

ridiculous. Wits will be working; and such as have a satirical vein cannot better vent it than in lashing of sin.

But the more discreet and devout sort of men, even of such as were no great friends to the hierarchy, upon solemn debate then resolved, (I speak on certain knowledge from the mouths of such whom I must believe,) that, for many foul falsehoods therein suggested, such books were altogether unbecoming a pious spirit, to print, publish, or with pleasure peruse; which, supposed true both in matter and measure, charity would rather conceal than discover;

But leaving private men to abound in their own sense: how highly the state (as it then stood) distasted these books, will plainly appear by the heavy censures inflicted on such as were but accessory thereunto.

THE CHURCH. COBOURG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1840.

During the present season of the religious year, when we are commemorating the EPIPHANY, or MANIFESTATION OF CHRIST TO THE GENTILES, our attention is naturally drawn to a subject which for some time has engaged the warmest interest of the Christian world.

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behold the benevolent character of our holy religion; an exemplification of one of its prominent tenets, that "God willeth not the death of a sinner, but that all should come to repentance."

The long-lost "younger son," the representative of the Gentile world, had wandered indeed into a "far country;" where, far removed from a parent's protection and love, there were no comforts, no cheering prospects to soothe him;

In this picture, we—the offspring not of the "elder" but of the "younger son"—have a peculiar interest; and our thankfulness and praise should be deeper and stronger, when we contrast the present respective conditions of these two great branches of the human family.

We know not the plans of God's Providence, nor can we fathom his mysterious counsels; but it may happen that the Jews and Gentiles will again change places in the favour and regard of their heavenly Father.

Be this as it may, we ought to cherish the spirit which our peculiar privileges have taught us, and look forward with earnest hope and pray with fervent supplication for the return to our common Father's house of our "elder brother."

These wishes are expectations which, to the joy of every loyal heart, have been literally fulfilled; and we know that their author will be amongst the heartiest to respond to the general satisfaction.

The Church Spoliation Bill,—like the suicidal measure of the Union of the Provinces,—we were quite prepared to learn, experienced scarcely a show of opposition in the Legislative Council.

But the most important feature in the character of the London Society is its missionary enterprise. It employs forty-nine missionaries, and agents in Europe and the East, of whom twenty-nine are Jewish converts, and they labour in four fields, in each of which the circumstances and habits of the Jews are considerably different.

Again, the jealousy and indignation evinced by the elder son, on perceiving the ardent welcome given to his unadulterated and dissipated brother, very strongly represents the feelings and conduct of the Jews, when they saw the long estranged Gentiles invited and admitted to equal privileges with themselves.

When the rest of the world apostatized from the true God, the children of Israel remained faithful to their allegiance; and therefore it grieved them, like the "elder son" in the parable, to perceive that these rebellious apostates were now put upon an equal footing with themselves.

In all this, we behold the condescending goodness and wisdom of God, the common Father, beautifully blended.

with the spiritual worship of Him who is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth.

NOTE.—At present Protestant service is conducted in the mission-house every Sabbath, by Mr. Nicolayson, who preaches in the forenoon in English, in the afternoon in Arabic, and in the evening in German, besides reading the Liturgy in Hebrew.

Our readers are generally aware that the late Governor General of these Provinces, the excellent and esteemed Sir John Colborne, has received at the hands of his Sovereign that reward which his long and faithful services in this Colony had so justly entitled him.

In the honours recently conferred upon Sir John Colborne, now Lord Seaton, we have been reminded of the extremely happy turn of thought—almost conceived in a spirit of prophecy—which pervaded an article from the pen of our able and admired correspondent "Alan Fairford," published in this journal on the 6th of January 1838, and headed "Sir John Colborne."

"If her Majesty Queen Victoria wishes to gratify every loyal man within her Canadian dominions (and who can doubt her princely disposition)—if she wishes to fill their bosoms with gratitude, and to light up each face with the flush of exultation, she will bestow a high distinction, and a substantial reward, on the second conqueror of Lower Canada.

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requesting a similar favour for my first letter on the same subject, and which I herewith send to you with a few verbal corrections, and the addition of a short note.

I have the honour to be, with sincere respect, Your most obedient servant, SCOTUS.

To the Editor of the Hamilton Gazette.

Sir,—Having on former occasions addressed you on various matters connected with the interests of the Colony, I am induced to trouble you with a few remarks on a subject which I cannot help thinking of vital importance to the great cause of Education in this portion of the British Empire.

Now, Sir, I must dissent in toto from this reasoning. I maintain, on the contrary, that in order to raise up a national system of education in any country, instead of beginning at the bottom and ascending upwards, you must reverse the order, and begin at the top and descend downwards, or, in other words, you must first erect a noble University, filling its chairs with men illustrious in science and literature, and thereby create in the public mind a taste for learning in its higher departments; and, afterwards, the inferior schools will follow as a matter of course.

Literature and science are things for which there is naturally no demand, GENERALLY, in the public mind, in any country. A taste for these refinements of civilization must, therefore, be first created by, as it were, a forcing process, and until that taste is so created, you may set about the erection of Common or District Schools till the end of time, but will find that all your labours have been vain and fruitless.

I do not, however, rest my argument merely on theory; I appeal to what is matter of fact. How, I would ask, has the noble system of education existing in Great Britain been raised,—by commencing first with the erection of Common and District Schools? No, most assuredly not. Our pious ancestors first laid the foundation of all our Education by the erection of great Universities—the Universities of Oxford, of Cambridge, of St. Andrews, of Aberdeen, of Dublin.

To conclude, I cannot refrain from expressing my surprise that at the very time Mr. Morris was descending on the absurdity of immediately commencing the erection of King's College University, Toronto, a Bill was actually being brought into Parliament for the immediate erection of a Presbyterian University, in connection with, and under the exclusive control of the Presbyterian Kirk in this Colony.

I remain, Sir, Yours, &c. SCOTUS.

NOTE.—Since the above was written, a Bill, I believe, has actually been passed for the erection of the projected Presbyterian College in this Province. We have thus presented to our view the spectacle of our Provincial Legislature sanctioning and encouraging the erection of Universities, exclusively Roman Catholic, exclusively Methodist, and exclusively Presbyterian, and at the same time affirming that the erection of the noble University of King's College, is unnecessary and inexpedient.

For the Church. THE CLERGY RESERVES.

So much has been written and said upon this subject, that it would perhaps be an unavailing labour to endeavour to drag some new feature of the case to light. But there is one view to be taken of it, which late events have invested with a tenfold importance, and which should strengthen the minds of those among us, who—wearied with the continued agitation which has hitherto attended its discussion in the Provincial Legislature—have consigned themselves to a fearful apathy, and declare that they will support its disposal in any way!

The great question for a British statesman in this, is not—whether the Wesleyan Methodists, the Kirk of Scotland, or any other dissenting body, being a large and influential portion of the community, their application ought to be granted for the sake of conciliation. No! the question takes a range so wide, that a sceptical man, or one of limited political knowledge, would almost doubt its probability when pointed out to him.

When we look upon this subject in connection with the projected Union, the reasons become more startling which should deter any Protestant British subject from aiding to divide these lands among various sects of Protestants.

enlightened politician or humane man would wish to see long existing. While England would inevitably fall, with the loss of her Colonial possessions, her fall would be the greater, because, rising from her ashes, like the Phoenix from its pyre, her ancient and indomitable foe would rule the world once more.

Rome has been beautifully apostrophized as the "The Noble of Nations"—England may not inappropriately be termed the Laocoon. The former, further to borrow the words of the Poet,

Childless and crownless in her voiceless woe;" the latter, like the famous piece of statuary to which I have compared her, bears on her front the emblement of agony,—the last stentorian gasp of Protestantism,—the dying throes of that pure and holy religion, which for ages has maintained her in her enviable position.

But I will not pursue the melancholy subject further. Suffice it to say that there must be no wavering in the ranks of Churchmen. *Teneo Sacros!* must be the motto with which they engage their opponents. The Clergy Reserves must not be diverted from their original purpose.

CLAUD HALCRO. ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

GREAT COUNCIL OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES.—At a meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, in the spring of the present year, the late moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Dr. Muir, expressed it as his opinion, that such were the aspects of the times and the avowed ends of Popery, that the time was approaching, if it had not arrived, when it would be the duty of the Protestant churches to meet for mutual counsel, and to devise measures with reference to the circumstances of the day and the duty of the Catholic Church towards the Popish encroachers.

THE SABBATH.—We understand that a resolution was passed this week, in the committee of the North Staffordshire Auxiliary Lord's-day Society, recommending all the clergy of North Staffordshire to use their utmost influence to prevail upon as many as possible of their parishioners to sign requests to the postmasters of their several parishes, not to deliver them their letters on the Lord's-day.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.—The north-west tower of this venerable pile has recently been rebuilt, in a style corresponding to the south-west tower, by the Dean and Chapter, at the expense of £30,000.

SHREWSBURY ABBEY CHURCH.—The Rev. Richard Scott, B.D., has presented to the Abbey Church at Shrewsbury a valuable service of communion plate. On Tuesday last the vicar and churchwardens waited upon Mr. Scott, with a memorial addressed upon parchment, and signed by upwards of 200 respectable residents of the Abbey Parish, expressive of their acknowledgments for the munificent gift.

NEWARK.—Mr. Serjeant Wild, M. P. for Newark, has given the sum of £100 towards liquidating the debt incurred by the erection of Christ Church, at that borough; and although the building and endowment cost the sum of £5300, the whole of that amount has been raised (with the exception of £68, the debt now due) by voluntary subscriptions.—16.

DEATH OF THE HON. CHARLES LE POER TRENCH, THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON OF ARDAGH.—It is with pain and deep regret I have to announce to you the demise of this amiable, high minded, and excellent Christian, which took place at his seat, Macknay, at half-past 12 o'clock last night.

When we look upon this subject in connection with the projected Union, the reasons become more startling which should deter any Protestant British subject from aiding to divide these lands among various sects of Protestants.