

parability, as alleged by Mr. Chayne's supporters, of a congregational charge, especially one so important as St. Andrew's, with the efficient superintendence of a diocese; Mr. Chayne himself, immediately before retiring, having declared his purpose, in the event of his election, to resign the cure of St. John's, and devote himself to the duties of the Episcopate. He explained, at the same time, that in consenting to be proposed for the vacant See, he wished that his doing so might be considered as a protest, on his party against such a combination of duties as that just referred to.—On the other hand, the supporters of Dr. Suther maintained, that in the person of an active prelate, and with the aid of an efficient curate or curates in his charge, the combination was not open to objection in this country, at least, and that in the case of the diocese of Aberdeen, in particular, it had not been found objectionable, the late Bishop having, for many years, efficiently discharged both his diocesan duties, and those connected with his incumbency of St. Andrew's Church. It was also urged by Dr. Suther's supporters that his election would be acceptable to the greater number of the laity; while Mr. Chayne's friends represented the evil which had attached to the undue exercise of lay influence. To this it was replied by one or two members, that the best remedy for such an evil was to restore to the laity the position they held in regard to the choice of bishops in primitive times. The speeches were marked with great courtesy and good feeling. They continued to be delivered until within a very short time of four, P.M., before which, by the terms of the Episcopal mandate, the election required to be completed.

The Dean, before closing the discussion, stated that he wished to take this opportunity of explaining the course he had individually taken in regard to the election. Notwithstanding all that had been said against it, he was not ashamed of having looked to England, for, in doing so, he had acted under the conviction that, could a fit person—willing to undertake the office of Bishop—have been found, external to the diocese, or even beyond the limits of this portion of the Church, it would have tended more, under existing circumstances, to promote the harmony and welfare of the Diocese and the Church than the appointment of either of the two candidates named. He then desired the roll to be called over, in order that each presbyter, beginning with the youngest, might record his vote for either candidate. The votes were found to stand as follows:—

For Dr. Suther—Messrs. Davidson, Meldrum; Troup, Buckie; Temple, Caminstone; Leslie, Meiklefolla; Rorison, Peterhead; W. Walker, Monymusk; Low, Longside; Bu-sfield, Lomnay; Cooper, Portsoy; Pressley, Fraserburg; Bruce, Banff; N. Griere, Ellon; and the Dean—13.

For Mr. Chayne—Messrs. W. Y. Moir, Strichen; W. T. Griere, Banchoy-Ternan; R. Walker, Tillymorgan; Harper, Inverury; Smith, Forgue; Christie, Turrit; Webster, New Pitsligo; Ranken, Deer; and Pratt, Cruden—9.

There being thus a majority of 13 to 9 for Dr. Suther, the Dean declared him to be duly elected Bishop and pastor of the diocese of Aberdeen, subject to confirmation by the Episcopal College, in terms of the canons.

Dr. Suther having returned to the meeting shortly before, then rose, and, with evident emotion, expressed his acceptance of the office in words of the following import:—Very Rev. Sir and Rev. Brethren—The high position to which your vote has called me cannot be taken with silence on my part; and yet there are such solemnizing considerations connected with it, that I feel quite unable to enter upon subjects which some of you may think that I ought to notice. I must therefore ask your indulgence, that you will allow me to pass by these for the present. I believe that it was once a custom for persons in my position to say *nilo Episcopari*. I do not pretend to such indifference; for though I have not sought this office from any of you, nor have I secretly desired it from any proud idea of pre-eminence, yet, as a Scotchman, and a Scottish priest who has laboured for twenty years in the service of this Church, I do feel gratified; more than words can express, by the high honor which the issue of your vote to-day has conferred on me. With everything human, there will be mingled human passions and infirmities; and perhaps even the solemn passions in which we have just been engaged may not have been free from this defect. It has, I believe, been said that the laity of our Church have exercised an undue influence in this election. There is no doubt that our laity have been greatly interested as to the result of to-day's proceedings, and I believe that I have many friends of all classes among the laity. But lay friends have been active on both sides, and

it may be that in some cases the partiality or decided preference of those friends may have caused them to overstep the bounds of prudence; but I have not heard of any case in which anything like coercion has been used; and short of this, I would be the last man to interfere with the laity in exercising their undoubted privilege of expressing their approval or disapproval of the person whom you elect for their bishop—a privilege for which they have precedent in the purest age of Christian antiquity. But if a single case can be adduced where even an attempt at coercion has been made—such is my estimate of the sacredness of the right of individual judgment in this matter, that I would protest against such an exercise of influence, even if it were used for my own advancement. But I am sure no such case can be brought forward. With regard to the honor which you have conferred upon me, I feel myself unworthy of it; and I feel that there are some things in me which render me inferior to my reverend brother, and less able to discharge the lawful duties of the Episcopate. But, if your vote be confirmed, I believe that my weakness will be supplied with strength by the mighty power of Him who hath left that glorious promise on which the Church relies, "Lo, I am with you always even to the end of the world." To you my rev. brethren, by whose votes I have been elected, I return my most heartfelt thanks; and I would assure those of this diocese who have shown their preference for my rev. brother, for whom also I entertain the highest possible regard, that I respect their honest convictions, and am ready henceforth to forget that they have been this day my opponents. In earthly contests, when the strife is over those who have been engaged in them can meet as friends, and the hands which in the day of battle were raised to strike are clasped in friendly embrace. I do not mean exactly to apply this metaphor to ourselves; for I trust that we have acted throughout this business in a different spirit, and that the only rivalry amongst us has been the endeavour to do our utmost to secure the best man for the diocese—the man who, according to our several opinions, would best serve the cause of our beloved Church, and help her to fulfil her exalted mission of advancing the glory of Almighty God, and promoting peace and good will on earth. With regard to myself and my conduct in future, if that future be granted me, all I can say is that I have never at any period of my life been a party man; and certainly now that you have called me to this high dignity, I will be more than ever careful to maintain that character which those who know me best will testify that I deserve—the character of keeping myself detached from party action. I love the Church "for my brethren and companions' sake;" I love her because I believe her to be "the House of the Lord our God" in this land. I will never sanction any step to destroy her independence—I will never give my aid to impair that distinct testimony which our Church is rightly supposed to bear to certain important doctrines of the Christian faith. But when I think of the magnitude of the work, and the temptations and difficulties by which I shall be beset, I am compelled to ask "who is sufficient for these things?" My rev. brethren, I rely on your assistance, and I earnestly beg you will give me your advice and co-operation, and above every thing else, that you will give me your earnest and constant prayers.

The formal declaration of the election was then subscribed by the Presbytery who had recorded their votes for Dr. Suther, and the Dean was authorized to transmit the document to the Senior Bishop, as Primate.

At the request of the members, the Dean expressed the thanks of the Synod to Messrs. Grab and Clyne for their assistance.

To Dean Wilson himself the Synod unanimously and cordially gave a vote of thanks for the very able and impartial manner in which he had presided over the meeting.

This terminated the business of the Synod.

Dr. Suther, the Bishop-elect, is a native of Scotland, and in Scotch orders. He is the son of P. Suther, Esq., M.D., Deputy Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, and was born in Edinburgh in 1814. He was educated at King's College, in the University of Windsor, Nova Scotia; took the degree of B.A. in 1833; was ordained deacon in March, 1837, by the late Dr. Walker, Bishop of Edinburgh, and Priest in December following, by the same prelate. Dr. Suther served in Leith for two years as assistant to the learned and excellent Dr. Russell, late Bishop of Glasgow, and was, for about sixteen years, incumbent of St. George's, York Place, Edinburgh, and Chaplain at Edinburgh Castle. He was elected to the incumbency of St. Andrew's Church, Aberdeen, in 1855. The degree of D.C.L. was conferred on him in 1854 by Windsor University.

ENGLAND.

The inhabitants of Stockport lately organized a resistance against the high price of milk, and after a agitation of one month succeeded in obtaining a reduction. They are now trying to obtain a reduction in the price of sugar, and a number of the inhabitants have pledged themselves to abstain from its use till the price is reduced 2d. a pound. Circulars have been issued in every town in the kingdom, calling on the people generally to join in the movement. A meeting of householders on the same question has been held at Leeds, and a similar resolution came to.

A remarkable experiment has been made by her Majesty's ship *Locust*, on the efficiency of the new plan, by Clifford, of lowering boats from the ship's

side at sea. When the *Locust* was off the Bill of Portland, during a fine breeze from the north-west, from the time of the commander calling out, "A man overboard; let go the life buoy; man the boat" till the boat was lowered, full manned, oars out, and clear of the ship—only 25 seconds elapsed. The experiment was repeated with a like result on entering Hamoaze, when the *Locust* was at full speed.

The third report of the Postmaster General on the Post-office, commences with noticing the extension of inland service during the last year, in which period 368 post offices have been added, making the whole present number in the United Kingdom 10,866. The establishment of pillar boxes is noticed as a successful experiment, and it is intended in a short time to put up a large additional number in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh, and in various parts of the country. The measures adopted for accelerating the delivery of letters in London—including the sorting of country letters before they reach town and the division into postal districts—have been so far successful that the morning delivery of letters commences thirty-three minutes earlier and is completed forty-two minutes earlier than before. The conveyance of mails, exclusive of steam vessels, and not counting the walks of letter-carriers, within the United Kingdom, extends to over a distance of 61,000 miles per day, being about 2,600 miles more than in the end of 1855. The number of letters delivered in England last year amounted to 338,000,000, being an increase of about 5½ per cent., on the preceding year. The letters delivered in Ireland in the same period were 42,000,000, and in Scotland 48,000,000, the former being an increase of only 1-25 per cent., and the latter of 4½ per cent. on the year preceding. The proportion of letters is in England 20 to each person, in Ireland 7, and in Scotland 16. The reduction of the postage on letters to India from 1s. to 6d., made in the beginning of the year, has already caused an increase from 800,000 to nearly 1,100,000. The correspondence with France has also increased, owing to the reduction of postage, about 1,000,000, or nearly one third of the whole former number. The interruption of the packet service to the United States consequent on the exigencies of the late war caused a considerable diminution in the correspondence, and, though last year there was an increase of 125,000 letters, the number is still considerably less than it was before the interruption. The number of newspapers which passed through the Post office last year is estimated at 71,000,000. Of letters returned, owing to imperfect directions, there were about 2,400,000, and of newspapers 550,000. The money transmitted through the agency of money order offices, amounted last year to £11,805,562 for the United Kingdom, and the profit from the transmission, after deducting all expenses, was £25,674. The gross revenue of the Post office last year is stated to have been £2,867,954, being an increase of 5½ per cent. As compared with the first year of penny postage (1840) the gross revenue was increased by 111 per cent., and, even as compared with the last year of high rates of postage, there has been an increase of 20 per cent. The report notices the continued practice of sending money and other valuables in unregistered letters as offering great temptation to theft, and as not unfrequently raising groundless suspicion. Numerous instances are mentioned of blame being attached to the Post office, and to the letter-carriers, when the faults arose from negligence of the parties sending the letters, or from the roguery of the persons to whom they were intrusted to be put into the Post-office. The recent recommendation to adopt district initials to letters has been responded to very satisfactorily. Already about 55,000 letters daily, or one-third of those posted in the London districts, are so addressed.

Exeter Hall has been engaged under the special sanction of the Bishop for a series of sermons, addressed particularly to the working classes, on Sunday evenings. Among the clergy advertised to preach are Dr. Villiers, Bishop of Carlisle; Dr. Bickersteth, Bishop of Ripon; Dr. Close, Dean of Carlisle; the Rev. Hugh Stowell, of Manchester; the Rev. Dr. McNeill, of Liverpool; the Rev. W. W. Champneys, Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's; and the Rev. R. Burgess, Rector of Upper Chelsea. The Earl of Shaftesbury and the Hon. A. Kinnsaird were present, and the *Record* makes the following report of the first evening's service:—

"There is every reason to feel encouraged with the result of the opening service yesterday evening, when the Bishop of Carlisle preached. The doors were opened at half past five, and although the rate at which the congregation generally assembled indicated that the intention to hold the services had not become generally known, the numbers gradually augmented till the hall was filled by upwards of