

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

## TO ALL CHURCHMEN OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Having viewed with deep interest, the measures proposed by the Colonial Bishops, and fearing that they will be attended with more fatal consequences to her real interests than those gentlemen are aware of—I write to awaken my fellow members of the Church, on a subject which must come home to the heart of every one who loves her—and, if I fail to place in a striking point of view the dissensions, and divisions, which will naturally arise from the action of a Convocation, the introduction of errors, which may be the fashion of the day, the submission of the minority to the majority—(though they are frequently, the most pure,—the most disinterested,—the most judicious—and the most prescient party)—and even the increased difficulties of the Bishops themselves, not to say the Clergy I hope some more able hand will take up the subject, and prove under the guidance of the living Head of the Church, the means of saving her from the threatened destruction. For the general voice of the Church on the present occasion would be heard—and I am sure it will be for remaining as we are, without following any Jesuitically suggested movement.

Now, in the present state of the Church in these Colonies, there is an entire freedom from the fear of man, which always brings a snare—and every motive held out to the fear of God. But with the coercive power which the Bishops desire, I fear it would be far otherwise. The Church requires nothing but to be carried to every hamlet and to every hearth throughout the country—this will be the genuine extension of her influence, to which her Clergy, and all her members, are beginning to be more actively alive—and what pity to paralyze her efforts by the divisions which must ensue from any action of power in the Bishops, enforced by authority from statutes of the Parliament, or of a Convocation.—At present it is but to break up that which is now quiet and calm—and healthful.

There is the greatest respect in the members of the Church for the Clergy, and for the Bishops—and to this cause alone, I attribute the silence on the subject of Convocation in this Province.—It is because there is no call for any greater executive power than she at present possesses—that her members are not awake to the danger naturally arising from that increase; and the present quietness of her members, is owing to the wise and apostolic authority exercised by her late Bishop—who said decidedly in my hearing “As to the action of Convocation in these Provinces, I foresee in it nothing but a source of endless jarring and divisions.—All parties are pretty well satisfied now—and it is not in the nature of a convocation to render them more so.” It is in the nature of such assemblies themselves that the great objection lies—let but the history of their general working be considered, and we shall feel that we are blessed in having our Church so constituted as not to require them.—And thus if we call to mind, the circumstance in the past history of our Mother Church, which awakened the strong call for Convocation in the moving party in England—we shall be happy to wipe our hands from any participation in its guilt. The Bishop of Exeter wished to exclude Mr. Goreham from a living in his diocese, for differing from himself on a point which neither Scripture nor our prayer book decided, and though Mr. Goreham's views are supported by the best divines of the Church of England, and the general body of the Christian Church and of Churchmen, the Bishop succeeded in establishing his point in an ecclesiastical court; Mr. Goreham's appeal from this decision to the Crown—elicited a most equitable judgement on the subject.—But too proud to submit to a superior power, though the Sovereign should naturally rule every subject, the Bishop and his party continued for a Convocation.—Now what do that party want Convocation for, but to introduce error—to make the “word of God of none effect by their traditions.” They cannot yet succeed in their aim in England and therefore they wish to begin with the Colonies—a precedent to their farther plans. Now, what do the Bishops of Canada and Fredericton want a Convocation for but to increase their own power?

We all hope that our own Bishop like a faithful father, who wishes not to be a Lord over God's heritage, has gone home to oppose their views. Look at the Bishop of Toronto's propositions, and let any person of discernment observe their tendency, and he will see, that if those measures are carried into effect, they will ruin the Colonial Church. Some Jesuit worse than Cardinal Wiseman and moving in concert with him, has planned the whole, in order to divide the Church—and acting upon the natural love of power in our Bishops, has drawn them into his measures—from which I pray God to deliver us. Now I think the Churchmen of every parish should steadily and respectfully remonstrate against the whole, first to the Bishops themselves and then to the Queen and Parliament. All that the Church requires is a spirit of unity and zeal to extend her influence through every corner of her widely spread field—but the Convocation must inevitably divide her—there will be a division in the very outset, and no good gained. While our Church steadily teaches the whole word of God, as she decidedly does more than any other church in Christendom. While her liturgy is unimpaired and intelligible, is a most enlightened, spiritual and practical commentary upon that sound, word—and her creed repeated every Sunday confess the faith of her Clergy, and all her members—there can be no error in doctrine that need call for the power of a convocation to correct—though such an assembly might by degrees bring in errors from which it would be very difficult to cleanse her.

Now, if the nation at home does not decide against the Colonial Bishops—let the Churches protest before it is too late.

BY A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH.

## The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1853.

WE have much pleasure in publishing the following letter from Rev. Mr. Stannage, and hope he may go on as successfully as he has begun, in procuring an endowment for his Parish. The usual Missionary boxes from the kind people of Jersey, to which Mr. S. alludes, are daily expected, and we trust the friends of the Church in this city will do their best to promote the benevolent designs of the generous donors, by a liberal purchase of what has thus been so freely given:—

4, Palace Terrace, Jersey,  
April 8th, 1853.

MY DEAR SIR,

The Messrs. Creighton & Grassie will soon hand you the sum of Forty Pounds Sterling, being the amount which my friends have enabled me to remit for the endowment of my Mission in the manner following.—I have to request the Diocesan Church Society of Nova Scotia to invest the said money so that I may have it for the purpose of clearing and improving my glebe, if I should ever return to St. Margaret's Bay, this being the best investment that can be made. And should I never return to my Mission, my friends wish to have the money left at interest, accumulating, until it has produced a sufficient endowment. It would, of course, be in the power of the Society to lay it out in land, or to invest the contributions of the people themselves in the clearing of the glebe land, provided it be done to the satisfaction of the Bishop. If it please God, I hope to send some more for the same object and on the same terms. You will thus have above £60 currency of N. S. in your hands, after receiving this £40, which ought to make the inhabitants of St. Margaret's Bay thankful for so good a beginning, to which, I trust they will not fail to add according to their power. But I should also observe that, as the Society have promised some encouragement to exertions of this sort, I hope I may venture to request that a small grant of £15 or £20 be made to my Endowment Fund, by way of stimulus to my friends, my people, and myself.

I thank God that I am somewhat better, tho' the climate of Jersey has had a very relaxing effect upon my nerves. I have every earthly comfort I can expect here, but I am not yet able to give up the idea of returning to my Mission, which surprises me quite as much as the many kind friends who press me to remain.

That God may continue to bless your Society, and that His good Spirit may animate all its members to the increase of their own peace and that of others, is the prayer of, Rev. and dear Sir, the Society's devoted servant, and your affectionate brother,

J. STANNAGE.

P. S. I have forwarded four boxes of books and goods for the benefit of my schools. May I not also request the members of the Society at Halifax to patronize the Sale which the Rev. W. R. Cochran will make of them.

J. S.

We have great pleasure in giving insertion to the following letter and reply:—

To the Rev. ALEXANDER STEWART, late Assistant Minister in the Parish of Saint John.

Reverend and Dear Sir;—

We the undersigned Parishioners of St. John, beg your acceptance of the sum mentioned in the enclosed Bank Receipt, as a small token of the sense we entertain of your devoted and faithful services as a Clergyman, in this parish during the last twelve years; and with all good wishes for the welfare of yourself, Mrs. STEWART and family, beg to subscribe ourselves, your faithful friends and servants.

[Signed by eighty-nine Parishioners, and accompanied by a Bank Deposit Certificate for £202.]

Saint John, April 9th, 1853.

REPLY.

St. John, April 11th, 1853.

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS,—

I thank you for the address you have presented to me, in which you express the opinion you entertain of my services as a Clergyman in Saint John, during the last twelve years.

In retiring from my Ministerial duties in this Parish, it is most gratifying to know that I take with me the approval and good wishes of so large a number of the Parishioners. While I have always felt deeply sensible of my deficiencies and short coming as a Christian Minister, it is no small consolation to find that those, among whom I have ministered, give me credit for

having a sincere desire to be faithful to Him that sent me.

My warmest acknowledgments are due for the munificent sum mentioned in the Bank receipt handed to me, and which has been contributed by your bounty. Be assured I shall always cherish a grateful recollection of that, and the numberless other acts of kindness I have received from those among whom it has been my privilege to minister for so many years.

Thanking you for your kind wishes for the welfare of myself, Mrs. STEWART and family, and praying that every blessing may attend you.

I am, my dear friends, your much obliged servant,

A. STEWART.

Hon. Mr. Justice PARKER, STEPHEN }  
WIGGINS, Esq., and others. }  
Parishioners of Saint John.

At a meeting of the Clergy of the Rural Deanery of St. John, held at St. Luke's, Portland, on Tuesday last, present, the Rev. Dr. W. Gray, F. Coster, W. Harrison, J. W. Diabrow, W. Scovill, A. Stewart, J. Armstrong, C. Lee, and G. Armstrong—the Rev. William Harrison, Rector of Portland, was elected as Rural Dean for the next three years, subject to the confirmation of the Bishop.—Com.

## THE BISHOP OF SAINT JOHN.

An extract from the Halifax “Acadian Recorder” given in the “Freeman” of the 9th inst., announces the fact, that “the Pope has changed the title of the Catholic See of New Brunswick, and that Dr. Conolly, who was consecrated last year as Bishop of FREDERICTON, is now Bishop of SAINT JOHN. The reason assigned for this change of title, on the part of the infallible and unchangeable See of Rome is, that the former title was given when there was no Protestant Bishop of Fredericton, and that when one was appointed by Her Majesty, the change was solicited by the Catholic Prelacy, and is now acceded to by the Pope.” We are glad to read of any concessions to the rights of Queen Victoria, on the part of the Roman See; and cannot but hope that the day will come, when her “supremacy,” within her own dominions, will be fully acknowledged, both by Catholic and Protestant Prelates. In the mean time, we observe, that the residence of the Romish Bishop, and his Cathedral, about to be erected, are at St. John, and that, by ancient usage, the title of the Bishop is derived from the immediate seat of Episcopal power.—Church Witness.

DIED on Monday morning, 25th inst., ROBERT HUME, Esq. M. D., R. Navy, in the 78th year of his age. Perhaps there are few in this community who have not either in their own persons or in those of their friends, been at some time indebted to the skill and attention of this deceased gentleman. In his family circle he was known as the kindest and most affectionate of parents and friends, and one whose fortitude had been more than ordinarily tried by domestic calamity. To the world at large he ever bore himself with that straightforward simplicity, grace, manliness and inflexible honour and integrity which is so often joined in men of large mental and physical capacities. In consultation his professional brethren found a strong and ready mind, exact education, and a vast store of facts joined with the nicest sense of professional etiquette. The last week of his life found him in the active engagement of his profession, and he turned the unclouded experience of his long life to contemplate his own position, marking with stronger language and more forcible expression than his feelings would have allowed him in another, each symptom of his own approaching end.—Com.

## ITEMS—DOMESTIC.

The Simoom, iron steam frigate, arrived on Saturday last, with the head quarter Division of the 76th Regt. from Malta, comprising 700 men, 43 women, and 100 children.—The main body landed on Monday. Six companies proceeded to New Brunswick.—Six companies of the 97th are to embark this day for Portsmouth. Three hundred more of the 76th are expected in two transports.

The body of a man was found by an Indian near Birch Cove, on Monday. The skeleton of another has been discovered in a bog on the Margaret's Bay road, supposed to have been there for many years.

We rejoice to see an advertisement (why not in all papers?) by the “Inland Navigation Company”—which is intended to carry out the old project of a Canal between the harbor of Halifax and the Basin of Minas.—Capital £80,000, in shares of £20. Deposits £2 per share. The company to be organized when £10,000 stock is subscribed for. We trust the whole amount will speedily be taken up, being firmly persuaded that the work will be a vast benefit to the capital and to the Province, and moreover, remunerative to the shareholders. All needful information will be given by C. W. Fairbanks, Esq. C. E.

The City loan of £2000 has been taken by the Bank of Nova Scotia at 5 per cent., the offer of the Disce-