

NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE LATE THOMAS C. JAMES, Esq.—We much regret we have to announce today the death of Thomas C. James, Esq., at Halifax, on Friday morning, 16th March, in the 47th year of his age. His death, so far as we could ascertain, was occasioned by apoplexy. Mr. James had earned for himself, by his industry and manly dealing, the respect and esteem of the whole community, and we believe there are few who know him who will not regret his loss. For us, we have been intimate with him for some years, and can therefore speak of him with confidence. At the last annual election of officers to serve in the Grand Division of the Episcopate of Newfoundland, Mr. James was elected to fill the highest office of the Order in Newfoundland, recommended thereto by the confidence which his brethren reposed in his zeal and activity to fulfil the requisite duties, which confidence was not misplaced, as his subsequent conduct fully evidenced. They have been deprived of a worthy and efficient officer, and his decease will be regretted by them all. To his bereaved family we beg to tender our sincerest condolence.—*St. John's N. F. Ledger.*

Correspondence.

Pictou, March 30th, 1855.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH TIMES.

A Meeting in behalf of the Diocesan Church Society took place in Mr. Smith's School House on the 22nd of February. The meeting was tolerably well attended, though we have to regret on this, as well as on many other occasions, that some of those who are present whose influence and counsel would have benefited the cause and have shown that in Church matters at least we all are brethren.

After the usual preliminaries, the Secretary, J. H. Lane, Esq., well known as the faithful and tried friend of the Society, read the following Report:—

Pictou, N. S., Feb. 22nd, 1855.

REPORT OF THE PICTOU COMMITTEE OF THE D. C. SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA, FOR THE YEAR 1854.

REPORT.

In compliance with established custom, the Committee of the Pictou Auxiliary of the D. C. Society of Nova Scotia now present their Annual Report. Several circumstances, which need not to be detailed, have caused the Meeting to be held at a more recent period than on former occasions. This step has not been attended with any serious inconvenience, since the General Society in Halifax have resolved to hold the Anniversary Assembly not as formerly in the month of February, but either during the summer, or in the fall of the year.

Our influence and common observation have shown us that the present is, and always has been, a very unpropitious time for obtaining subscriptions for any purpose. And, therefore, your Committee would suggest that arrangements be made to have the Annual Meeting some time about the end of November.

A retrospect of the past year furnishes some ground for congratulation, but at the same time it is of a mixed character. With regard to the former, the Committee are happy to state that the Sunday School to whose declining state they thought proper to allude in the Report of last year, has been decidedly improved, and that if we look to the number of scholars attending, the regularity of attendance, or the efficiency of the teachers, there is cause for thankfulness.

It can hardly be necessary to remind this meeting, that during 1854 we were visited by the Rev. J. C. Cochran, in behalf of King's College, Windsor, whose able and zealous advocacy of that ancient Institution has been admitted here and in every other place which he visited. Though it was at first thought we could do nothing, or a farthest but little in the College's behalf, yet it was found that we had underrated our ability, for the Revd. advocate of King's College succeeded in raising £104 in this Parish, we may say in the Town of Pictou, for the endowment of that useful Seminary.

When we consider how intimately connected is the College at Windsor with the prosperity of the Church, it must be confessed that Nova Scotia, in having raised £10,000 for its permanent endowment, has done great things.

The Committee cannot state with any thing like precision what amount will be remitted to the Parent Society in Halifax for the past year. Some persons think that it will fall greatly short, but it seems that the Rector has ventured to express to the Secretary in Halifax, not only his hope but his firm belief, that Pictou will yet preserve the high character she sustains as an Auxiliary Branch of the Church Society, and to his hope the Committee would add their own—that so it will be.

So far things are encouraging. Your Committee cannot, however, shut their eyes to the fact that of late each revolving year has tended to lessen our numbers by removing to other countries some of those who took part in our deliberations, went with us in the house of God, and contributed to the support of the various objects connected with the Church. The only good which can arise from a consideration like this, is, that it behoves those who remain to be more sensible of their responsibility, and more alive to the claims of the Church with which they are connected. *Let carelessness or indifference cannot be pardonable in a time like this, and may the doom of the Church of Laodicea be a warning in this respect.*

Though the occasion does not seem to call for it

—and by some it may be deemed inconsistent with a Report of this kind—still, your Committee cannot allow this Report to be without some slight reference to the present war. We have had a day of humiliation, and we are required every Sunday to implore the Divine blessing on our armies and fleets, and therefore we may be allowed to express our hopes that success will aid our nation's efforts to resist aggression, and to establish a permanent peace. Cold is that heart which remains unmoved when the prayers of our little congregation are desired for the wounded and suffering soldiers and sailors abroad, and the destitute and afflicted families at home. He deserves not the name of a Churchman who does not heartily respond when we supplicate the Father of mercies "to give them patience under their sufferings, and a happy deliverance out of all their afflictions."

Nor shall we content ourselves with mere expressions of sympathy, but gladly aid to the best of our power the noble efforts made in this and every other colony to alleviate their distresses, and to testify our high sense of that noble courage which gained the victory on the heights of Alma, and in the blood-stained vale of Inkermann.

(Signed by the Committee.)

The adoption of the Report was moved by D. Hockin, Esq., and seconded by Mr. H. R. Narraway, which passed unanimously. The Secretary having intimated that circumstances might cause his temporary absence from the place; and that it was but fair the duties of the office should pass into other hands, it was moved by Mr. Dwyer, and seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Lane for his long and faithful services as Secretary. The members of St. James' Church are sensible of, and appreciate, Mr. Lane's able conduct as Secretary, and I avail myself of the present opportunity to thank him for the interest he has manifested in every thing connected with the welfare of the Church.

Mr. Norman Rudolph was then chosen Secretary in his place; and a Committee for the present year was appointed.

It was considered a desirable opportunity to gain any information we could respecting Colonial Synods, and D. Hockin, Esq., the Delegate to the Halifax Convention, being present, he kindly gave an outline of the proceedings up to the present year; and expressed his firm belief that benefit to the Church at large, and not confusion and division, would be the result of their establishment. Mr. Barnes also, the Catechist at River John, in the employment of the Colonial Church and School Society, gave a short account of his labours in that part of the Parish.

Notwithstanding the expressed hopes of the Rector, to the contrary, the amount remitted to Halifax is short of the sum sent last year. Many reasons might be adduced in proof that the deficiency does not arise from diminished interest in behalf of the Society, but from causes which could not be avoided.

The meeting, however, placed the whole of the contributions at the disposal of the Society, and have thus virtually contributed more than in the preceding year.

Yours truly,

CHARLES ELLIOTT.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

The Annual Meeting of the Wardens, Vestry, and Parishioners of the Parish of Dartmouth, attended by a respectable number interested in the welfare of the Church,—took place immediately after the Divine Service on Easter Monday, April the 9th, in the Vestry-room, and was from thence adjourned to the neat and commodious Church School-house. All appeared to have come with one principal object in view:—the prosperity of the Church of their affections. After some prefatory remarks by the Chairman, the accounts of the Wardens, E. H. Lowe, Esq., and Mr. Jas. Turner, and of the Clerk of the Vestry, Mr. Henry Brown, were laid before the meeting; the different items read over, and approved,—but to make the matter more satisfactory to all parties, a Committee was appointed to examine them, and report at the next meeting. All, however, seemed well satisfied with their evident correctness, and with the manifest assiduity, labor, and zeal displayed by those officers in the financial affairs of the Parish—(which was found by them in rather an unsettled state)—that a vote of thanks was unanimously passed, thanking them for their exertions, and requesting them to continue in office another year, with which request they willingly complied. The other officers for the ensuing year were then chosen, after which the business of the meeting proceeded. The Wardens stated that repeated applications for seats in the church had been made to them; that they had attended to the wishes of the applicants, as far as practicable, but that some plan must be adopted to afford accommodation to those who wished to attend the services of the Church. Some suggestions were made, and a Committee appointed to examine and report. A proposition was then made by the Chairman that an estimate of the expenses of the current year be agreed upon, and a Committee appointed to procure a list of the names of all the members of the Church in the Parish, from twenty-one years old and upwards; that such list be entered in alphabetical form in the Vestry Book; and as a subsequent meeting of the Vestry, make an amendment, (if that term sounded harsh in the present day, a proportionate scale, as to the sum each member should contribute as his ratio of the amount required, and a person appointed in each district to submit such scale

to the individual members of the church,—since the principle hitherto acted upon seemed unfair. Individuals were then solicited to contribute, when they neither knew the amount required to be raised, nor the number of members who would unite with them to make up the requisite sum, and thus they might give more than their just proportion, or less than they would cheerfully and willingly contribute, if required, for the support of the Church of their fathers.

Every contribution was passed unanimously, and all was harmony and good will, a pattern, for example, it may be added, for others at such parish meetings to imitate.—*Cont.*

April 12th, 1855.

Editorial Miscellany.

R. M. STEAMSHIP AMERICA.

The R. M. S. *America* arrived on Thursday evening last from Liverpool, in 12 days. Dates are to the 31st March. The intelligence is very meagre of exciting events. The Conference at Vienna was progressing; but nothing satisfactory with reference to peace, seems yet to have taken place. Still there exists a hope that it will be realized, and we trust without any improper concessions, after all the sacrifice of blood and treasure on the part of the allies.

Mr. Roebuck's Committee was still engaged in its investigations, and collecting a large amount of evidence, of a vague character, but nothing so decided as to point positively to where the mismanagement lies, or in what way it could have been obviated.

The weather in the Crimea had much improved, was fine and warm, and the ground hard and fit for the transport of all kinds of warlike munitions. The health of the soldiers had much improved. Nothing very serious had taken place before Sebastopol. The British and French had commenced simultaneously a parallel from the advanced points of their attack, with a view to form a junction—the parallel does not appear to have been completed, owing to the rocky nature of the ground, but they have established a communication with each other. The Russians have been driven from their rifle pits in front of the French position, but no impression has been made upon their formidable advanced works. Supplies of all descriptions had been pouring into Sebastopol from the adjacent country, without the power of prevention on the part of the besiegers. The allies however were close upon their works, and the bombardment it is said would take place a day after the latest advice.

The Turks at Eupatoria had made a reconnaissance under Skender Beg. About 400 irregular cavalry and Bashibouzsaks set out. They were met by four strong squadrons of regular Russian cavalry—and an obstinate struggle ensued. Skender Beg was severely wounded. The Turks behaved very well, but had to retire from a superior force. The loss was considerable on both sides.

Some naval operations upon the Circassian coast are reported. Lient. Armytage, of H. M. Steamship *Viper*, had destroyed the martello tower and barracks of Djinetia, which had been erected for the defence of the direct communication between Anapa and Keitch. An attack had also been made by Capt. Giffard with some ships under his command upon Soujak—but after doing considerable damage to the garrison, the Circassians not co-operating by land, according to promise, the force withdrew.

Count Nesselrode has addressed a Circular to the diplomatic agents of Russia abroad, announcing the confirmation of their functions, and giving a sketch of the new Emperor's policy. This is to secure the integrity of Russia on the one hand, and on the other to accomplish the work of peace on the basis sanctioned by the late Emperor. The Count evidently anticipates much difficulty in the fulfilment of the latter object.

The Emperor and Empress of France were to visit the British Court some time in April.

D. C. S.

Received—

March 17.—Sydney, C. B.	£22 10 0
20. Pictou.	16 11 9
23. Liverpool.	4 6 0
25. Lunenburg.	1 0 0
April 3.—Halifax Bay.	0 10 0
Truro.	0 17 0
Albion Mines.	0 11 6
Windsor.	20 0 0
St. Clement.	1 0 0
Newport.	0 15 0
Exmouth.	2 16 1
Wilmot.	3 10 3
10. Wilmot.	10 10 0
Beaver Harbor.	24 7 8

EDWIN GILPIN, JR.,

Secretary.

* Making in all from Liverpool to date. £50 0 0