

There was a meeting at Bath on Thursday evening, presided over by the Bishop of the diocese, at which the claims of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge were advocated. Archdeacon Gunning called attention to the small proportion of laity amongst its subscribers. At its commencement they were as four to one. Now that it numbered 18,000 subscribers, the clergy stood as two to one—sixty out of every eighty names on a page of subscribers being those of clergymen. The venerable gentleman trusted that no revision of the Bible would take place, as calculated to unsettle people's minds without doing good. Speaking of other works of the society, he mentioned the vast distribution of Prayer books, "the best interpreters of the Bible;" upon which Bishop Carr, who seconded the resolution in favour of the society, proposed by the Archdeacon, objected to the expression used, he believed, inadvertently, that the Bible needed an interpreter:—

"He (the Rev. Bishop) did not believe that the Scriptures needed any such interpretation; but he would say that the Prayer book put into their mouths prayers agreeing with those Scriptures, and professions and Creeds gathered from those Scriptures, and which were the great truths which all must believe in order to be saved. The Prayer book he valued most highly, because he believed it to be in strict accordance with the Word of God, which was the standard they must all flee to.

"Archdeacon Gunning was sorry if any expression used by him had been misunderstood; but what he meant to say, and what he now repeated, was, that the Prayer book of the Church of England was the true and strict interpreter of the Bible."

The *South Australian Weekly Despatch* relates that, at the Ordination by the Bishop of Adelaide, on last St. James's Day, on the right rev. prelate challenging any one to come forward who knew of any impediment to the ordination of any of the candidates, the Rev. J. Roberts arose and went to the altar, and standing before it, made the following protest:—

"To the Lord Bishop of Adelaide.

"Reverend Father in God—In accordance with the invitation which you have just read, I protest against the admission of the Rev. Wm. Wood, of Penwortham, to the order of priesthood—first, because he is not learned in the Latin tongue, and sufficiently instructed in the Holy Scriptures, as required by the terms of Ordination clearly expressed in the Book of Ordination. Secondly, because he does not 'lay aside the study of the world,' as required by the Ordination vows; but in direct opposition to the Ordination promises, he deals in cattle, horses, lands, and engages in agricultural pursuits, and in other secular business. Thirdly, because he has been recently guilty of bearing false witness against his neighbour, in opposition to the commandment of God."

"Here a great confusion occurred; the Bishop, the clergy, and the congregation were puzzled.—After a considerable consultation with the clergy, the Bishop asked of Mr. Roberts—'Are you prepared to prove the truth of your statements relative to Mr. Wood? Have you evidences to prove that he is inconsistent in his life, and secular in his dealings?'"

"Mr. Roberts replied—'My lord, I am prepared to prove the truth of my statements if your lordship will allow me to do so.'"

"Here the Bishop consulted with Mr. Bartley, Dean Farrell, Mr. Marryat, Mr. Woodcock, and others; then his lordship said to the congregation, 'I will proceed to ordain Mr. Wood a priest.'"

Mr. Roberts persisted with his protest, when the Bishop directed Mr. Marryat to read the *si quis* and testimonials to the Congregation. The testimonials stated that Mr. Wood had been a holy and blameless man for the last three years, and that he had been closely watched by Dean Farrell, Mr. Woodcock, and Mr. Coombs. The Ordination was then proceeded with.

News Department.

Extracts from English Papers by the Niagara.

ENGLAND.

The *Resolute*, one of the Arctic ships abandoned in the ice, arrived in charge of American officers and crew off Spithhead, on Friday, in a storm of thunder, lightning and rain. The stout old ship was purchased by the American Congress from the whaler who fell in with her, for 40,000 dollars, and thoroughly renovated in one of the navy-yards of the United States. She appeared under American colours, but as soon as she got her anchors the English was run up above her

the American ensign. Every care has been taken that ingenuity could devise to replace everything on board in the same condition as when the ship was abandoned by the Arctic adventurers. Preparation, are being made on a large scale for the entertainment of Captain Hartstein and his officers, and her Majesty by an act of happy courtesy, has signified her intention of going on board her old ship to bid them welcome.

On Monday afternoon the Queen and Prince, with the Princess Royal and Princess Alice, again drove to Newport to inspect Baron Marochetti's monument, erected in Newport Church by her Majesty's command, to the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I. The next morning her Majesty, with Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, went on board the ship *Resolute*, lately presented by the Government of the United States to her Majesty's navy. The Queen was received on board in Cowes Harbour, where the *Resolute* was moored, by Captain Hartstein, of the United States navy, and the officers of the ship. Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, was also on board in attendance on her Majesty. The *Resolute*, dressed in her colours, was lashed alongside of the Royal embarkation-place at Trinity wharf. The English and American flags were flying at the peak, as soon as the Queen set her foot on the deck the Royal Standard was hoisted at the main. The *Retribution* fired a salute, the boats' crews "tossed" their care, and the ship's company, standing on the rail, received her Majesty with three rounds of cheers.— Captain Hartstein received the royal party at the gangway, and the officers, in full uniform, were grouped on either side. The following gentlemen were also present:—Mr. Croxley, Consul for the United States; Chevalier Vincent Pappalardo, Vice-Consul; Mr. Harling, Vice-Consul for the United States at Cowes; Captain Higgins, commander of the United States mail ship *Hermann*; and Mr. Cornelius Grinnell, son of Mr. Henry Grinnell, of New York, the projector of the American Arctic expedition. All were presented to the Queen by Captain Hartstein, who then addressed her Majesty in the following words:—

"Allow me to welcome your Majesty on board the *Resolute*, and, in obedience to the will of my countrymen, and of the President of the United States, to restore her to you, not only as an evidence of a friendly feeling to your sovereignty, but as a token of love, admiration, and respect to your Majesty personally."

The Queen seemed touched by the manly simplicity of this frank and sailor like address, and replied with a gracious smile, "I thank you, sir." The royal party then went over the ship and examined her with manifest interest. Captain Hartstein traced her course on a map, and indicated the most important discoveries of the American Arctic expeditions. In the course of conversation Prince Albert observed that Lady Franklin was very anxious for another expedition, to which Captain Hartstein replied that he was not surprised that she should be so, for he thought it very possible that Franklin or some of his comrades might still be alive among the Esquimaux. Captain Hartstein was invited by the Queen to dine and to spend the night at Osborne, and all the officers were invited to visit the grounds at Osborne, a privilege of which they availed themselves at three o'clock.

On Monday there was a special meeting of the Geographical Society, for the purpose of presenting a gold medal by the President, Sir R. Murchison, to Dr. Livingstone, in honor of his discoveries in Central Africa. Mr. Labouchere, Earl Shaftesbury, Sir II. Rawlinson, Count Lavardo, Professor Owen, Mr. Gordon Cumming, and other men of note, were present. In returning thanks the missionary traveller expressed how much might be done by the suppression of slavery and the promotion of Christianity, to make the true negro family a part of the community of nations. The secretary of the society then read extracts from letters of the traveller, describing a portion of his journey in the neighborhoods of Lakes Diloto and Ngami. At this point, taking up the narrative, Dr. Livingstone proceeded to state that south of the 20th degree of south latitude the country was arid, and contained very few rivers, but to the north of that line the country was well watered, and very unlike what the centre of Africa was popularly represented to be. The country that he had traversed, indeed, was covered with a network of waters, many of which were large and deep, and never dried up. The natives belonged to the true negro family, having a good deal of very woolly hair, and being darker than the Bechuana. They held their women in high estimation, and many of them became chiefs. If a man were asked to go anywhere, or to agree to any arrangement, he said, 'I must go

home and ask my wife.' If she said 'No,' there was no possibility of getting him to move. Women sat in their councils, and while a Bechuana swore by his father, these negroes swore by their mother. Dr. Livingstone related several amusing instances to show the high estimation in which these tribes held their women. He believed they deserved it, and he and his men had always been kindly treated by the 'fair' sex. The country in most parts abounded with elephants, buffaloes, zebras, giraffes, and other game, and he had shot three new antelopes not yet known in England. He had found it unnecessary to burden himself with provisions in travelling, for the animals did not seem to know a gun, and would stand within bow-shot of his weapon. In the interior the people were very kind to him, but he could not say they improved as he approached the confines of civilization. The English name had penetrated a long way into the interior, and the English were known as 'the tribe that likes the black man.' Domestic slavery existed, but the exportation of slaves was very effectually suppressed. Ngami was not a large lake, but was what was left of a large lake which existed before the fissure was made near the Lake falls, which allowed a free course to the Zambesi. The new articles of commerce he had found in the course of his travels were chiefly fibrous substances, some of them excessively strong, and one resembling flax, which were found in large quantities on the north bank of the Zambesi. The sugar cane also grew abundantly, though the natives had no idea of the use of sugar; and indigo grew wild all over the country. There were acres of it near the village of Tete; it was, in fact, quite a weed. Wax and honey, quinine and senna, were also among the natural products of the country. Then there were different metals, including very fine iron ore, and malachite, from which copper was extracted. There were also coal-fields, in working which gold was occasionally found. The people, indeed, had been washing for gold from time immemorial, and were doing so still. Near to Tete there were no fewer than eleven seams of coal, one of which was fifty-seven inches thick. The country was so fertile that in the gardens cultivated by the natives a constant process of sowing and reaping went on all the year round. It likewise grew immenso quantities of grain.

At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society last week, the Bishop of Rupert's Land, Dr. Rae, and Dr. Barth, the celebrated African traveller, were amongst those present; and Dr. Barth was amongst the new members balloted for and admitted. Sir R. Murchison announced that the Government had determined on sending out a new Niger expedition; and later in the proceedings he spoke in favour of another search for Sir John Franklin, saying he was authorised to state that, if the Government refused to do so, Lady Franklin would send out an expedition on her own account. Dr. Rae said it was his intention to renew his attempt to complete the survey he has left unfinished, though he did not think that any documents would be found; and the Bishop of Rupert's Land expressed a hope that, if the Government should sanction another expedition, they would endeavour to do some good to the Esquimaux in a religious point of view. A paper on the subject was also read by Lieut. Tim, who strongly recommended another expedition.

Sir John Dodson has officially announced that he will deliver his long pending judgement in the case of "Westerton v. Liddell" on Saturday next, at eleven o'clock precisely, in the Court of Archer."

Dr. Cumming has addressed the following letter to the morning papers:—"A paragraph has appeared in most of the newspapers, stating that the Duchess of Atholl has been received by Dr. Manning into the Roman Catholic Church. In a more dilated form I read it in several of the Roman Catholic organs also. I have authority for stating there is no foundation whatever for the report. It may also be well to state that it has become a policy, not unworthy of Ignatius Loyola, to circulate paragraphs announcing new accessions to the Church of Rome, as I know in other instances, many of which are totally devoid of truth. Another contradiction is given by the Rev. Henry de Romestien, who writes to a contemporary requesting to have it stated that he is not a member of the Church of Rome, but of the Church of England, and adding that his "conviction of the truth of the claims of the latter against those of the former is stronger at this time than it has been for several years past."

Mrs. Nicholson, widow of the late Rev. W. Nicholson, formerly rector of St. Maurice, Winchester, who a short time since was admitted into the Roman Catholic Church, has within the last few weeks, announced