

We are happy to have it in our power to intimate the following act of Christian patriotism, are exhibited by Mr. Wood, a woollen manufacturer in the parish of Byerley, near Bradford, Yorkshire. May the example stimulate many others to go and do likewise; and it is with this hope that we give the relation the prominence which we now do. As for Mr. Wood, we are persuaded he would rather that we spared our relation and our comments. His satisfaction on the occasion must arise from another source than man's opinion or man's applause, even from Him who in great mercy has given him faith to believe in simplicity of heart the divine warnings:—"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will he pay again." There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it increaseth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

Mr. Wood has resolved to build and endow, exclusively at his own expense, a church and school at Bowling Ingham, near Bradford, in Yorkshire. The church, we learn from unquestionable authority, will cost at least £6000, the school £1000, the house £400, and the ground on which the whole is to stand, including the churchyard, is valued at £2000 more, while Mr. Wood is to come under regular bond to the minister of the church, securing him a yearly income of £300. The seats in the church (the foundation-stone of which was laid about a month ago) are to be let at a low rate, with a view to the general accommodation of the population, so that, were they to be all let, the nett income arising from the church would not amount to one-half of the above sum. All this, as a king, does this Araunah give to the King of kings; and we bless God on his behalf.—*London Record*.

The following remarkable story is related of the plague:—An individual retired to the country near Adrianople, for the purpose of being removed to a distance from contagion of the disease which prevailed in the city. He had remained more than two months in his retreat, when one day he took a fancy to shoot a crow which was passing over his head. His children picked up the crow, and played some time with it. The next day three of his children were successively seized with the plague, and in the space of eight days the house was entirely deserted, all its inhabitants having fallen victims to the disease. It was supposed that the crow had belonged to one of the bands of those ravenous birds which had fed upon the carcasses of some peasants who had perished of the disease, and had been abandoned in the fields.—If the story be true, it affords a singular proof of the contagiousness and virulence of the disease.—*Daily Advertiser*.

New Orleans.—The prospects of the Church in this city, are more auspicious than at any other period. The new edifice has been used for divine worship this winter, and it has been well filled. The exterior is not yet quite completed, nor has the new organ arrived. Last week, seventy-five of the pews were sold at auction, subject to such annual rent as the vestry may impose and brought the unexpected sum of \$64,142. Of the remaining pews in the body of the Church, one is reserved for the Rector, four for strangers, and twenty-three to be rented annually to the young men and transient persons who resort in such numbers to New Orleans. The pews in the gallery are free. The few reserved for renting, would bring at public auction, at least \$15,000. A sum of near \$20,000 for the pews of a building which, together with the organ, cost only about \$53,000, must indicate a very favorable state of feeling in regard to our Church. At a meeting of the Vestry last evening, the Rev. President Wheaton was unanimously elected Rector of the parish.

The ruins of a new parish, in the upper Faubourg of the city, are rapidly gathering, under the missionary labours of the Rev. Mr. Wheat. Already liberal offers have been tendered for the erection of a new Church, and I am persuaded that in two or three years a new Church may be built, and a new congregation formed, as large as that of Christ Church.

The parishes in Natchez and Mobile, are also in a

prosperous condition. In the latter parish, their pews were lately rented, for one year, for between \$8,000 and \$9,000. They are in a temporary building, which cost only about \$4,000!

Extract from a London Letter.

PULPIT ORATORS, DR. BENSON—CROLY—MELVILLE.

I am pretty regular in attendance at the Temple church, not without great gratification. Dr. Benson is our preacher, a man who is now fairly esteemed a leading candidate for the next vacant see, and worthily. His learning is deep, and his manner of showing it very delightful. There is scarcely a text on which he does not amuse his hearers with the opinions of commentators, and eventually mark out an meaning of his own, which you are willing to recognize as the most clear and consistent. His style is completely argumentative, and though a fine imagination, with great persuasive power, cannot but be conceded him, they are so finely tempered, that they appear (as they should do in the pulpit) merely as collateral aids to his other more fit efforts at conviction by solemn perfect reason. How great the contrast between him and Croly! The one never preaches extemporaneously, fearful of becoming tedious and diffuse; the other boldly does so continually, and is most wretchedly liable to those charges. Croly can scarcely conceal his authorship, even in his highest endeavours at effect; Benson is always in the pulpit. You can scarcely wish for any thing more impressive and suitable than his style: his perorations are chaste, and, though independent in tone, still moderate. Those of the other are full of tropes, and a strained expression, which, to say the least, are miserably out of place.

* * * I have heard Melville 'twice lately. He is the most impassioned and most eloquent speaker I ever heard. Every muscle, every vein seems agitated, in company with his soul. His head partakes a constant vibratory motion; his action is strong and energetic, not persuasive: in fact, the whole tone of his oratory is of that lofty kind which is intended to strike the conscience, not to wheedle the affections. Perhaps the passion of his style is at variance with the severity of our Dr. Benson, but that does not lessen his powers as an orator, and for the effect which he produces on the general mass, it is doubtless trebled by it. He is in constant requisition for charity sermons, and his chapel at Camberwell presents the scene of jostling and crowding on ordinary occasions which our city churches show when his presence is foreknown. He is, you know, an orthodox churchman, full of zeal for the establishment, and aiding with the full influence of his genius the great work now on foot of building additional churches in the different parishes of the metropolis. He never preaches extemporaneously, and is, consequently, never tiringly diffuse. His diction is frequently full of inspiration, his manner strongly argumentative. One phrase I remember. He was speaking of the contrast visible between the poor man and the rich, in matters of religion; the one regarding it as his last hope, the latter seeing in it nothing but a near counsellor of truth. "The poor man," says he, "receives the charter of immortality, and finds that he has gained two worlds," and such is his usual style.—

Churchman.

Germany.—Facts are constantly coming to our knowledge which go to show decisively that evangelical religion is making progress in Germany. There is a great demand, for instance, for Luther's smaller catechism. Twenty thousand copies have already been printed, and the demand still continues. Another encouraging fact is, that a new translation of Baxter's *Saints' Rest* has just been published. His *Call to the Unconverted*, and *Dying Thoughts*, are also in press.

PRAYER BOOK AND HOMILY SOCIETY.

Issue of Books and Tracts.—The issue of Books during the Year has been as follows:—Prayer-Books, Psalters, Books of Homilies bound, 16,015; Homilies, and Festival Services, and Articles of Religion, as Tracts, 114,272—exceeding the issue of the former year by 2768 Bound Books, and 32,012 Tracts; and making a total issue, from the commencement of the Society, of Bound Books 309,417, and of Tracts 1,937,259.—*24th Report*.

Visits to Ships in the Port of London.—The total number of Ships visited and revisited during the past year, in the London River and dock, amounts to 3019; of these, 338 have been spoken with particularly, and supplied with books. The commanders of 82 of these vessels regularly hold Divine Worship on Board when Sabbath is spent at sea; 123 attend to this duty occasionally; and 633 entirely neglect it.

Notices of Foreign Proceedings.—The Prayer Book in Polish, translated by the Rev. Dr. Gerlach, is passing through the press. A reprint has been made of the Society's Spanish Prayer-Book, the former edition having been exhausted. Editions of a new selection of the Collects and Prayers in French, and also of a selection in Dutch, have been published.

The Liturgy a Bulwark of the Reformation.—At a period when the Religious World presents to view a troubled sea of unsettled opinions, conflicting thought, deserted standards—fanaticism and enthusiasm warring with sober truth and holy practice—old errors fiercely contending for re-admission to the faith of men—metaphysical notions entrenching on long fixed sentiments—and the Christian Mind driven to and fro, often almost reckless as to reaching the haven of eternal rest, or even to the very existence of such a haven—under such circumstances, we have to thank God that the Prayer-book has been and continues to be, under Him the sheet anchor of the Church; which though she may have felt the swellings of the billows as they rose and fell, and the force of the tempest which has swept across her, is still safe—riding out the storm, which has spread such wide desolations among the Sister Churches of the Reformation. Within her pale, the great principles of that great still flourish; evincing the superior wisdom of the English Reformers in establishing a Liturgy as the bulwark of the Reformed Religion.

African discoveries.—The Asiatic Journal for January, says the Journal of Commerce, contains some account of the exploring expedition recently undertaken, by Dr. Smith and others from Cape Town, South Africa, into the interior of the continent. It appears that the expedition penetrated almost as far as the tropic, found a very healthy climate, and returned in excellent condition, with an immense variety of drawings and specimens of natural history. The artist who furnished the zoological part of the collections is said to have set out on his hazardous adventure in a state of health which hardly allowed a hope of his being able to reach the frontier of the colony, and to have returned a strong, robust, and healthy man. In the words of Sir John Herschell, he was "a living and thriving proof of the salubrity of the country traversed." This is an important fact in reference to African colonization. And yet colonizationists are charged with inhumanity in wishing to remove so many of our free colored people as are disposed to emigrate, from a country where they scarcely increase at all, and from cities where 1 in every 27 of them dies annually, to the fine and healthy countries in the land of their fathers. Dr Smith is about to set out on a new expedition into the interior, with a view to further and more extensive researches.

China.—A correspondent observes—"China may not yet be open for the actual entrance of our Missionaries, but it will do no hurt to build a wall of light around her. Then, as the old wall tumbles down, there will be a bright shining through every breach, and truth will make her way in even before her heralds."

The plague at Constantinople had positively abated. There had been admitted within a week to the Greek Hospital only 22 sick. The Greek Patriarch, on application, had made a statement of all the persons of his religion who had died of the plague since the disease broke out. The number was 4303, including Constantinople, and the environs to the mouth of the Black Sea.

A private letter states that the Rev. Mr. Medhurst, who reached England in August last, has already succeeded in procuring subscriptions to the amount of £2000 for China, and that several Missionaries had offered for that field. Mr. Medhurst is of the London Missionary Society.—*Spirit of Missions*.