

which I will venture to assert, not one of them had ever been able to form an intelligible notion of any kind.

Well, that was in 1836. The residue of the session passed, and nothing was done, nothing attempted.

But this is not all. The whole, or nearly the whole legislative power is transferred from the Lower to the Upper House.

THE CHURCH.

COBOURG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1840.

The revolutions of the seasons and the recurrence of a New Year bring home, with an impressive solemnity to every heart, a truth which is profitable for us, bound as we too much are to the fleeting and perishable interests of time, often to reflect upon,—that "the fashion of this world passeth away."

Well-stored, and beautiful, and magnificent as this world is, we have the testimony of God's own word that it was not designed to be eternal.

The mass of mankind too generally think and act as if this existence, compressed at best within a few score years, is all that is worthy of their labour and deserving of their care; as if this perishable body, which must so soon moulder back into the dust from which it was formed, is all that they are called upon to nurture and provide for.

But to this vain ambition, haunting even the moments of the dying, there is an appalling rebuke conveyed in the intelligence from the inspired of God, yea from God's own Son, that all these things shall pass away; that the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them,—every thing in this material creation which the eye is wont to survey with gladness, and in the contemplation of which the spirit is refreshed,—shall be enveloped in one vast conflagration, and involved in one general ruin.

These are reflections which the speeding years should bring home, with a solemn earnestness, to the heart of every reader; which should startle us all from the lethargy and indifference in which the earth-bound soul is so prone to slumber.

There is nothing indeed in the aspect of the times,—nothing in the prospects before us, to kindle up our hopes and brighten our expectations as lovers of our country and affectionate adherents of our country's Church.

These are melancholy contemplations for a commencing year; but the events which give rise to them are links, we religiously believe, in the chain of wise, though mysterious, Providences.

The Provinces of South America, blighted by the demon of democracy, are split up into a miserable mass of contending factions,—no established principle, civil or religious, to cement the discordant materials.

It is true, the evil has not yet arrived; but if present measures, into which men in their waywardness and blindness are rushing, are not stayed and defeated by an overruling and compassionate Providence, our gloomiest forebodings will be realized too soon; and we shall feel indeed, that for every solid comfort and substantial happiness, "the fashion of this world is passing away."

We have observed in some of our contemporaries the following statement of the religious denominations in this Province, as far as their numbers have been reported:—

Table with 2 columns: Denomination and Number. Includes Episcopalians (79,754), Presbyterians (78,383), Methodists (61,088), Roman Catholics (43,029), Baptists (12,968), 23 other denominations (22,806), No professed religion (34,760), No returns for (67,538).

We know not upon what data the above statement has been founded, as our own journal has from time to time given all the returns as far as ascertained; and the statements given by other papers have, we believe, with one or two exceptions, been transcribed from our pages.

Table with 2 columns: Denomination and Number. Includes Church of England (63,552), Presbyterians of all denominations (63,262), Methodists of all denominations (44,631), Roman Catholics (43,831), Baptists (10,391), Various inferior denominations (15,462), No professed religion (29,046).

We must observe that the above comprises only the population of eight Districts, and that even of these the whole census has not been taken.

We ought to observe that those classed under the head of Presbyterians, comprise the Church of Scotland, the members of the United Synod, and Seceders,—all, we believe, under a separate discipline and having no connexion with each other.

Now that the question of the UNION OF THE PROVINCES has been disposed of by our Legislature, it will be satisfactory to our readers to be in possession of the result of the several divisions in the House of Assembly on that important subject.

The Committee of the whole on the Messages of His Excellency the Governor General, on the subject of Re-union of the Provinces, reported several resolutions.

Resolved, That the House of Assembly, at its last Session, declared that in their opinion a united Legislature for the Canadas, on certain terms, was indispensable, and that further delay must prove ruinous to their best interests, and that His Excellency the Governor General by his Message to this House has announced that with a view to remove the difficulties of these Provinces—to relieve the financial embarrassments of Upper Canada—to enable her to complete her public works, and develop her Agricultural capabilities—to restore Constitutional Government to Lower Canada—to establish a firm, impartial, and vigorous Government for both—and to unite the people within them in one common feeling of attachment to British Institutions and British connexion—the Legislative Union of Upper and Lower Canada has been recommended by Her Majesty to the Imperial Parliament; and His Excellency the Governor General has invited the assent of this House to certain specified terms upon which the Union may be established.

In amendment, Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Murney, moves that after the word "Resolved" be expunged, and the following inserted: "That while this House feels truly grateful to Her Majesty for causing the subject of the Re-union of Upper and Lower Canada to be submitted to the Representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in this Province, for their consideration, before finally adopting a measure calculated so materially to change their social and political situation—it cannot, after mature deliberation, give its sanction to any proposition, having for its object the Re-union of these Provinces, which they humbly submit, will, if carried into effect, have no other result

than to render the difficulties in Lower Canada in a short time more formidable, while it would endanger the security and advantages which Upper Canada has hitherto enjoyed."

Division on Mr. Robinson's amendment. YEAS.—Messrs. Attorney General, Boulton, Caldwell, Cartwright, Elliott, Gable, Jarvis, McCrae, Murney, Robinson.—10. NAYS.—Messrs. Aikman, Armstrong, Bockus, Burritt, Burwell, Chisholm of Halton, Chisholm of Glengarry, Cook, Deltor, Duncombe, Dunlop, Ferrie, Gowen, Hotham, Hunter, Kearnes, Lewis, Malloch, Manahan, Marks, McCargar, McDonnell of Glengarry, McDonnell of Northumberland, McDonnell of Stormont, McIntosh, McKay, McLean, McMeiking, Merritt, Moore, Morris, Parke, Powell, Richardson, Rutan, Rykert, Shade, Shaver, Sherwood, Solicitor General, Small, Thomson, Thorburn, Wickins, Woodruff.—45.

Mr. Robinson's amendment lost—majority 35. In amendment to the original question, Mr. Cartwright, seconded by Mr. Boulton, moves that after the word "Resolved" in the original, the whole be expunged and the following inserted: "That His Excellency the Governor General, in His Message to this House, transmitted on the 7th Instant, has declared "That it was with great satisfaction Her Majesty's Government had learnt that upon the question of the Union itself, the House of Assembly had pronounced their decided judgment during the last Session," this House feels it due to the wishes of their constituents—the best interests of the Province, and its connexion with the Parent State, to protest against any other construction being put upon the Resolutions of this House respecting the Union, other than a decided opposition to that measure, except upon the conditions which are set forth in those resolutions of the 27th March last, which this House, in its deliberate and mature consideration, feels it its duty to assert, to be essential and indispensable.

Division on Mr. Cartwright's amendment. YEAS.—Messrs. Armstrong, Bockus, Boulton, Burritt, Burwell, Cartwright, Deltor, Elliott, Gable, Gowen, Jarvis, McCrae, McDonnell of Northumberland, McLean, Murney, Richardson, Rutan, Rykert, Shade, Sherwood, Thomson.—21. NAYS.—Messrs. Aikman, Attorney General, Caldwell, Chisholm of Halton, Chisholm of Glengarry, Cook, Duncombe, Dunlop, Ferrie, Hotham, Hunter, Kearnes, Lewis, Malloch, Manahan, Marks, McCargar, McDonnell of Glengarry, McDonnell of Stormont, McIntosh, McKay, McMeiking, Merritt, Moore, Morris, Parke, Powell, Robinson, Shaver, Solicitor General, Small, Thorburn, Wickins, Woodruff.—34.

Mr. Cartwright's amendment lost—majority 13. First Resolution carried—majority 41. The second Resolution was read as follows:—Resolved, That the House concur in the proposition that there be an equal representation of each Province in the United Legislature.

In amendment Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Rykert, moves that after the word "Resolved," the whole be expunged, and the following inserted:—"That this House cannot concur in the proposition, that there be an equal representation of each Province, but are of opinion that the number of Members to be returned to serve in the House of Assembly of the United Legislature be as follows:—

From Lower Canada fifty Members. From Upper Canada as at present."

Division on Mr. Sherwood's amendment. YEAS.—Messrs. Armstrong, Boulton, Burritt, Burwell, Cartwright, Elliott, Huter, Jarvis, McCrae, McDonnell of Northumberland, McLean, Murney, Richardson, Rutan, Rykert, Shade, Sherwood, Thomson, Wickins.—19.

NAYS.—Messrs. Aikman, Attorney General, Bockus, Caldwell, Chisholm of Halton, Chisholm of Glengarry, Cook, Deltor, Duncombe, Dunlop, Ferrie, Gamble, Gowen, Hotham, Kearnes, Lewis, Malloch, Manahan, Marks, McCargar, McDonnell of Glengarry, McDonnell of Stormont, McIntosh, McKay, McMeiking, Merritt, Moore, Morris, Parke, Powell, Richardson, Rutan, Rykert, Shade, Shaver, Solicitor General, Small, Thorburn, Woodruff.—36.

Mr. Sherwood amendment lost, majority 17. The third Resolution was put as follows:—Resolved, That this House concur in the proposition that a sufficient Civil List be granted to Her Majesty for securing the independence of the Judges, and to the Executive Government that freedom of action which is necessary for the public good. The Grant for the person administering the Government, and for the Judges of the several Superior Courts to be permanent, and for the Officers conducting the other departments of the public service, to be for the life of the Sovereign, and for a period of not less than ten years.

Division on third Resolution. YEAS.—Messrs. Aikman, Armstrong, Attorney General, Burritt, Bockus, Burwell, Chisholm of Halton, Chisholm of Glengarry, Cook, Duncombe, Dunlop, Elliott, Ferrie, Hotham, Hunter, Jarvis, Kearnes, Lewis, Malloch, Manahan, Marks, McCargar, McDonnell of Glengarry, McDonnell of Northumberland, McDonnell of Stormont, McIntosh, McKay, McMeiking, Merritt, Moore, Morris, Murney, Parke, Powell, Rutan, Rykert, Shade, Shaver, Solicitor General, Small, Thomson, Thorburn, Wickins, Woodruff.—43. NAYS.—Messrs. Boulton, Caldwell, Cartwright, Deltor, Gamble, McIntosh, Robinson, Sherwood.—8.

The third Resolution carried—majority 35. The fourth Resolution was put and carried, as follows:—Resolved, That the public debt of this Province, shall, after the 1st of January, be charged on the Joint Revenue of the united Province.

We beg to acknowledge with our grateful thanks, on behalf of the Standing Committee, the receipt of £5 currency, as the result of a collection in St. John's Church Port Hope, on Christmas Day, in aid of the funds for the support of a Travelling Missionary in the Newcastle District.

We beg to renew our notice of a collection in St. Peter's Church of this town, on Sunday morning next, in aid of the funds for the rebuilding of the Church at Chippawa,—and our hope that for so desirable an object the contribution on that occasion will be liberal.

The donations of persons for that object, which may be prevented from attending Divine Service, will be thankfully received by D. E. Boulton Esq. Churchwarden.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor of the Church.

Rectory, Kemptville, Dec. 17, 1839. Rev. Sir,—Certain reasons, not necessary to be further alluded to here, induce me to request of you the favour of inserting in an early number of "The Church," the following extracts from a sermon lately preached by me in this parish.

The extracts will sufficiently explain the object of the discourse, which was founded upon the 10th chapter of St. Matthew and part of the 8th verse. Should these passages meet the eye of a Reverend Brother in England, whose exertions in behalf of the Church in Upper Canada have long been known and appreciated here, they may serve to show that we are not unmindful of the Christian benevolence of our kind friends at home.

Very faithfully yours, HENRY PATTON.

To what is the present state of the Church in this Province to be mainly attributed, but under God to the benevolence of British Christians, who with a liberality worthy of all praise, have often ministered to our spiritual necessities.

lished nearly a century and a half ago, for the express purpose of affording aid to the Colonies of the Empire. For nearly a century and a half this labour of love been prosecuted with untiring benevolence. It has been the channel through which has flowed streams of spiritual mercies, that have caused the wilderness and solitary places of Canada to be glad, and our spiritual deserts to "rejoice and blossom as the rose."

III. Division of our discourse.

"If, as has been shewn under the former heads, the Lord of heaven and earth has been graciously pleased to visit us with singular tokens of his regard, by supplying our manifold and ever returning wants, it is our duty to shew our gratitude by imparting of the mercies which he has given us to the more necessitous and indigent part of our brethren of mankind."

Others of them, and alas, of these too many, have, on the contrary, from long privation become reconciled to their lot, and with apathetic indifference have ceased to mourn over their spiritual destitution. While others still, for want of the fostering care of the true shepherd, and have been lured into other folds.

THE GRAND RIVER INDIANS. To the Editor of The Church. Grand River, 24th Dec. 1839. Reverend Sir,—I beg that you will accept my thankful acknowledgements for your able and friendly remarks published in a late number of "The Church," in behalf of the Six Nations Indians and their Missionaries, residing in the vicinity of Grand River, occasioned by charges brought against them, before an assemblage of people, by a Missionary of the Methodist persuasion, and communicated to you by a correspondent at St. Catharines.

who might go through the length and breadth of the land proclaiming the "unsearchable riches of Christ." To aid in this benevolent work, six of us have pledged ourselves on behalf of our respective congregations, to raise annually £100 apiece for three years towards the support of such Missionary. Through the benevolence of the "U. C. Stewart Travelling Mission Fund," in placing the Rev. E. Morris at the disposal of the Bishop of Montreal, his Lordship has at length been enabled to comply with our request, and he has accordingly sent to us for that purpose the above named Reverend gentleman, who preached to you a fortnight since. Mr. Morris is now on his way through these two Districts, in which there are nearly twenty townships unprovided with the regular ministrations of the Word of God.

"I sigh whenever my musings thoughts Those happy days present, When I with troops of pious friends Thy temple did frequent. When I advanced with songs of praise My solemn vows to pay, And led the joyful sacred throng That kept the festival day."—[Ps. 42.]

The declaration must indeed have been "astounding" to the assembled audience, "that the community of Indians at the Grand River were almost without exception drunkards, not one of whom had ever been reformed." I have not the slightest hesitation in denying this assertion. It is wholly without proof. It is deeply to be regretted, that a minister of any religious denomination should be so wanting in Christian charity and human kindness, as to prefer so gross an accusation against a people so interesting and inoffensive as our Indians, who have ever appeared to me as if they made it their "study to be quiet."