

Dioceses in 1853 there were but 295 ordained. The candidates for the former year were 165, and there are now 176. This is a sad view of the probable increase of the ministry for the next three years, where-with to supply the ranks of those of the clergy, who are failing by age and sickness, or falling by the hand of the Destroyer, and to meet the increasing demand of the Church, as she is spreading abroad upon the right hand and the left, and in the more destitute places of the earth, whence the Macedonian cry, 'Come over and help us,' is coming to the ears of those whose duty it is to provide so far as can be done, for the supply of this great want.

We gather the following items from the Report of the Diocese of Massachusetts:

Six candidates have been ordained Deacons; nine Deacons have been ordained Priests; three new parishes have been received into communion with the Convention; four Corner Stones have been laid; four new churches have been consecrated. There have been baptisms, infants, 2171, Adults, 266. Total, 2437. Confirmed, 1019; Marriages, 988, Burials, 1565, present number of communicants 5649; Sunday School Scholars 3818. The present number of the clergy is 85, of parishes 58. The amounts contributed for purposes of Christian beneficence amount to \$88,214. 19, being an increase of \$24,765. 61 over 1850.

From these statistics we may gather, says the report, 'that there is a vigorous and healthy tone of progress in the Diocese.'

The great want of the church, which for some time to come will be more and more realized, is faithful ministers of Christ. The falling off, in the number of Candidates for Holy Orders when compared with the increase of the number of communicants, is a matter which should receive the anxious and prayerful attention of all who love the Church and the great cause of the world's salvation.

It is however a very gratifying fact, stated in the closing portion of the Report, 'that during the Episcopate of our respected and beloved Diocesan, covering a period of ten years, the number of our Clergy has been increased by thirty.'—*Boston Church Witness.*

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Arabia. April 15.

Parliament adjourned on the night of the 11th for the Easter recess, till Thursday, the 27th of April, instead of Monday the 24th, as originally intended, in order to include the Day of Humiliation, Wednesday the 26th. In both Houses the withdrawal of the Reform Bill was announced—briefly by Lord Aberdeen in the Upper House—where the announcement was received with cheers, and the formal approval of Lord Campbell as a friend of reform, and more at length in the Lower House. Our relations with Germany was the subject of questions, to which the Earl of Clarendon replied as Foreign Minister. He said that the new protocol signed at Vienna was of a satisfactory character.

"It is not precisely that which we originally desired, or that which the Austrian Government agreed to in the form of a convention, but it has now assumed the form of a protocol to meet the wishes of the Prussian Government, and I may say that it substantially contains all that was included in the convention. The assent of Prussia was readily given to this protocol."

"With respect to the first rumour to which my noble friend (Lord Beaumont) has alluded—that of Prussia having gone over altogether to Russia—I can assure him that there is not the slightest foundation for it, nor is there the slightest ground for apprehending such an event. Although I certainly could have wished that the temper and tone of the debates in the Second Chamber at Berlin, had been rather different from what they had been, I think it has been made sufficiently manifest, by the Chambers, by the Press, and by the Government of Prussia, that such an event as my noble friend apprehends—namely, that of Prussia passing over to Russia—is quite impossible. (Cheers.) With regard to the rumour which my noble friend has alluded to as being circulated in London, and which if it should prove true, as he has justly said, of the recall of the Chevalier Bunsen, I have heard the same report, and Chevalier Bunsen has heard the report also, but as yet he has no knowledge of the fact, and the only official intimation he has received on the subject is, that it is likely another special mission may be sent over here of a somewhat similar nature to that sent some weeks ago, and which probably will be attended with the same result."

"With regard to the fleets in the Black Sea, the last information received was that the whole of the combined fleets were at Kavarua, even before the news was received of the passage of the Danube by the Russian army. As it was expected that the passage of the Danube might be attempted, the fleets moved to Kavarua, and we have received information to day that the news of the passage of the Danube had reached the admirals, and that they have detached steamers in the direction of Kossendje to communicate with the Turkish military authorities. I may add that we have no information

of any Austrian troops having entered Servia. Some time since however, a communication was received from the Austrian Government, that the Austrian corps d'armee on the frontier would enter Servia if the Russians crossed into Servia, or if there was a Servian insurrection, but that the intervention would be solely to maintain the status quo, and to uphold the authority of the Sultan."

The *Observer*, remarking on the number of troops ordered to the East, says:—

"If any grumbler should be disposed to find fault with the numerical smallness of a force of 30,000 men, he should remember that they are the picked men of perhaps the finest force in the world, and that they are sent forth—and many of them are, ere this, arrived—in the very finest order and condition—in high health and spirits—and accompanied by the prayers and blessings of every class of their countrymen, and the approbation of the whole civilized world, in a cause the most necessary and just, which above all appeals to every feeling as the cause of the weak against the strong—the oppressed against the most tyrannical and causeless aggression. When the Duke of Wellington commenced his campaign of 1809, for the liberation of the Peninsula, he began with 20,000 men, picked up with every sort of scramble; and at the crowning finish of Waterloo there were not 40,000 British troops of all arms under his command, against those mighty legions which now go forth to fight, side by side, in a country where the people are with us, and where they have shown their patriotism and courage to be undoubted, and where all the seas are entirely at our command."

Gallipoli is situated most conveniently (in the old Thracian Chersonesus) at the top of the Hellespont, and the commencement of the Sea of Marmora. It has the advantage of being open to both seas—the Dardanelles on the one side, and the Bay of Saros on the other. Troops can be landed or embarked on either side—the land being extremely narrow across at this particular point. On the Aegean side the Bay of Enos is at hand, with the ancient highway by the Hebrus to Adrianople. On the side of the Hellespont and the Propontis, it is in close contiguity by water to Constantinople itself, and a most admirable rendezvous for any operations in the Bosphorus or the Black Sea.

The quarterly returns of the revenue made up last Wednesday, are on the whole, of a favorable character, presenting a total increase of £213,744 on the quarter. There is a decrease of £106,891 in the customs, attributed to the taking off 4½ per pound of the duty on tea, of £154,231 in the Excise—the loss of the soap duties. Notwithstanding the adoption of the uniform penny stamp on receipts, and other reductions, the loss under the head of stamps is only £6,050. In the assessed taxes there is an increase of £87,633; and in the property-tax of the quarter the immense increase of £410,481 arising from the rigorous collection of arrears, and not as maliciously stated by the Herald, from the doubling of the tax by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the collection of which has not yet taken place. On the other heads there is no difference to speak of. The very prosperous returns of the several preceding quarters make the financial year just completed more productive than the previous year by no less a sum than £1,484,056. The Customs of the year exhibit an increase of £358,143; The Excise, £88,374; the stamps, £65,913; the taxes, £47,430; the property-tax, £382,634; the Post-Office, £59,000; and even the Crown lands, £143,888; the only head of decrease being the miscellaneous, to the extent of £103,970.

The Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt held a quarterly meeting yesterday week, at the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Downing street. There were present the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England. Sir Alexander Spearman, Secretary and Comptroller-General to the Commissioners, attended. The *Gazette* of Friday announces that the sum of £816,493 11s 4d., being one-fourth of the surplus on the year, was ordered to be applied to the reduction of the national debt.

A further reduction of fourpence was made on Thursday of the duty on tea. During the day the total number of entries computed and carried to account was no less than 18,109, the duty received thereon being £256,972 15s. 8d.; and the quantity of tea, 3,412, 799lb.

An additional order in Council on the conduct of the war, published in the *London Gazette* of Friday, allows thirty days to all Russian ships in any of her Majesty's colonial possessions to load or discharge cargoes, and depart unmolested, and extends the same protection to vessels of the enemy which called for any ports in her Majesty's colonial possessions before the 29th of last March.

On Saturday a vessel, with Russian colours boldly flying, appeared in the Channel, off Portsmouth. A cutter was forthwith sent out by the Admiral, with orders to keep a look out on her. The vessel was brought to, and found to be the *Vesta*, Russian merchantman. Her papers were examined, and her right to the privilege of the order in council being satisfactorily proved, she was allowed to continue her voyage up the Thames into the West India docks.

The will of the late Marquis of Londonderry was proved on Saturday at Doctors' Commons. It consists of a few lines, giving all his estates real and personal to his Marchioness, absolutely and at her entire disposal, appointing her also sole executrix. There is an aggregate of personal property left by the deceased amounting to £335,000 exclusive of all the vast real estates and collieries of the Vane and Londonderry families in England and Ireland, in the former of which he is succeeded by Lady Londonderry, and in the latter by the present Marquis.

The honours and employments transferable by the death of the late Marquis of Londonderry, have been thus bestowed:—The Garter on the Earl of Eglintoun, the Lord-Lieutenancy of Durham to the young earl of that county, the Custodia Rotulorum of Downshire to the present marquis, that of Derryshire on Sir Robert Alexander Ferguson (member for the city of Derry) and the Colonelcy of the Second Life-Guards on Lord General Lord Seaton.

NEW MILITARY TRAINING GROUND.—The authorities of the War-Office, having obtained a grant from Parliament of £100,000 for the purpose of purchasing land for occupation by the army, have bought about 4,000 acres of land at Aldershot, Farnham, and Ash in the counties of Hampshire and Surrey, about thirty-five miles from London. From the bold elevations and undulating character of the land, it is admirably adapted for that purpose. The Basingstoke Canal with some contributory lakes at Ash, afford opportunities of display in crossing rivers and in various other military exercises. The nearest railway stations from London will be the South-Eastern and the South-Western, both at Ash, and within a mile of the ground. It is intended to encamp the militia on the ground in the ensuing month. Parties are already building and speculating on the improved value of land in that locality.

The *Daily News* notices a secret article which escaped the observation of the *Times*. The former journal yesterday stated on reliable authority in Berlin, that the secret convention just concluded between Austria and Prussia at Berlin guaranteed the integrity of Russia more decidedly than the protocol signed the same Powers with France and England at Vienna guarantees the integrity of Turkey. "One of the most important articles (says the *News*) is believed to stipulate that Austria and Prussia will not permit a peace to be imposed on the Czar at the expense of a portion of territory." We need not add that such an article authorizes Russia to effect as much harm as she pleases, and guarantees her from being called upon to pay it. This will never do!—*Ch. & St. Gaz.*

The Baltic Fleet returned to its anchorage in the Bay on Thursday, when the Admiral issued the following order of the day:—

"Sir Charles Napier's Address, made by Sir Charles Napier in Kioe Bay."

"Lads—War is declared. We are to meet a numerous enemy. Should they offer us battle, you know how to dispose of them. Should they remain in port, we must try to get at them. Success depends upon the quickness and precision of your fire. Sharpen your cutlasses, and the day is your own."

It was received with much cheering. On Friday the Admiral was to pay his respects to the Emperor of Fredericksburg.

Letters from Rovel state that all buildings within three hundred yards of the western batteries are to be pulled down.

The confiscation of the ecclesiastical property is a key to the purposes of the State, is one of the most important measures that the Ottoman Government has ventured upon:—"On the conquest of new territories a part has always been set aside by the Turks for the service of religion; but these lands form but a part of the ecclesiastical possessions, which have accumulated for centuries chiefly in the following manner. As the possessor of land, whether Osmanli or Christian, was exposed to the plunder and oppression of the sultans, while the property of the Church was inviolable, he was willing and was encouraged by the sultans to transfer to the Church, while the original possessor received the benefit—on these conditions however, if he died without children the land became again the property of the Church, who thus in return for protection, purchased the reversion, on certain conditions, of vast tracts of land." By the extinction