

and the fearful moment hastening when it will come down.

While the Italian people are beginning to feel their degradation, the government, full of apprehension, is adding to the grievous oppression of its measures.—Confession, which has for a long time fallen into disuse among the men, is rigorously enforced.

In this state of things, we might think them entirely unprepared for the reception of the Gospel—but instead of not being prepared to receive it, the Gospel is the only means of light and redemption to this nation. If Providence should scatter there some of the seed of his holy Word which has been so miraculously treasured for ages among the valleys of the Waldenses, it would spring up in the already prepared hearts of Italy, and yield a glorious harvest of freedom and intelligence.

As agents for this work of carrying the Gospel into Italy, the Churches of the Waldenses are eminently suited. Like ours, they are supported by voluntary contributions, having ever refused any state endowments. I cannot but think that they have been preserved amid all their poverty, oppression, and persecutions, for this very object of being made missionaries of truth for Italy. Their preservation has been most wonderful, and doubtless for some very important purpose.

Their religion, from its primitive simplicity, is admirably adapted to commend it to the hearts of the people. Just such a band of missionaries as the Waldenses might furnish is now needed for the renovation of Italy; and should they be aided and aroused to make the effort, it would be auspicious of the highest good to this enslaved nation. In corroboration of this idea, witness the effect produced on the minds of multitudes in Italy by the books of Luther, in the little season when they found their way into that country.

The great obstacle to the diffusion of the Gospel in Italy is the fear of light among the hierarchy. Italian hearts generally are just like other hearts, ready to yield homage to the truth; and for fear the people will get the truth, the government impose the severest restrictions. Hence the hatred of the priesthood to the pure word of God. Even in the Roman Catholic valleys of Piedmont, the priests are searching among the embers, where thousands of Bibles perished in the flames, as if afraid to trust the people with even their ashes. Within a few years these valleys have all been searched, and the old family Bibles, to the number of sixty, handed down for generations from a pious ancestry, have been wrested from their owners and publicly burned.

Should the spirit of Luther be revived in the bosom of the Waldenses, the same mighty triumphs of truth which were seen during the Reformation, will be again seen.—And the dry hearts of many thousands in Italy will soon be kindled to a living and glorious flame, that shall spread through the world.

We have a right, surely, thus to bless Italy and the world by giving her this living, this emancipating truth. No mere political revolution can bless Italy; and we have no right to interfere with her civil institutions; but the Gospel has power to meliorate any government, and to make any nation happy.

There is something in true piety ennobling to any form of government, and we have, surely, a right to promote it wherever we please. If Rome should renew her burnings—though we think she will not dare to, in the heart of Europe in the nineteenth century—yet, if she should, Italy would be revolutionized. Of one thing we are sure, that the word of God shall yet, and that at no distant day, "have free course and be glorified," and we hope soon to see numerous preachers from among the Waldenses, glowing with this sacred light, in the midst of Italy.—From a lecture by the Rev. Dr. Cheever, reported for the N. Y. Com. Advertiser.

The Berean.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1846.

In closing the second volume of this Periodical, we have to recur to the intention announced by us at the beginning of the year, that we would enlarge the size of the paper at the commencement of the next volume, or at an early period after the opening of the navigation. It has not been in the power of our Publisher to make his arrangements so as to print the earliest numbers of the new volume on the enlarged scale; but the prospect of an early opening of the navigation allows us to hope that a very few numbers only will have to be struck off at the present size; and we shall have the pleasure of affording to our readers matter amounting to two columns more than what our sheet has hitherto contained, by widening every one of the columns, leaving the arrangement otherwise unaltered.

We shall put an Index and Title-page for this volume into the Printer's hands immediately, and our best endeavours will be used to have it ready for transmission at an early day.

With grateful acknowledgment of the kind aid rendered to us by numerous friends, by our gratuitous agents, and by contributors to our columns, we solicit the continuance of the support which has so essentially forwarded the success of the undertaking to the present time. We would gladly give to several Correspondents, who feel kindly solicitous to know about the financial aspect of the enterprise, some definite information on this subject, but the accounts become so intricate through the addition of new subscribers at all periods of the year that it has been impossible for us, at this time, to wind them up so as to warrant a conclusion sufficiently distinct to communicate to our readers. We may here mention that the prompt settlement of

outstanding claims for subscription, and advance-payment generally, would very materially facilitate our endeavours to judge of the state of our accounts, and we beg to express our thanks to those many subscribers who have handed in their subscriptions before even they were called upon for the purpose. We feel warranted in saying, on the one hand, that our list of subscribers and patronage by advertisements are sufficient to secure us against loss; on the other, that the remuneration which it may possibly yield will not, for a good while to come, be adequate to the labour and responsibility of duties such as we have undertaken. With that, we laid our account from the commencement; and we are the more ready to let the question of emolument remain secondary, after the experience we have had of kind appreciation to our labours, and a widening sphere of usefulness.

The opening of the new volume will afford us an opportunity of presenting to our readers a few more remarks suitable to this stage of our labours, in our next number.

The meeting of the Provincial Parliament is considered by the Church as a call for special prayer on the behalf of those who compose the different branches of our Legislature. A form of prayer is provided for use at our seasons of public worship; and thus is indicated to all Church-members the duty of prayerful remembrance of the great public Council, in their families and in private devotion. We perceive that the public calamities which have befallen this city have given occasion, to Her Majesty's Representative, for advertizing to Divine Providence without whose permission the fire could have had no power; and he also refers to the high Source of all good for the needful supply of wisdom to direct legislators in the course to be pursued by them. It must be hoped and desired that He who rules Supreme over nations will be acknowledged when he gives prosperity, even as we remember Him when contending with adverse circumstances.

May the religious public be stirred up to remember the Legislature both in prayer and watchfulness, imploring for them the divine guidance, and furnishing them, when occasion shall require, with clear indications, not to be disregarded, of the public mind on questions which may involve the religious rights of the subject—for instance his claim for scriptural teaching, if he is to be taxed for public schools;—or which may attack the foundation of morals—for instance by any public proposal that the country should, for any purpose whatever, call in the services of that unscrupulous, though insinuating, body, the Jesuits.

MERLE D'AUBIGNE'S HISTORY OF THE REFORMATION.—naturalized in England.—In the preface to this fourth volume D'Aubigné says,— "When a foreigner visits certain countries, as England, Scotland, or America, he is sometimes presented with the rights of citizenship. Such has been the privilege of the 'History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.' From 150,000 to 200,000 copies are in circulation, in the English language, in the countries I have just mentioned; while in France the number hardly exceeds 4000. This is a real adoption,—naturalizing this Work in the countries that have received it with so much favour.

"I accept this honour. Accordingly, while the former volumes of my History were originally published in France, now that, after a lapse of five years, I think of issuing a continuation of it, I do so in Great Britain."

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PROTESTANT SCHOOLS in this city have given notice that they "propose to establish four Central Elementary Schools in the City, viz:—

- One in the Suburb of St. Roch,
One in the Suburb of St. John or St. Lewis,
One in St. Peter's Ward and
One in Champlain Ward,

if suitable sites can be obtained and School Houses erected therein; and that for this purpose a sum of £90 will be granted by Government for each such School House, on the following conditions:

- 1.—That the inhabitants shall furnish half the cost of such School House, before the grant of the residue can be obtained.
2.—That each site or lot shall be vested in the Commissioners, by sufficient deed, and that the whole property shall be under their control.
3.—The Commissioners therefore hereby notify the Protestant inhabitants of the above Suburbs and Wards that upon their raising, by contribution among themselves, a sum equal to that above mentioned, (if the whole shall together be found sufficient for the purchase of a site and the erection of a School House) the Commissioners, on being apprized thereof, will obtain the necessary grant in aid from the Common School-fund; and take such further measures as may be requisite."

The notice specifies various provisions to which the contemplated Schools will be subject in accordance with the Act: Teachers to be appointed after examination by Comrs.—removable by them—salaries and emoluments to be regulated by Comrs.—fees to be paid by scholars not to exceed 1s. 3d. per month for each scholar—Comrs may exempt indigent persons from payment—general management and property to be under their direction—regulations to be made by them—each school to be in operation at least 8 months in each year, attended by at least 15 scholars.

"Until such School Houses can be built, the Commissioners are willing to establish four central Schools in the before mentioned localities, in hired apartments, (two rooms for each School), and they will receive Tenders,

between this date and 1st May next, for leasing such accommodation during the ensuing year."

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Diocese of Quebec.

INCORPORATED CHURCH SOCIETY.

The following sums have been received by the Society's Treasurer at Montreal, besides those mentioned in our last, collected after Sermons on Quinquagesima Sunday, towards the fund for the general purposes of the Society, at

Table with columns for location and amount. Includes St. John's, St. Martins, Laclaine, Chambly, Gore, St. Andrews, Hatley, Compton, Vaudeuil, Bedford, Huntingdon, Aylmer, Coteau du Lac, Philipsburg, Milton, and Clarenceville.

Diocese of Toronto.

INCORPORATED CHURCH SOCIETY.

At the Society's Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday the 4th of February, the Treasurer presented statement of receipts amounting with the balance of £631 12s. —in hand on the 1st of January, to £1048 12s. 3d. and of payments amounting, inclusive of £431 13s. 4d. remittance to England and £70 18s. 4d. to New York (both of them for Depository) to £666 14s. 11d. Various payments were authorised, and a report was presented by the Committee appointed to consider the best means of assisting in the erection of Parsonages by loans from the Society's permanent funds; which report we print from the Church, as follows:

"That they are of opinion, the best means of assisting in the erection of parsonages by loan from the permanent funds of the Society, will be by loans, to be secured on such good and sufficient security as shall be satisfactory to the Solicitors of the Society, to be repaid by instalments of 10 per cent. per annum on the sum advanced; such instalments to pay the interest and form a sinking fund to liquidate the debt.

"By this plan 15 annual payments of £10 each, and a 16th payment of £8, will pay the principal and interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on an advance or loan of £100.

"Your Committee are of opinion that each application for a loan should be made to the Society and decided upon its own merits, as they conceive that no rules could be adopted that would be generally applicable.

"The permanent funds for investment at present are as follows: £247 10 0 General purposes, 475 0 0 Missionary purposes, 947 18 11 Widows and Orphans' Fund.

£1670 8 11 1/2

The Investments made by the Society are as follows:

Table with columns for investment type and amount. Includes Diocesan Press, British American Ass. Co. 100 shares, Bank of Upper Canada, Land, and Rev. John Grier.

£1618 3 9

"Of which sum of £1618 3s. 9d., a sum of £225 has been invested belonging to funds not held for investment; that is, £175 from the Septuagesima fund, and £50 from the General Purposes fund; leaving only the sum of £1423 3s. 9d. of the permanent funds invested, and as such funds amount to £1670 8s. 11 1/2d. it leaves a balance of £247 5s. 2 1/2d. still uninvested." "All which is respectfully submitted."

THE NIAGARA DISTRICT BRANCH of the Society held its fourth Annual Meeting in St. George's Church, St. Catherine's, on the 14th January. After Evening Service had been performed, the chair was taken by the Rev. W. Leeming; and after an address by him, the report was read which showed a total amount received, of £288 4. 6. of which £70 12. 8 1/2 were retained for the Diocesan Church Society, and £64 10s. 11d. for the Travelling Missionary; the amount of £142 6s. 10 1/2 was refunded to the necessity of earnestly petitioning the Legislature to arrest further injury to the Church from the wasteful management of the Clergy Reserves. It stated that the Rev. H. Stoneman, M. A., ceased to be the Travelling Missionary in the District in July last, in consequence of finding himself unable to bear the hardships incident to a Travelling Missionary's life. His place was temporarily supplied by the Rev. Richard Garrett until the end of October, when he was succeeded by the Rev. R. Shanklin, who can, however, devote only a portion of his time to the destitute parts of the District; the desirableness, therefore, is strongly set forth of the appointment of a Missionary whose whole time shall be devoted to that branch of service. In urging the need of enlarged liberality, the report mentions the case of "an honest, hard-working farmer in the parish of Niagara who, in addition to a donation of 100 acres of land for the endowment of a Church in the township of Beverly, Gore-District, gives annually to the Church-Society the large sum of £12 10s. A series of Resolutions appropriate to the occasion having been passed, the Benediction was pronounced and the meeting separated.

THE BROCK DISTRICT BRANCH held its Annual Meeting at Woodstock, on the 16th of February, when a report was read containing statement of account from which it appeared that £110 0s. 1d. had been received during the year, which, with the balance of £41 3s. 9d. from the year preceding, make a

total of £151 3s. 10d. That sum, however, includes £17 6s. 10d. collected for the Quebec Relief Fund which were remitted to R. G. Anderson, Esq. The sum of £10 was advanced towards completion of the church at Beachville; £5 devoted to the purchase of a Sunday School lending Library, and the remainder remitted to the Parent Society at Toronto.

OPENING OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, LONDON, CANADA WEST.

From the London Times, March 13th.

This interesting event took place on the 25th ult., just two years from the destruction of the former Church by fire, which occurred on Ash Wednesday, 1844.

Long before 11 o'clock, the hour appointed for the commencement of Divine Service, the church was densely crowded; the pews accommodate about 1000 persons, but there must have been at least from 14 to 1600 compressed within the walls, and numbers were unable to obtain admission. The large attendance, and the great distances travelled by many in order to be present, evinced the deep and general interest felt in the circumstance which called us together.

Prayers were read by the Rev. C. Brough, the lessons by the Rev. F. Evans, the Communion Service by the Rev. Messrs. Revel and Read, and there were also present the Rev. Messrs. Flood, Burnham, Hobson, Cooper, Mockridge, Gunn and Sandys. An eloquent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. B. Cronyn, A. M., in which he urged the obligation Christians are under to give of their means to erect suitable temples dedicated to the worship of God; and as their design is the promotion of his honour, and the highest interests of man, so in their general appearance, style, and degree of embellishment they should surpass rather than fall below the standard of other public edifices; and surely it is unbecomingly to erect them on that meagre and mere utilitarian principle, which looks for nothing more in a church than the enclosing a given space at the smallest possible cost. The Psalmist and other usages of the Church of England were also ably defended, and the great end and object of all ritual and external observances, namely—to purify the heart and affections, and to assist in bringing men through Christ to God, was earnestly set forth. The discourse was heard by the large congregation with deep attention.

The offertory was then read, during which a collection was made in aid of the church fund, which was somewhat impeded by the crowded state of the Church; however, about £45 were collected.

The vocal and instrumental parts of the Service assigned to the choir were admirably sustained throughout. Much commendation is due to Mr. Crozier, the talented gentleman who presides over the Band of the 51st Regiment, by whose unremitting attention, the whole choir, aided by his fine band, kindly granted by Major Willocks, were trained to the very efficient state in which they appeared on this occasion: his care was rewarded by the correct and beautiful manner in which the "choral hymns of praise" and all the other parts were performed. Indeed the whole services of the day were most impressive; the anthems, chants, and other old church music carried us back, over an interval of many years, to a period when such things were daily familiar to us; we seemed to recognise in them the voice of a long-severed friendship; and combining with the solemn duties in which we were engaged—the spacious and handsome edifice so new and yet so like what we were accustomed to,—it is not surprising that associations were awakened which produced emotions, in some instances, too powerful to be restrained.

Nor probably were there wanting other appropriate feelings; the day, the services, the place recalling the catastrophe of the former structure, supplied a salutary lesson of the uncertain tenure of all earthly things, and tended to awaken a sense of our unworthiness in the sight of God, and at the same time gratitude that in the ordering of his Providence we had been thus permitted to build up the waste places of our Zion.

The new Church of St. Paul is a good adaptation of the old English ecclesiastical architecture to the requirements of a modern place of worship, and in its design and execution reflects much credit upon the architect and the mechanics employed in its construction. The style adopted is that which prevailed throughout the greater part of the 14th century. The general material is brick, but stone is used in the base, the sides and architraves of the door ways—the sills of the windows, the set-ops and caps of the buttresses and pinnacles, the tablet in which the windows are set, the cornices of the tower, the cornice and capping of the East parapet, and the various corbels.

The Church consists of one large nave, a receding chancel, a tower about three fourths engaged, a porch in the middle of the south side, and a small vestry on the north side of the chancel; its total external length being 131 feet and its width 66 feet; the Tower is 114 feet in height. The west end is well designed. The width of the building required that the tower should be of corresponding dimensions, and it is therefore large and massive in its proportions, the lower part being plain without much enrichment, yet sufficiently broken into parts and diversified to escape the charge of being dead and heavy in effect.

[It is highly creditable to the members of the Church in that part of the Province, to learn that "the contributions to the building-fund have been almost exclusively supplied by the Churchmen of London." Passing over some of the details, we subjoin the close of the account given by the writer in the Times:]

The necessary temperature is attained by warm air generated in two chambers at opposite corners below the floors, passing through brick flues, and admitted at intervals through apertures in the aisles, covered with perforated brass plates.

Standing on a large open space, and on somewhat elevated ground, the new Church is an ornament to the Town and, rising above the surrounding buildings, it forms a conspicuous feature from whatever quarter it is approached.—Perhaps the best point of view

is approaching by the north road, when its whole elevation comes sooner in sight; the west end is well seen from the street leading off in that direction—and the north east approach, from the Garrison, displays the principal features of the Church, the Chancel, the main body of the edifice, the range of windows, and the tower to great advantage.

The erection of such a Church in this part of the province is a marked step and feature in that curious and interesting, though to us familiar process by which a Country passes from the savage wildness of nature to that state of population, wealth and intelligence, in which the highest comforts of civilization are enjoyed in companionship with the blessings of religious ordinances and instruction.

Substantial in its materials, correct in design and architecture, embellished suitably to its style and character, and yet neither profuse nor extravagant in its ornaments, the present new Church reflects much praise upon the spirit and Christian liberality of the Churchmen of London; may it stand long uninjured by time and unscathed by casualties, to be a house of prayer, and a place of spiritual blessings to generations yet unborn.

Diocese of Nova Scotia.

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Diocesan Church Society of Nova Scotia, took place at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday evening the 5th of March. The room was filled some time before the hour of meeting, by a most respectable assemblage of Ladies and Gentlemen: and the platform crowded by the Members of the General Committee, the Clerical and other Delegates from various Local Committees, and other persons of influence in the City who are interested in the affairs of the Society. A larger number than usual of the Clergy of the Province were present on the occasion.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese took the Chair at 7 1/2 o'clock; and at once opened the proceedings of the evening by calling upon the assembly to sing the Hundredth Psalm. The sweetness and fulness of the harmony in which this call was responded to was peculiarly pleasing. The ARCHDEACON supplicated the Divine Blessing upon the evening's engagements.

His LORDSHIP, in then briefly stating the objects of the meeting, expressed his gratification at being permitted to preside at the Eighth Anniversary of the Society, and his hope that the Divine presence and Blessing would sanctify its purpose. He then congratulated the members of the Church upon the increased interest every where manifested in the Society, and more particularly as a time seemed to have arrived, a crisis in the affairs of the Colonial Church, which required the utmost exertions and interest of its members. He referred to the difficulties which pressed upon the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which had so long sustained the Church in this Province, but which, though not less willing than before, was compelled to restrain its bounty, and feared being obliged even to withdraw its help from the Province. His Lordship then called upon the SECRETARY, (H. PAVOR, Esq.) to read the Report.

The Report was full of gratitude to God for the increasing interest felt by the country generally in the welfare of the Society, and for the encouragement which the committee had had to aim at some of the higher objects of the Society, such as the endowment of Church Schools, and the employment of two travelling Missionaries in the different districts of the Province. It detailed a small but steady increase of the remittances from the Country, and stated that the enlarged operations of the Society would require a further increase of income to a considerable extent. It was characterized by one of the speakers during the evening, as by far the most gratifying Report which had yet been presented to the Society.

The following Resolutions were then proposed and carried:

"Resolved, That the Report now read be adopted, printed, and circulated under the direction of the General Committee.

"Resolved, That this Meeting rejoice in the advancing prosperity of this Institution, and desires especially, to express gratitude to God for the increased interest in the work of the Society manifested by the Local Committees which have been some time formed, and for the readiness with which those of more recent formation have joined in the work.

"Resolved, That this Meeting desire to express their sense of the deep importance of early training on the principles of true religion, and rejoice that the Society have engaged in the endeavour, as their means may enable them, to supply at least one School, conducted on the principles of the Established Church, to each Mission in the Province.

"Resolved, That this Meeting, thankful for the religious privileges they enjoy, rejoice over every effort to spread the knowledge of Salvation among those less favoured than themselves; and desire to praise God that the Society has been encouraged to undertake the support of two travelling Missionaries who may convey to the most retired Settlements and secluded Cottages of the Province, the glad tidings of a Saviour's love, through the regularly appointed Ministry of His Church.

"Resolved, That this Meeting is fully sensible, that in order to sustain the important undertakings which have been mentioned, great and increasing exertions must be made to augment the funds of the Society; and would pray God to dispose the hearts of all to whom He giveth liberally, to contribute, as He has blessed them, to the permanent endowment and support of a cause, which, they doubt not, is the cause of Christ and His Church.

"Resolved, That this Meeting desires to express its continued sense of the obligation under which the members of the Church in this Province have been laid by the operations of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and its deep regret at the necessity which lies upon those Societies to check their bounteous hands. It trusts, however, that the difficulties which have surrounded those Societies will but urge on our sister Societies in Quebec, Toronto, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland, and in the Colonies of the Empire, to the more earnest endeavour to be, with the Society of the