married at an episcopal altar. With this remarkable proof of the feeling entertained by the Dissenting community towards a particular ceremony of the establishment, we may, secondly, connect another of a more general character, though equally decided and extensive in its practical range of operation—namely, the great number of Dissenting parents getting up in the world, who send their children to boarding schools which regularly attend the sabbath services of the church of England. This is done, we know, on a very large scale, not only without the parents expressing or feeling the slightest scruple in regard to church attendance, but even with the knowledge that their families are thereby so weaned from Dissent as to petition in holiday time for the privilege of compounding the matter by going one half of the Sunday to the regular parochial worship—a state of things which indicates any thing, surely, rather than an unfriendly disposition to the established religion of the country. Thirdly, every body knows how very highly the domiciliary visits of a tender, faithful, and disinterested parish clergyman, who justly deems it his duty to exercise a pastoral superintendence over every family within his beat (irrespective of sectarian distinctions), are appreciated and exulted in by all right-minded Dissenters. They know that these are attentions in which *cash* has no concern; and, accordingly, if such attentions be kindly, discreetly, and assiduously rendered, the truly religious Nonconformists are not only accustomed to speak of them with grateful respect, but, by contrasting them with the pew-rent fawnings and flatterings of their chapel functionaries, are frequently induced to give a permanent preference to the less sordid ministrations of the church. A fourth proof of the same sort of homage which many Dissenters pay to the establishment is to be found in the fact, that in their proprietary schools, such as at Pimlico and elsewhere, they generally confide the masterships to clergymen of the national faith; and, lastly, we are warranted to state, with a confidence which defies contradiction, that as soon as circumstances enable the more thriving Dissenting citizens to take a respectable place among church circles, a considerable proportion of them, from one cause or another, are in the habit of giving the meeting house the slip; their country residence is too far from it—they dislike driving their carriage on Sundays—their parish rector is an excellent and painstaking clergyman—so, away they repair to the established communion for good; and more than this, we are assured, on unquestionable authority, that the sons of divers respectable Dissenters—say, of pastors as well as laymen—are at this moment studying both at Oxford and Cambridge as candidates for holy orders in the church.

Now, for what purpose do we adduce these facts? Principally to show, that in spite of the misrepresentations of sectarian petition-mongers and pulpiteres, who have obvious reasons for endeavouring to exaggerate their strength, there really exists among the quieter Dissenters (nine-tenths of whom, though they may dislike to disoblige their pastor by refusing to sign a parchment, have no desire whatever for church destruction) a latent feeling of friendship towards the establishment, which, in our humble judgment, is not sufficiently presumed upon by our national clergy, nor sufficiently turned to account by the application of those legitimate and winning influences, which, without the slightest compromise of church principles, would ultimately ripen that feeling into the most filial and beneficent affection.

Then, what are these influences, and how are they to be applied? It would be presumptuous on our part to attempt to teach those from whom, on sacred subjects, we are always glad to learn: but we may suggest, with the utmost deference, the still further prosecution of an earnest and indefatigable system of parochial domiciliary visiting throughout all the parishes of the land. This, depend upon it, is the only patent and talismanic key to English hearts, whether of Churchmen, Papists, or Dissenters. Disinterested and persevering kindness, brought habitually to a man's home under all sorts of discouragement, is what no human being can long or rudely resist. With that elevated discrimination and single-heartedness, which, in the absence of all impertinent intrusions or officious curiosity, manifestly seeks to engage mankind in a devout concern for their immortal interests, let every family in every city, town and hamlet, be regularly and affectionately visited, no matter what denomination they may belong to. The established clergy, accredited, commissioned, and upheld by the law of this realm, are the clergy of the whole nation. Every fireside in their parish is a part of their allotted charge. They have an official as well as a moral right, subject, of course, to discreet limitations, to seek admittance into every door, "whether men will hear or whether they will forbear." Painful repulses will occasionally, though not often occur; but these, compensated by a consciousness of dutiful exertion and cordial welcomes in other cases, will sooner or later be overcome by meek and patient endurance. Only let all the families of England be regularly invited to the dispensation of a free gospel in a free church, and eventually the universality of this habit of parochial visiting will establish it as a part of our social system, and cause it to work with the uniform beneficence of nature's general laws.

Summary of Civil Intelligence.

There have been no arrivals from England since the Liverpool: in the absence of any fresh intelligence from Europe, we offer to our readers an extract from a leading London journal on what, at the last accounts, was a very exciting subject in England:—

THE CORN-LAWS.

From the Standard, Feb. 5.

The anti-corn-law meetings fill the Whig-Radical news-

papers—but they fill nothing else. Whenever a large meeting is collected, the anti-agriculturalists are sure to be defeated by their Chartist friends, who, we rejoice to see, are becoming daily better and better informed of the real purpose of the agitation, and of the certain effect of its success should it prove successful. The working classes feel that they were cheated by the Whig-Radicals at the time of passing the Reform Bill; and they are resolved not to be cheated again. The late Mr. Sadler—who, because he was a far wiser and better man than the majority, was treated as a visionary when he opposed the Reform Bill as robbing the working classes of all real and even all virtual representation—was of course unsuccessful in forcing conviction upon the mad parliament of 1831; and the working classes, cheated into the illusive hope that "the bill" would give them all the power of the legislature—like the dog in the fable, deceived by the shadow—lost what influence they before possessed. The Chartists are, in fact, merely verifying Mr. Sadler's prediction—they are confessing that an unreformed parliament would never have passed a New Poor-law Bill, or threaten them with a rural police. These men, however, have still much to learn; and at the bottom of which as yet unacquired knowledge lies the truth, that they must be contented with only a share of political power, sufficient to protect their own interests and position in society; and this is all to which any order in the community is entitled. The next step in truth is the natural alliance of the working classes with the aristocracy. We trust to the anti-corn-law agitation to teach both lessons. It is a fact obvious to every one who has been in the habit of observing popular assemblies, that the members of the working classes are much better educated, much more intelligent, much more moderate and reasonable than the classes immediately above them. The clamour of "cheap bread," which means bread to-day and famine to-morrow, scarcely finds an echo among those to whom the difference of 10 per cent. in the price of bread can be an object of serious importance—the clamour remains with those who, by calling for cheap bread, think, and truly think, that they are calling for lower wages to their servants, and think also, but with less reason, that they are calling for larger profits to themselves. Let the working classes consider only the character of these men, and they will know how to appreciate the profession of their care for the interests of the poor. At a late meeting at Huddersfield, one of the Messrs. Baines, of Leeds, staunch supporters of the New Poor-law and of the factory system, made a speech, which we find noticed by the Morning Chronicle in the following passages:—

"Mr. Edward Baines, in answer to Mr. Binns' question, whether it would be possible for English workmen to compete with foreign workmen, observed that they did not compete with them, and must continue to compete with them, and the practical question now was, whether they could compete with them better if they had food at the same price as foreigners, or if their food cost (as it did now) nearly twice as much as that of foreigners? We were committed to the great race of competition with the world: we could not withdraw from it: this was no matter of choice: we must compete with foreigners, and we must beat them or perish. England was not surrounded with a wall of brass: we were a trading people. We manufactured 50 millions sterling of goods every year for the markets of the world: if we were beaten by our foreign competitors, that trade would be destroyed; and what would then become of the immense population of Huddersfield, of Yorkshire, of Lancashire, and other parts of England? * * * * * "The workmen ought to understand that a repeal of the corn-laws, by creating additional trade, will furnish additional employment, and it would be strange if workmen were to be worse off under a prosperous than under a decaying trade."

Mr. Baines is mistaken; this country is under no necessity of beating the Continental manufacturers for an existence: her term would be short-lived were such the case; for sooner or later the Continental manufacturers must beat us in many fabrics; and if we send them annually five or six millions of our capital in exchange for the price of food, the wealth thus consumed, and the stimulus thus given to population, will greatly accelerate the era of our defeat.—Happily, in our own home market, and our colonial market, we have an assurance that our being beaten upon the Continent of Europe ought to be a matter of comparative indifference. The working men ought to know too that if a temporary increase of employment is obtained at the expense of an influx of persons seeking that employment, out of all proportion greater than the increase, their condition will be made only so much the worse.

The working people ought also to know that the interest of their employers is not their interest, and never can be. There is not a millowner in Manchester or Leeds who cares one farthing about the general and ultimate increase of trade; for they all well know that capital is so abundant in this country, that if the cotton trade, for example, were doubled, the number of mills would, after a little time, be doubled, leaving them only the same profits as at present, and subjecting them to that greater risk as to fluctuation which always attends an extending market; but in the depression of wages the employer has both a present and an enduring interest: that would augment his profits at once, without any further risk of capital, indeed, with a diminished risk of capital.

The working men ought to know, that if by any new channel of industry opened the demand for labour should equal the supply, the millowners would look upon such a happy event as the greatest calamity.

The working men ought also to know, that while the strength of the country is maintained, and the home market protected, whatever may become of particular trades, their labour will always be in demand.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

The following extracts comprise all that is latest and most interesting upon this important subject:—

From the Quebec Mercury, March 16.

LATEST FROM THE BORDERS.—Lieut. Thomas Hamilton, of the Quebec Volunteer Artillery, who arrived in town this morning, was the bearer of a letter dated Grand Falls, 12th March, from which we gather the following important intelligence from the "seat of war."

It was expected that an attack would shortly be made on the British forces at Tobique, and the Artillery, with the two field pieces, which was stationed at the Grand Falls had, in consequence, been ordered down.

A British settler on the Aroostook, had been fired at, and wounded, by an American sentinel.

The Provincial Parliament of New Brunswick has placed the entire surplus revenue at the disposal of His Excellency Sir John Harvey.

A serious difference has arisen in the American camp. It appears that the American troops, in their zeal to qualify themselves for shooting the "Britishers" erected two targets wherewith to practice, one of which represented Queen Victoria, the other St. Patrick and the Cross! It, however, unfortunately happened that the Yankees had overlooked the presence among their own militia of a number of descendants from natives of the land of the Shamrock, who, fired at the insult proffered to their patron saint, turned out; the result was a desperate conflict, and several wounded.

Volunteer Dragoons are stationed on the road from Fredericton as far as Major Gamble's at Madawaska, for the purpose of carrying despatches.

General Scott continued at Augusta on the 8th instant, and Governor Fairfield had not made any communication to the State Legislature on the subject of the proceedings at Washington.

A meeting had been held at Portland, Maine, at which the Mayor presided; it was there resolved to acquiesce in the advice given from Washington, and withdraw the troops from the disputed territory.—Portland being a seaport town, stands in a delicate position should hostilities with Great Britain ensue.

From the Quebec Gazette.

The generosity of the corporation of St. John, (N. B.) is deserving of admiration, in having appropriated the sum of £1000 for the support of the families of those militiamen who may be called from home, in consequence of the present emergency.

We perceive that the Finance Committee of the New Brunswick Legislature have reported that the probable amount of available funds during the present year will be £91,000.

We find it stated in the Woodstock Times of the 2nd inst., that 1000 of the Mobawk tribe of Indians had volunteered their services to the Governor General to proceed to the Restook.

H. M. S. Crocodile had arrived at St. John, N. B., on the morning of the 2nd inst., with 6 officers and 190 men of the 69th Regiment, under command of Major Brooks. They were to proceed to Fredericton as soon as the necessary conveyances could be procured.

The sum of £500 had been appropriated by the Legislature of New Brunswick for the equipment of a corps of Light Dragoons.

The papers state that the whole of the funds voted for the defence of the Province are immediately available.

From the Montreal Herald.

On the 26th ult. when the news of the American invasion reached Halifax, the Legislature was then sitting, and on the motion of the Hon. E. Dodd, seconded by Joseph Howe Esq., the House of Assembly suspended all business, and adjourned till five o'clock to obtain time for a committee to report the most effectual mode of co-operating with New Brunswick, at which time the committee appointed submitted thirteen resolutions, which were unanimously agreed to, with three hearty cheers, in which the strangers in the gallery heartily responded.

Never perhaps in the history of Nova Scotia has there occurred such an outbreak of deep impassioned feeling, as was given expression to when the committee reported their resolutions.

Notwithstanding the suddenness of the measures adopted by the House, when the doors were opened at half past five o'clock the lobby and gallery were filled to overflowing, by the crowds of inhabitants who had been waiting for admission. The report was then read, after some preliminary observation, by the Hon. Mr. Dodd, chairman of the committee. It consisted of a series of resolutions empowering His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to call out and embody Volunteer and Draft Companies of the Militia, to the number of 8000 men, between the ages of 18 and 45; and authorizing the expenditure of £100,000, if it should be required, to repel the aggression on the sister Province.

LOWER CANADA.

From the Montreal Courier.

The Albany Daily Advertiser asserts that Rouse's point on the shores of Lake Champlain, has been taken possession of by a party of British Troops and Indians, but we do not think that such is the case. The point commands the entrance to Lake Champlain and is a very important position in case of a war between Great Britain and the United States; it is situated about three quarters of a mile north of the 45th degree of latitude, but from our having the fortress of Isle aux Noix, the King of the Netherlands awarded it to the United States, and as they did not accept of the compromise made by him, it still belongs to Great Britain. The General Government of the States once commenced the construction of fortifications there, but desisted on ascertaining that it was beyond their bounds.

COURT MARTIAL.—On Thursday evening last, sentence of death was officially communicated to the following prisoners:—Louis Turcot, Frongois Xavier Prevost, Andre Papineau, David Gagnon, and Charles Rapin, all of Beauharnois. Desire Bourbonnois and Michel Longtin, were recommended to mercy. James Perrigo and Isidore Tremblay were acquitted. All of the St. Cessaire prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to death; their names are Louis Bourdon, Louis Turcot, and Francois Guertin.

Information has been received of another incendiary outrage on the frontier, a house in Odeltown, close to the Line, having been set fire to on Tuesday night by a party of sympathizers.—Transcript.

UPPER CANADA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, March 13.—A Bill to provide for the relief of the destitute and infirm was passed, and sent up to the Legislative Council.

The bill to amend the Boundary Line Commissioners' act was read the third time.

The amendments made by the Legislative Council to the King's Bench bill, were passed and sent to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Rutten reported an Address to his Excellency on return of Militia Commissions—read twice—third reading this day.

The bill to replace J. Campbell and T. Steward on the pension list, read second time; committed this day three months.

Mr. Aikman obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Court of Requests law; second reading on Wednesday next; 100 copies of bill to be printed.

The ejection law amendment bill was read the second time, committed; bill reported; third reading to-morrow.

The Legislative Council announced by message having passed the bill to amend the King's Bench Commissioners Law, sent up from this house.

The bill to regulate the Court of Probate was read the second time, committed, progress reported, sit again to-morrow.

Thursday, March 14.—The House went into committee of the whole on the subject of a Lunatic Asylum.

The Halton Road Tax bill was read the second time.

The chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to a resolution which he was directed to submit for the adoption of the House.

The resolution was put and carried as follows:

Resolved, That there be granted to her Majesty the sum of one hundred pounds to enable her Majesty to grant the said sum of one hundred pounds, to provide for the annual salary of the keeper of the False Ducks' Light House.

The House went into committee of the whole on the bill to erect township halls.

On the question for receiving the report, the yeas and nays were taken,—yeas 21, nays 18, majority 3.

The Legislative Council passed the bill sent up from the Commons House of Assembly, entitled "an Act to render valid the late Elections for Aldermen and Councilmen for the town of Kingston," without any amendment.

On motion of Mr. Manahan seconded by Mr. Matthewson, Ordered, That 500 copies of the correspondence relating to the resignation of the Earl of Durham as Governor General, be printed in pamphlet form, with marginal notes, for the use of members.

On motion of Mr. Marks, seconded by Mr. McKay, Ordered, That the despatch sent down to this House by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, relating to a grant of land to James Fitzgibbon, Esquire, as a reward for his services, be referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Chisholm of Halton, and Kearnes, with liberty to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Friday, March 15.—The address to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, respecting the casual and territorial revenue, was read the third time and passed.

The address to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor for certain information respecting the Court of Requests was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Marks from the select committee to which was referred the despatch from the Secretary of State, respecting the granting of lands to Col. Fitzgibbon, informed the House that the committee had agreed to report by bill, a draft of which he was ready to submit whenever the House would be pleased to receive the same.

The report was received and the bill was read the first time.

Mr. Thomson, from the select committee to which was referred the Election amendment bill reported the bill amended.

The report was received, and the bill as amended was read the first time.

Mr. Speaker reported that he had received from the Cashier of the Gore District Bank, in obedience to the orders of the House, a statement of the affairs of that institution, which was read:—Notes in circulation £90,403; Specie in vaults and in transitu £31548 14 9; Debts due to the Bank, £124,841 6 3; amount of reserved funds on Nov. 1st last £1917 3 5.

Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Rykert, moves that that part of his Excellency's speech which relates to the Militia Laws of this Province be referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Attorney General, Gowan, Chisholm and Prince, with power to send for persons and papers and to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

The bill to appoint Police Magistrates in large towns, was read the second time.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the subject of a Lunatic Asylum.

The chairman reported that the committee had agreed to a resolution, which he was directed to submit for the adoption of the House:—

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty the sum of five thousand pounds to enable her Majesty to erect a Lunatic Asylum in this Province, and that an additional assessment of one eighth of a penny in the pound be yearly levied and assessed on the rateable property in each and every District in this Province for the purpose of raising the said sum of five thousand pounds, and providing for the support of the said Asylum.

On which the yeas and nays were taken; yeas 30, nays 1, majority 29.

The following are the Resolutions submitted to the House by the Select Committee on the Clergy Reserves,—the Hon. W. H. Draper, Chairman:—

1. Resolved, That the lands set apart from time to time, as reserves for the support and maintenance of a Protestant Clergy, be sold in the same manner as other Crown lands in this Province.

2. Resolved, That the proceeds of past and future sales of any such lands be loaned to the Province at an interest of six per cent per annum, to be invested in debentures which may be authorised by the Legislature for the making and improving the Queen's public highways throughout this province; the interest on such debentures to be secured by tolls on such high ways, by a tax on the districts within which the outlay shall take place, and by such other means as the Legislature may deem fitting and proper.

3. Resolved, That the annual interest arising from such debentures be appropriated and divided under the authority and direction of the Lieut. Governor, in Council, in manner following:—

Not more than one fourth to the Church of England. Not more than one fourth to the Church of Scotland. The residue to such other religious denominations as the Lt. Governor in Council shall see fit, to be by them expended for the following purposes:—

The maintenance of public worship. The erection of Churches or Chapels. The education of persons for the ministry.

4. Resolved, That accounts of the expenditure of all sums granted, duly verified shall be, when required, rendered by the churches or bodies of Christians receiving the same, and that the Lieut. Governor be authorised to withhold further aid from any church or body of christians until previous grants have been duly accounted for.

5. Resolved, That annual accounts of the receipt and expenditure be laid before each branch of the Legislature.

6. Resolved, That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament the passing such enactments as may be necessary for carrying the foregoing resolutions into full effect.

BIRTH.

At Belleville, on the 20th inst. the lady of Edmonds Chandler Esq. of a son.

DIED.

At Toronto, on Wednesday the 20th inst. in the 73d year of his age, John Beikie Esq., for many years Clerk of the Executive Council of this Province.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

From the several pieces of poetry on hand, original and selected, suited to the present season of the religious year, we have published those which struck us as most appropriate. "Alvar" shall have an insertion.

List of Letters received to Friday, March 22:

J. Kent Esq. (5); Capt. Luard, rem. in full vol. 2;—[the balance is paid over to "Christian Knowledge Society"] Rev. T. Fuller (2) rem: Lord Bishop of Montreal; R. Deacon Esq.; Rev. R. D. Cartwright, rem.; Capt. Dobbs; Rev. J. Cochran; Rev. A. F. Atkinson, rem.