

...with a commanding majority, that it will take the necessary steps to establish synodical meetings.

But perhaps the most remarkable of such meetings has been the Toronto Synod, last year the assembled diocese declared itself a Synod, and agreed with the Bishop on its continuance and on certain preliminary measures. It has again met, and thanks to the firmness of the Bishop, and the tact and good temper of those who have acted with him, it has agreed on a declaration of principles, of singular excellence, and a code of regulations for its future guidance, in which the experience of our Church and the Sister Church of the United States has been combined with much wisdom, excellencies being adopted and faults rejected. With a conception of the wants of the diocese singularly grand, this the most important diocese in British North America has made advances towards the establishment of provincial as well as diocesan assemblies, which in the present state of the Colonial Church, was before long to be responded to.

Your Committee have noticed during the past year the progress of synodical action in the United States, the prospects of the establishment of cathedrals there, and the progress made in Scotland and the colonies. In connection with this subject they cannot but notice the very valuable first report of the Cathedral Commissioners. This report is full of materials for the renovation of institutions which have been and may again become, the missionary centres of the Church for all religious and charitable works, but which latterly have done it but little good. We look with hope to future reports of the commissioners. They cannot fail to afford valuable suggestions, but we do not expect that any thorough reform can be matured until the time when the Church freely represented in Synod, may itself consider the reform of the cathedrals.

CANADA.

Those who take an interest in our Church University "Trinity College," will ever gratefully remember the name of Dr. Alex. Burnside, whose munificent contribution towards its funds we announced some months since. When the Lord Bishop stayed at a meeting of the College Council that their benefactor had departed this life, the following resolution was passed and recorded on the minute book of the university: "Resolved—That the Council, officers and students of the university do attend the funeral of the late Dr. Burnside, from No. 50 Adelaide-street, on Saturday next, the 16th instant, at 3 p.m. Consequently the Council, professors and students of the university walked in procession from the late Dr.'s residence to St. James' Cathedral Church, and thence to the Cemetery—the Bishop following the hearse, as one of the chief mourners, all the way on foot. The procession was met at the Church door by the Rector, who read the portion of the solemn burial services appointed to be read in Church, and subsequently that, at the cemetery. As we witnessed the descent of the coffin into the vault we entertained no hope that its aged occupant had died in the faith, and that, when the last trumpet shall awake him, for the merit's sake of the Redeemer, he may be summoned to the resurrection of the just, and meet with many whom he while on earth had been, in soot measures, instrumental in training for a blissful eternity, and that we might not be found wanting.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

We are gratified to learn, that the congregation of St. John's Church, in this City, presented their worthy Rector the Rev. G. M. Armstrong, on New Year's Day, with a donation of sixty-six pounds, as a token of their esteem and regard.

The first annual meeting of the Church of England Young Men's Society of this City, will be held at the Hall of the Institute next Tuesday evening.

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES.—The collections on Christmas Day, for the benefit of the poor amounted in Trinity Church to £29.10s.6d.; St. John's Church, £25; St. James' Church, £16.15s.; St. Luke's Church, Portland, £25.12s.6d.; St. Paul's (Valley) Church, £5.10s.; Centenary Methodist Chapel, £34.6s.3d. Collections at the St. John's Presbyterian Church on Sunday—£21.1s.6d.—Morning News.

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting held in the Sunday School Room of the German Street Baptist Chapel, on Friday, 22d inst., the following Gentlemen were unanimously elected Officers for the ensuing year:—Hon. W. B. Kinnear, President; James Patterson, Esq., L. I. D., Le Baron Bosford, Esq., M. D., T. W. Daniel, Esq., and S. E. Lockhart, Esq., Vice Presidents; James Rex, Esq., Treasurer; H. W. Frith, Esq., Corresponding Secretary; R. H. Duval, Esq., Recording Secretary.

QUERIES FROM CONTEMPORARIES.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—We are happy to observe the unabated interest which our citizens generally manifest in this association. The annual general meeting was, we understand, held in the Reading Room on Saturday evening last. A very satisfactory report, which we presume will be published, was read; and among the gratifying communications made to the meeting, was that of the receipt from J. C. Cogswell, Esq., of this city, son of the late Hon. H. H. Cogswell, President of the Association, of a letter enclosing a cheque for £100—being the joint donation of himself and sister. Nothing could be more becoming than such a tribute to the memory of a departed father.

The next lecture before the Association will be delivered in Temperance Hall (D. V.) on Tuesday evening next, by the Rev. Allan Pollock of New Glasgow, the subject "Hellion; how far it is a study, and how it is to be studied."—Wesleyan.

THE CUSTOMS ESTABLISHMENT.—An official communication from the Board of Customs, to the head of the Department here, was received by the America, announcing that from the 5th Jan. inst., the Customs Establishment would cease to exist. Henceforward the services of the Controllers of Customs, in the several ports of the Province, will be dispensed with—returning allowances proportionate to the duties of service being assigned to these officers.—Chron.

We have received from R. Brown, Esq. Sydney Mines, a list containing the names of persons in the employment of the General Mining Association there, who have contributed towards the Patriotic Fund, and which shows a total subscribed of £138 13s 9d; with the subscriptions also of a few other persons in the vicinity of the Mines—making the grand total £148 3s 9d.—which amount has been duly forwarded. The list, together with Mr. Brown's letter will appear in next week's paper, they having been received too late for to day's impression.

It is highly gratifying to witness the zeal, generosity, and patriotism, of those whose donations to the above named Fund have placed the Sydney Mines, as a Community, the first in the province, as far as has come to our knowledge, in this praiseworthy movement.—C. B. News.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary has received from Richard Brown, Esquire, the sum of £148 3s 9d, being the amount subscribed by the Mines and others connected with the General Mining Association at Sydney C. B., in aid of the Patriotic Fund.

We attended a meeting of the friends of the House of Refuge, on Tuesday evening last, expecting to see a large attendance, but were somewhat disappointed at the small attendance, and the apparently little interest manifested in this Institution. A number of influential individuals were present, besides several Clergymen of different denominations. The Venerable Chief Justice, occupied the chair, spoke in the highest terms of the object of this Institution, assuring the members that he would derive a pleasure, at all times, to offer his co-operation and support in behalf of a society so eminently calculated to afford to the outcast female a refuge from the snares and vicious allurements of Society. The Rev. R. G. Mc Gregor, secretary, submitted a very able and gratifying report of the labours of the Committee during the past year, which Report was adopted, and ordered to be printed for general circulation. Committees, &c. were appointed; and the meeting adjourned. The Committee will no doubt meet with a generous support, from the community, when they make their contributions for the year on which they have entered.—Journal.

His Worship the Mayor, in responding to the terms of a numerously signed requisition, will convene a Public meeting at Temperance Hall on Monday next, at 2 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of receiving contributions in aid of the Patriotic Fund "for the relief of the widows and children of the soldiers and sailors who may fall in the present struggle against the tyrant of the North." We bespeak an enthusiastic meeting on the occasion.—Ibid.

The New York Tribune states as fact the sale of Mr. Collins' three remaining steamers to the Cunard Company, for \$750,000 each. They are to replace steamers withdrawn for Government service, and will continue to ply between New York and Liverpool.—Ibid.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in Council, has been pleased to appoint the Reverend Alexander Forrester to be Principal and Superintendent of Normal and Model Schools.

The Free Masons' Lodge at Pictou has voted £5 to the Patriotic Fund. The Grand Lodge of England recently applied £1000 to the same object. The Lodges in this place intend following these praiseworthy examples.

RUSSIAN LOAN.—The New York Tribune learns that the entire Russian loan of fifty millions of roubles (\$85,000,000) had been taken up by the S. Petersburg house of Stogelitz, in 1 1/2 per cent. at the rate of 92, and was selling actively in S. Petersburg, at 94.

At the Public Meeting of Young Men's Christian Association, held at Temperance Hall, Jan. 2, 1856, J. FORMAN, Esq., in the chair.

Inter alia.—The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Association to the following City papers for the gratis insertion of the advertisements of the Association:—

Morning Chronicle, British Colonist, Daily Sun, Morning Journal, B. N. American.—Extract from Minutes.

A Coroner's Inquest was held on Sunday last, on the body of M. Fenn, Truckman of this city, found drowned over the Market Wharf, and a verdict returned accordingly.

A pressure of matter, has obliged us to postpone until next week, the list of subscribers to the College Endowment Fund, forwarded by the Rev. Agent, also Correspondence from Lunenburg, and a variety of intelligence of other descriptions.

Editorial Miscellany.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

SONGS OF THE CHURCH. By the Rev. W. Bullock.—This neatly printed and tastefully bound little work, a collection of Hymns and religious poetry, adapted to the Fasts and Festivals of the Church, and other special occasions and circumstances, is worthy a place in the library of every good Churchman. Many of the pieces have appeared as contributions to the poetical department of the Church Times during the past year, and some of them are of a high order of merit, while all are pleasingly devotional and instructive. We owe the Rev. author an apology for not having before noticed the appearance of this publication, and take the present opportunity to call the attention of our readers to it, and to inform them that a few, and out a few, are still on Sale at W. Gossip's Book Store, 21 Granville-street.

"THE MODERN CRUSADE, OR, THE PRESENT RUSSIAN WAR," &c.—A very curious and interesting work, at the present time, when the Christian's attention is seriously turned to the fulfilment of prophecy, bearing upon the development of the latter days, has been sent to us. The author is the Rev. Wm. Watson, Wesleyan Missionary, and the subject of the book is an exposition of the prophecy of Ezekiel, chap. 38, which is explained to mean the designs of the Russian Emperor, who is prefigured under the name of "the Chief Prince of Meshech and Tubal," upon Turkey, and the defeat of these designs by the Almighty, through the agency of other nations.—"Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and I will put a hook in thy jaws." &c. &c. We have no time nor space for a particular or critical examination of the book, which is tersely and perspicuously written, and with too much method to lead us to suppose that like some other attempts at unravelling the intricate web of prophecy, "too much learning" had made the author "mad."—It is a readable production, and may be read with much interest by those who are careful about such matters, and there are but few at the present day, and amid the extraordinary scenes which the world is witnessing, that do not give them at least a passing thought. We cannot say for ourselves that we are disposed to put our faith to the opinion upon prophecy of any human being, however lucidly the subject may seem to grow under his hands, and would caution our readers against being led away into devious tracks, by giving too much heed to calculations and reasoning, the propriety of which must in most instances be beyond their mental comprehension. Indeed of modern interpretations of prophecy no two agree in their conclusions, and with respect to the mission of the Emperor of Russia, the Rev. Mr. Wilson, who is a true Briton, is in direct contradiction to Dr. Tuoman, who we dare say is a true American. There can be no harm however in our expressing a hope that Mr. Wilson will prove correct, and in this view of the subject his little book may inspire confidence and be of service.—For sale at the Wesleyan Book Room, Argyle-street.

THE COLONIAL ALMANAC.—This is something like an Almanac. It is little enough to say of it, that it is full of information, for the present year, and also much that will continue useful for many years to come. It comes to us along with a Report of an excellent Institution—the Colonial Life Assurance Company, which we dare say many of our readers patronize.—Sold by McKinlay's.

The Chebucto Division, Sons of Temperance, met at their Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Thursday night—a free occasion. The audience were entertained with speeches, and vocal and instrumental music, and appeared highly pleased with the New Year's treat prepared for them.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—The Hon. Joseph Howe, delivered a continuation of his Lecture on the History of Nova Scotia on Wednesday evening last, which embraced a variety of interesting incidents in the settlement of Halifax and other parts of the Province. The attendance was much as usual, and that is not saying a great deal for the interest taking in the Institution by the class for whose instruction and benefit it was especially intended.

We notice the death of a young man named M. Cabo, belonging to Dartmouth, in our obituary last week. It appears that he was skating on New Year's Day, near the old Irvon, and when he fell through the ice, used the most determined exertions to save himself, diving into the water. Unfortunately he did not succeed, and in his humane endeavors, owing to the wet and cold, contracted disease which has speedily terminated his valuable life. The noble act deserves special record—its unfortunate result is of the inscrutable decrees of Providence.

We understand that the Lieut. Governor has signed the Death warrant for the execution of the Sapper Syme, which is to take place on Monday the 22nd inst.

We omitted to mention in our last the arrival of the Locomotive "Mayflower" from Boston.

J. W. Dawson Esq., of Pictou, has been elected a Fellow of the Geological Society, London—a distinction which Mr. Dawson's acquaintance with the science, well deserves.