

Sunday School at the Settlement is attended by upwards of 100 Children, and 26 gratuitous Teachers.

A Hospital, consisting of eight Wards, has been erected, under the direction of the Physician, which has proved a great blessing to both old and young.

There is in connexion with the Missionary establishment an Institution, in which an Hundred Orphan Children, of Roman Catholic parents, are lodged, clothed, fed, and educated.

The Orphan Institution is wholly dependent for support on voluntary contributions. The maintenance of each child costs about £5 per annum.

There is also at the Missionary Settlement, an Asylum for the reception of converted Priests, of good character.

Persons desiring more particular information are referred to the Rev. E. NANGLE, Achill, Newport, Mayo.

Sept. 1846.

The Famine in the Island, from the Achill Herald, March 31, 1847.

During the past month a constant supply of Indian meal was on sale at the Government store.

On the first of the month, the Expedition of Milford, a small sloop laden with sixty tons of food, and five tons of seed oats, arrived at the strand under the Missionary Settlement, after a quick and prosperous voyage from Dublin.

The Berean.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1847.

The Government measure for education continues to excite great interest—giving satisfaction to some, and provoking the determined opposition of others—in the mother-country. To a question respecting the amount of money which it was proposed to apply to the purpose of education, Lord John Russell has replied that it would be £100,000, for Great Britain.

Lord John Russell, on the 15th of April, replied to the same effect, in the House of Commons, when an enquiry on the subject was made by Sir J. Graham; but he added that, though the minutes of the Committee of Privy Council, now in force, confined aid within those limits, the Committee "would not feel themselves at all precluded from preparing and agreeing to another minute, by which aid might be given to other schools, in cases in which it was thought fit, considering the constitution of such schools, that such aid should be granted."

A public Meeting of bankers, merchants &c., of the city of London, as well as of the rectors of the various parishes, was held on Friday the 16th of last month, the Lord Mayor presiding, at which the following resolutions were passed:

"That the official Reports of Inspectors of Schools, and the information, collected by Societies and voluntary Associations, agree in showing the great deficiency which still exists in this country in the means of elementary education, and that until some quality as well as to increase the quantity of primary instruction, there will be little hope of any speedy and effectual improvement in the untaught masses of the population of Great Britain."

"That it is the duty of a wise and paternal Government to promote religious and moral instruction as the best means of preventing crime and securing a succession of good and useful citizens; and that this meeting, believing ignorance to be one of the prolific sources of vice, considers it a solemn duty to support such public measures as may tend to remedy the social evils which are the result of moral and religious destitution."

"That the experience of many years has now proved the inadequacy of voluntary exertions for supplying the educational wants of the poor and industrial classes of the community; and this meeting views with satisfaction the measures which have recently been announced by Her Majesty's Government, offering assistance to voluntary efforts without superseding them, and at the same time respecting the religious scruples of those who decline to acknowledge the Established Church as the authorized teacher of the people."

"That the thanks of this Meeting are due to the Lord Bishop of London for attending to take part in the proceedings, and for calling the attention of the Diocesan Board of Education, over which His Lordship presides, to the importance of co-operating with the scheme of education announced by Her Majesty's Government."

Eton Montem.—A great deal of dissatisfaction has arisen, amongst those who ought to know better, at the abolition of this foolish custom (see BEREAN December 17.)

Lord John Manners presided at a meeting of "Noblemen and Gentlemen educated at Eaton" convened "for the purpose of taking measures to prevent the threatened suppression of 'Montem' by the College authorities," and there has been publication of letters from the Provost and the Head Master of Eaton, and also from Lord John Russell, from which it appears that when the Provost, upon consultation with the Head Master, and having also ascertained the mind of the Lower Master, had formed his decision as to what the prosperity of the institution demanded, he applied to the Queen, "in order to ascertain the bias in the highest quarter upon this question."

It appears that the Queen was rather in favour of continuing the custom; but when leave had been obtained by the Provost to lay before Her Majesty the information which he had received from the best authorities, the result of his communication was stated in a note from Lord John Russell, in the following terms: "Her Majesty would be very unwilling to sanction by any direct act of her own the abolition of a custom so ancient, and which has been popular in the school. But the Queen will not interpose to prevent any decision on the subject which the authorities of Eton may form upon their own experience and judgment."

Upon receiving this letter, the authorities acted in accordance with their convictions of duty, by abolishing the custom of "Montem"; and no wonder the Provost expresses his "grateful acknowledgment of that constitutional regard for the free action of Her Majesty's subjects in their own sphere of duty which has been shown on this occasion, and which has marked the whole reign of our gracious Sovereign."

The following extract from the Provost's letter to Lord John Manners will be read with interest: "And now, my Lord, will you allow me, as briefly as I can, to put a few questions to your own better judgment on the point itself? "Can it, then, be denied that habits of great indulgence and extravagance are encouraged by the circumstances preceding, attending, and following Montem? Is it not to many, who can ill afford it, the beginning of such expenses as end in lasting difficulty and debt? Has not the captain, in a great number of known instances (say for the last half century) been injured rather than benefited by the collection? It would be quite improper to mention names, but I could do so to a large extent. Then it is argued that this might be prevented by taking the money out of his own hands, and the bills being paid by experienced persons. The Head Master has so managed the matter on the two last occasions, but with most imperfect success, notwithstanding all his exertions. Indeed, it ought to be plain to reflecting persons, who have had opportunities of judging, that from the very character of the custom, which has so long afforded a harvest (not surely of the best description) to all sorts of tradesmen, tavern-keepers, money-lenders, and loose characters of every kind, it is impossible to correct its long-rooted abuses, and experience fully justifies the assertion; and ought even the risk to be run when we consider what is at stake? "With regard to the pageant itself, picturesque as it is allowed to be, let us just withdraw the veil of its outward attractions for a moment, and see beneath it the serious and painful evils which it must engender. They are not visionary. Facts have proved them repeatedly, as those who can best judge on this spot would assure you. And then as to the antiquity of the custom. It has no such prestige. It is considerably less than a century old in its present form and character. Its origin, however obscure, appears to have been wholly different from anything retained in the modern ceremony. In the statutes of the College there is no reference to it whatever."

WAGES ON THE FAST-DAY.—We understand that the farmers generally throughout the country paid their labourers the full amount of their wages on the Fast-day. In many parishes not a single labourer was absent from his parish church.—Stockport Advertiser.

THE FAST IN NOVA SCOTIA.—A Proclamation in the Royal Gazette, of yesterday, announces that Friday the 14th day of May next, is to be observed as a day of public fasting and humiliation in this Province. We have no doubt that it will be sincerely and religiously observed.—Halifax Standard.

TOLERATION IN PRUSSIA.—Berlin, March 23rd.—The edict of toleration, about which so much has been said, will appear shortly, the deliberations of the Council upon it having been closed. From what has transpired, it appears that the principal points of it will be as follows:—A distinction will be made between the churches which are recognised, and the tolerated sects. The united Evangelical Church, which is at present the state Church, and the Roman Catholic Church, form the category of the recognised forms of worship; all Dissenters, such as the ancient Lutherans or Palcolutherans, the German Catholics or Dissenters, are to be comprised in the category of tolerated sects; and are to be placed under the control of the Minister of the Interior and

of the police. The other two churches are to remain in the attributions of the Minister of worship. The ecclesiastics of the tolerated sects may administer the sacraments, draw up civil acts, and keep registers, which will consequently possess an official character. A question of some importance, which presented itself in the course of the discussion, was, to whom the property of the Church was to belong, in the event of the inhabitants of a commune passing from the recognised Church to one of the sects? This question has, it is said, been decided in favour of the Church of the State, no matter how small may be the number of persons remaining faithful to it.

AN ATTEMPT AT THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH.—The Gazette des Tribunaux publishes a decree of the Emperor Nicholas, dated the 6th inst., prohibiting conversions to any other creed than the Greco-Russian religion. According to the provisions of that intolerant and despotic enactment, any person abjuring the Greco-Russian religion is to be placed at the disposal of the ecclesiastical authorities; his property is to be confiscated, and if he does not re-enter the bosom of the Church by law established within a given period, he is to be confined for life in a convent. Should the proselyte have children under age, the government undertakes to decide on their fate. Any individual who should advise another to abjure the tenets of that religion shall forfeit all his prerogatives and civil rights, and be banished for ever to Western Siberia. Persons preaching or publishing doctrines calculated to shake the faith of the true believers, incur a similar penalty when guilty of the offence for the third time. The fathers and mothers professing the Greco-Russian religion, who should cause their children to be baptized by the ministers of another Christian sect, are to be punished by two years' imprisonment, deprived of their children, who are to be confined to the care of the Greco-Russian members of their family; and if they have no relatives professing that creed, the government will entrust them to guardians of its own choosing. The clergyman of any other persuasion who should receive the abjuration of a Greco-Russian, is to be deprived of his situation and of all the prerogatives attached to it. Catholic clergymen, moreover, are forbidden, in the western provinces, to retain in their service any person belonging to the Greco-Russian religion, under the penalty of forty effective roubles (£7 8s.) per servant.

The Senatus Academicus of the University of King's College of Aberdeen have conferred the Degree of Doctor in Divinity upon the Rev. Alexander Niel Bethune, Rector of Cobourg, Professor of Divinity, and Senior Chaplain to the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Toronto, Upper Canada.—Aberdeen Journal, of the 24th March.

THE TEN HOURS' BILL; Favourable Prospect.—To the Short Time Committees of the counties of Lancaster, Chester, and York. London, March 15, 1847.—Gentlemen,—It is impossible that I should omit to congratulate you on the glorious victory obtained by your friends, yesterday, in the division on the Factory Bill, when a majority of seventy-eight affirmed the limitation of labour to ten hours in the day, sixty-six Members only having been found to vote against it. We cannot be sufficiently thankful to Almighty God for this important progress towards the full attainment of a measure so indispensably necessary to the moral and physical welfare of yourselves and your children.

But we must not relax any of our efforts; too great confidence as to success, might, even now, be fatal to our hopes; I implore you, therefore, to persevere, by every legitimate means in your power, until the Bill shall have received the Royal assent. You are deeply indebted to Mr. Fielden and your supporters in the House of Commons for the vigour and fidelity with which they have maintained your cause; they seemed determined to enter into the full spirit of the approaching day of national humiliation, and choose the observance of a true fast, which, as we are told in Scripture, is "to undo the heavy burdens and let it be oppressed go free."

I am, Gentlemen, your very sincere friend and servant, ASHLEY.

PAINLESS SURGICAL OPERATIONS.—The inhalation of Ether as a means of relieving the suffering to which patients have hitherto been unavoidably exposed when undergoing surgical operations, has of late excited great attention, and is now attested by many reports of its efficiency, coming from quarters which admit of no contradiction. A new thing is the application of Mesmerism to answer the same purpose. The May number of the Brit. Amer. Journal of Medical Science contains an article on Dr. Esdaile's "Mesmerism in India," from which we have extracted one short specimen of the cases detailed by the author, in which mesmerizing was perfectly successful to answer the end proposed; [see our fourth page] the Editor of the Journal, though evidently not prepossessed in favour of Mesmerism, treats the author's statements with respect; and really it is a comfort to hear at last of some practical use to which Mesmerism may be turned, and which may save it from the discredit into which it had well nigh fallen through the strange purposes which some of its practitioners had attempted to make it answer.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Diocese of Quebec.

INCORPORATED CHURCH SOCIETY.

The CENTRAL BOARD met yesterday at 2 o'clock, according to appointment, and continued in deliberation until six, when it adjourned, to meet again this afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

The SPECIAL MEETING of the Society, according to notice, will take place at 2 o'clock, P. M.

St. THOMAS'S CHURCH PAROCHIAL ASSOCIATION, MONTREAL.

By previous public invitation from the Minister of St. Thomas's Church, Montreal, a meeting of the members of that congregation was held in the school-room belonging thereto, when the Rev. C. Bancroft, as the Minister, opened the meeting with the prayers appointed for such occasions by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, and the singing of the hymn "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun" &c. &c. After which S. Yarwood, Esq., R. N., having been called to the chair, the following resolutions were passed and adopted.

1st Resolution. Moved by Rev. M. WILLOUGHBY, seconded by Capt. HORNBY, R. E.; That the Church of Christ being based upon the principle of Self-extension—inasmuch as the great Head thereof has said "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature"—This meeting hereby recognises the duty implied by that command, to employ all suitable means for the propagation of that Gospel throughout the world, and especially in this province.

2nd Resolution. Moved by the Rev. C. BANCROFT, seconded by THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY; That an association be now formed, to be called THE ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH PAROCHIAL ASSOCIATION, in connexion with the Incorporated Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec, in accordance with the provisions of the 10th and 11th articles of its Bye-laws; and that a subscription of Five shillings, annually, shall constitute a membership thereof.

3rd Resolution. Moved by Rev. W. THOMPSON, seconded by Mr. Jas. Tunny, D. A. C. G.; That the following gentlemen be appointed as a Committee for the ensuing year, to conduct the business of the Association, in conjunction with the Ministers and Wardens of the Church—who shall be permanent members thereof—and that five of their number shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business; furthermore, that Mr. YARWOOD be requested to act as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Association:

- Messrs. Thos. Molson, The Churchwardens, Wm. Molson, Mr. Procter, S. Yarwood, Mr. Newbury, Capt. Hornby, Mr. G. Shaw, J. Tubby, W. Shaw, McGinn, Gordon, Fleet, E. E. Shelton,

4th Resolution. Moved by the Rev. C. MORICE, seconded by Mr. NEWMAN of the Rides; That the incumbent of St. Thomas's Church, as "Ex officio" President of the Association, shall have power to call a meeting of the Committee, whenever business may require.

5th Resolution. Moved by Mr. MCGINN, seconded by Lieut. CARRO, R. N.; That an annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the last Thursday in April; when a Report shall be presented; together with a statement of the accounts of the Association.

6th Resolution. Moved by Mr. THOMAS JONES, seconded by the Rev. C. BANCROFT; That no alteration or amendment shall be made in the Rules and Regulations of the Association, except such alteration or amendment be first communicated to the President, in writing, through the Secretary, at least one month before the annual meeting; and it be adopted by the majority at such general annual meeting of the Association. The meeting concluded by singing the Doxology.

The Montreal Herald, in mentioning the meeting held for the above purpose, states that "several excellent and appropriate speeches were made by the Revs. M. Willoughby, W. Thompson, C. Morice, and the incumbent; also by Captain Hornby, R. E., and other members of the congregation.

"The Assistant Secretary attended, and entered into many details respecting the objects of the Society, and the desirableness of an enlarged and general support of it by the members of the Church. The meeting concluded with the doxology.

"The attendance, which was numerous, was almost exclusively composed of members of the congregation; all present evidently entered warmly into the object of the meeting, the whole was animated by the best spirit, and they seemed disposed to respond with cordiality, according to their ability, to the call made upon them in behalf of the Society."

With deep regret we mention the accounts brought by the mail just arrived, that the newly created Bishop of Sodor and Man, Dr. Shirley, was lying dangerously ill.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.—The following is found under the head of PREFERENCES, announced by last mail: The Rev. Robert Allwood, B. A., of Caius College, Cambridge, has been appointed Bishop of Morpeth, Australasia.

CHINA.—Letter from the Right Rev. W. J. Boone, M.D., Missionary Bishop, to the Foreign Committee of the Board of Missions, Prot. Ep. Church, U.S. States.

I am thankful to be able to say that we have made steady progress in our work during the past year. A Catechism, intended as a guide to candidates for baptism, and the translation of the Morning and Baptismal Services, occupied our time during the first months of the year, and prevented my giving much attention to the study of the local dialect, which delayed the commencement of public worship and preaching.

After I was prepared to commence regular services, we were delayed by the dilatoriness of the Chinese workmen, in preparing the building we had rented for a school-house and chapel.

We held our first service in this chapel on Sunday, Nov. 29th. About one hundred and fifty persons were present, of whom fifty were females. Since then it has been full every Sunday, and I am listened to with much attention.

The members of my catechetical class are regular in their attendance, and are getting on well in the attainment of Christian knowledge.

Mr. and Mrs. Syle are both engaged in the study of the language, and Mr. S. will soon be able to take a class.

The school has increased to twenty-three, and at the Chinese New Year, now near at hand, we shall enlarge it to thirty-six, the extent of our present accommodations. Under the tuition of Miss Jones and Miss Morse, of whose entire devotion to, and indefatigable discharge of their duties, I cannot speak too highly, the boys have made excellent progress in their English studies, and I entertain most sanguine hopes that, ten years hence, they will be a great aid to us in our Missionary work.

The source of greatest encouragement to us at Shanghai, is the listening ear which is given by the people. Dr. Medhurst's chapel is crowded every Sunday, and on two evenings of the week. Our own little place is full, and also Mr. McClatchie's, so that it is estimated that more than a thousand people hear the Gospel preached in Shanghai every Sunday. This, I believe, is quite unprecedented in the history of Protestant Missions of China—indeed, we have lived to see a new era. Oh! that God would give us all, both those at home and those in China, grace to profit by the opportunities now afforded of doing good to this people.

This promising state of things induces me to request the Committee, and I entreat them not to refuse, to send to me, at the earliest time possible by the over-land mail, funds to build a church. I might just as well have six hundred persons to hear me preach, as the two hundred or two hundred and fifty who now come to listen to me. I am satisfied, that if I had accommodations in the city, and held two services on Sundays, I could preach the Gospel to over one thousand persons. Dr. Medhurst has at least four times the number to hear him in his new edifice, that he had when he was preaching in a Chinese house.

The Revd. Mr. Willoughby acknowledges, with thanks, to "a Friend of Widows," the receipt of £10 for the Widow of a Clergyman, and £10 to the District Visiting Society of Trinity Church, [Montreal] "for the benefit of Widows."

The EDITOR OF THE BEREAN begs to acknowledge the receipt of Two POUNDS, being the amount of a private collection made by Miss F. R. Bent, for the French Protestant Church du Saint Sauveur, New York.—Likewise of Ten Shillings, donation to the Achill Mission, from a Friend.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received C. Y.—B. B.; —T. J.—J. W.—W. S.—W. W. W.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED.—Messrs. J. Wilkinson, No. 105 to 208; R. Peniston, No. 157 to 208; John Smith, No. 140 to 191; J. Armstrong, No. 105 to 156; C. Gethings, No. 144 to 195; J. Anderson, No. 105 to 156; T. C. Panton, No. 137 to 196; Wm. Hall, No. 137 to 188; W. H. A. Davies, No. 157 to 208; W. Macrae, No. 157 to 208; V. Titus, No. 157 to 208; Mrs. Geo. Rice, No. 157 to 208; Mrs. J. Grey, No. 105 to 156; Messrs. Chas. Forest, No. 157 to 208; Jas. Bissett, No. 105 to 208; Rev. Wm. Dawes, No. 157 to 208; Rev. C. Bancroft, No. 157 to 208; Major Fraser, No. 157 to 208; G. C. H., No. 157 to 208; Rev. E. J. Senkler, No. 157 to 208.

Local and Political Intelligence.

The English Mail, from Liverpool by Steamer Caledonia on the 20th ult., arrived in town on Tuesday; we have extracted the most striking pieces of intelligence brought by it, acknowledging our indebtedness to Willner & Smith's European Times for the greater number of them.

Rear Admiral Pigot, in command of the Cork station, has written to the Cork harbour Board to the effect that the Lords of the Treasury have received a communication from the United States Government, declaring its intention to despatch a sloop of war for Ireland, with a cargo of provisions supplied by Boston and the state of Massachusetts. The admiral asks that all port dues and charges should be remitted to the Jamestown on arrival, "in consequence of the service in which the ship is so generously engaged;" and the old heart of oak will be made good at Hawlbowline to the best of my power." After invoking a blessing on the good people of New England for their offering, an order was instantly made to remit all dues, and offer any other aid in the power of the board to the admiral.

ARRIVAL OF THE JAMESTOWN AT CORK.—The United States ship-of-war Jamestown, under the command of Captain Forbes, laden with bread-stuffs and provisions for the relief of the distressed Irish, left Boston on the 28th ult., and after a splendid voyage of 15 days, arrived at Cork on the 12th inst. on her mission of mercy.

"The relief thus nobly sent may be regarded as one of the proudest events in American history; it speaks trumpet-tongued, for the national benevolence, and is probably the noblest charity on record.

"At eight o'clock, Doctor Parks, surgeon of the vessel, landed at Cove, hearing despatches for the Lord Lieutenant and Mr. Labouchere, which he delivered at the consulate, with directions to have them forwarded as speedily as possible. On the intimation of the vessel's arrival being notified to Rear Admiral Sir H. Pigot, he despatched an officer to ascertain if any immediate assistance was required; at half-past one o'clock on Monday her Majesty's steamer Avenger went out to tow her in. Her arrival called forth the liveliest sensations of joy and gratitude, and thousands flocked to see the noble ship.

"A meeting of the Cork District Railway Committee was held on the 13th, when a requisition was promptly prepared, calling on the Mayor to summon a meeting of the citizens, to devise the best means of welcoming and acknowledging the gift. 'The Bells of Shandon' and of the Cathedral were joyfully rung, and the Cove was splendidly illuminated, on the evening of the 14th."

The European Times adds to the above, taken from its columns, some account of a dinner given, and addresses delivered.

DUBLIN, March 28.—The great economist, since his arrival in Dublin, has been actively engaged in superintending the making of soup, after his own prescription, in several of the charitable institutions in this city; and upon the whole, his experiments have been so far attended with complete success. With regard to the quality of the soup itself, I have spoken to two persons who were present last week at its preparation in the North Dublin Union work-house, and although both entertained strong prejudices against Mr. Soyer's plan, they fairly admitted that the trial they had witnessed had totally changed their preconceived opinions. In favour they pronounced the cheap soup to be far more palatable than that extracted almost solely from meat; but its nutritious qualities—of which, however, there appears to be but little doubt—cannot, of course, be correctly judged until it is more generally used as an article of diet. The first of the model soup-kitchens is in progress of erection in the large railled-in space in front of the Royal Barracks, and will, it is expected, be open for public inspection before the end of this week.

It may not be amiss to give here Mr. Soyer's (the great economist's) recipe for the cheapest of his three qualities of soups, which, as will appear, furnishes one gallon of nutritious soup for 3d.

- Two ounces of dripping... 0 3d. Quarter of a pound of solid meat, at 4d. per lb. (cut into dice one inch square)... 1 Quarter pound of onions, sliced thin... 1 Quarter pound turpings; the peel will do, or one whole one cut into small dice... 1 Two ounces of leeks; the green tops will do, sliced thin... 1 Three ounces of celery... 1 Three quarters of a pound of common flour... 1 Half a pound of pearl barley, or one pound of Scotch... 1 3 Three ounces of salt... 0 2 Quarter of an ounce of brown sugar... 0 Fuel... 0 Two gallons of water... 0

The little of Mr. John O'Connell, say 6d., announced in the Repeal organ of this morning, and a report (which however, had no foundation) that the Hon. Gentleman had come over, post haste, either to dissolve or adjourn the Irish Parliament, failed to attract an audience at Conciliation Hall to-day, the attendance being of the average wretchedness, both as regards the quantity and quality of the visitors.—The Member for Kilkenny, in one of his series of speeches, spoke rather despondingly of the chance of his father ever again taking part in public business, or of even his once more revisiting his native land alive. Mr. J. O'Connell, being in a somewhat melancholy and forgoing mood, held out the right hand of fellowship to Young Ireland, and entreated those pea-green gentlemen to forget just jealousies, and return, like truant sons, to that Hall, whose deserted benches and empty exchequer bore fatal testimony to the rapid decline of the giant humbug played off with profit for so many years upon the credulity of the "most impoverished people upon the face of the earth." The rent for the week amounted to 29s. 9s.

On this subject of Repeal Rent, the following remarks passed in the House of Lords, on Thursday March 18th: