[WHOLE NUMBER, CCCCLIX.

THE HISTORY OF THE PRAYER BOOK. (By the Ven. Archdeacon Berens, M.A.)

CHAPTER V .- (CONCLUDED.) learned men within this our kingdom."

The whole number of the Translators was divided honest men of the same mind.2 when they came closer to the original.

able to the context, and to the analogy of faith.

chapters assigned for the whole company; and after gave way, and Abbot was appointed. having gone through the Version or corrections, all the them should stand.

amendments, the dispute was to be referred to a gene- thize with the necessities and infirmities of poor mi- sons for a time conformed to the Church, yet, in the ral committee, consisting of the ablest men of each

7. Lastly, three or four of the most eminent divines in each of the Universities, though not of the Transla- kill a buck; the keeper ran amongst the herd of deer assemblies. This was the beginning of Puritanism. tors, were to be assigned by the Vice-Chancellor, to bring them up to the fairer mark, while the Arch- They continued to increase until, in 1593, Sir Walter consult with the other Heads of Houses for reviewing bishop sitting on his horse discharged a barbed arrow Raleigh assured the House of Commons that there the whole translation.2

The Translators entered upon their work in 1607, and were nearly three years before they had completed it. The result of their care and diligence we have in Archbishop's mirth to the last of his life. He gave Presbyterianism was established in its stead. The the excellent Translation now used, a Translation during his own lifetime twenty pounds a year to the king was murdered, and the friends of rebellion (which which has contributed essentially, not only to the man's widow, (who quickly re-married,) and kept a they called "Reformation") had their own way.maintenance of sound religion, but also (if such a monthly fast on Tuesday, the day on which the acci- Now, then, was the time for the manifestation of its remark may here be allowed)—to the preservation of dent happened. the English language in its purity and strength.

Fulham, to meet with some Bishops and Judges of his directions is as follows:a severe attack of palsy in his right side, which de- in some of the Homilies. uttered only imperfect words. He was just heard to England. repeat earnestly, with his eyes and hands lifted up,day, Feb. 29, he quietly departed this life.

and other sciences. He entertained a great many in- simple auditories. digent scholars in his family, gave exhibitions to seve- 4. That no preacher shall from henceforth presume ral at the Universities, and encouraged them in pro- to declare, limit, or bound out, in any sermon, the portion to their merit and necessities.4 The charac- power, prerogative, authority, or duty of sovereign ter given of him by one layman' has been already princes, or otherwise meddle with matters of state, mentioned. A second calls him a holy, grave, and than as they are instructed and precedented in the pious man.6 And a third says of him, that he was Homilies of Obedience, &c. &c.; but rather confine

good of the Church." 8 In the interval between the death of Whitgift and sermons and homilies. the appointment of his successor, a measure was car- 5. That no preacher shall presume causelessly (or of March, 1604. The See of Canterbury being now to be tainted with the one or the other infection. vacant, the Dean and Chapter of that Church gave a ward VI. and Queen Elizabeth, a particularly those tion under the Great Seal.

put forth in the years 1571 and 1597.4 Fuller gives the number as forty-seven; some of those

first named having died in the interval.

2 Collier, vol. ii. p. 694, and Fuller.

3 Strype's Life of Whitgift, p. 578.

5 Camden, see page 82.

4 Collier, pp. 683, 684. Wilson's Complete History of England, vol. ii. p. 665. 7 Stow, as quoted by Strype.
8 "He built a large Almshouse near to his own palace at

Croydon in Surrey, and endowed it with maintenance for a master and twenty-eight poor men and women; which he visited so often, that he knew their names and dispositions, and was so truly humble, that he called them brothers and sisters: and whensoever the Queen descended to that lowliness to dine with him at his palace in Lambeth, (which was very often,) he would usually, the next day, show the like lowliness to his poor brothers and sisters at Croydon, and dine with them at his Hos.

9 The Prayer Book refers to the thirtieth Canon for an explanation of the reason for using the sign of the Cross in Bap- and said, "He believed them all as they were received all good men, so likewise matter of wonder and inquiry selves into thirty 'Churches' distinct from each other.

elergymen signify their assent to the Prayer Book.

Some years ago it was stated in a highly respectable periodical publication, (Blackwood's Magazine,) that the clergy of mistake was occasioned by the oath of canonical obedience upon with his death." Being questioned with respect to it engages to "perform true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of the Diocese, and his successors, in all things lawful and

onest."

2 See Lord Hardwick's judgment in the Preface to Burns' moirs. Fuller, p. 87.

5 Fuller and Collier.

4 Fuller, p. 28. Collier, vol. ii. p. 687.

The most important result of the Hampton Court of the Church, and was cordially attached to it. He could not imagine what ease and comfort he found in that excellent Version which we now have in common strict conformity to the Rubric and Canons, without resigned his soul to God.6 use. The work was intrusted in the first instance to any allowance for latitude of interpretation, or for those fifty-four of the most learned men in the kingdom. of a different persuasion. This unrelenting strictness As a preparatory step, James addressed a letter to the gave a new face to the public exercises of religion. BETWEEN THE REV. HENRY HOOKER, A.M., AND MR. Archbishop, requiring him "to move all our Bishops Divine Service was performed with more solemnity; to inform themselves of all such learned men within the Fasts and Festivals were better observed; the their several dioceses, as having especial skill in the use of copes was renewed, the surplice generally worn, Hebrew and Greek tongues, have taken pains in their and all things, in a manner, brought back to the first private studies of the Scriptures, for the clearing of settlement under Elizabeth. Some who had formerly any obscurities either in the Hebrew or in the Greek, subscribed to the Prayer Book in a loose sense, with or touching any difficulties or mistakings in the former some mental reservation, were now called upon to sign Clayton. Please be seated. I hope you have consi-English Translation, which we have now commanded their conformity in more close unevasive terms. For dered carefully the state of the Protestants of Gerto be thoroughly viewed and amended, and thereupon now the 36th Canon obliged them to declare, that they many, Switzerland, and France, as set forth in our last of the Established Church. to write unto them, earnestly charging them, that they did subscribe willingly and ex animo, so that no room conversation. send such their observations, to be imparted to the was left for evasion. And thus some Ministers of may have the help and furtherance of all our principal science; for it is a hard matter to bring every body's of those countries, which, three hundred years ago,

into six divisions, a separate portion of Scripture be- Bancroft died towards the conclusion of the year many, Switzerland, and France, have turned aside (as ing assigned to each. Some of the judicious instruc- 1610. Upon the vacancy of the See of Canterbury, you express it) from the Apostolical Succession tions suggested to them by the King were as follows: occasioned by his death, several of the Bishops then When I reflect upon the awful condition in which the 1. The Bible then read in the Church, commonly in London met to consult together, who was the fittest Protestant communities of those countries are now called the Bishops' Bible, was to receive as few alte- person to be his successor. The great learning and sunk, I tremble, lest the like fruits should ere long be rations as might be, and was to pass throughout, un- piety of Andrewes, the Bishop of Ely, pointed him out found amongst those very bodies which I have always less the originals called plainly for an amendment; for that elevated station; and the Bishops concurring been led to look upon as "the salt of the earth;" and the Translations, however, of Tindal, Mathews, Co- in opinion as to his distinguished merit, they recom- I must acknowledge further, that, since my first visit verdale, Whitchurch, and Geneva, were to be used mended him to the King. Believing that the King to you, my attention having been turned towards the was willing to accede to their recommendation, and present state of the various dissenting bodies of the 2. The old ecclesiastical words were to be retained. that there was no occasion for soliciting any farther, present day, and having been led to compare their 3. When any word has several significations, that they either retired into the country, or, at all events, present sentiments with those of their founders, and which has been commonly used by the most celebrated desisted from pressing their application. In the mean what is now taught in their pulpits with what is taught Fathers should be preferred; provided it were agree- time, the Earl of Dunbar was so urgent with the King in their standards, my misgivings as to the race, which for the appointment of Abbot, Bishop of London, that they are likely to run, is of the most disheartening 4. Every member of each Division was to take the the King, in the yielding easiness of his disposition, character.

Abbot was a man of holy and unblameable life,3 Division was to meet, examine their respective per- but was not much beloved by the inferior clergy, as misgivings. Of these countries, the first that calls for formances, and come to a resolution, which parts of over-rigid and austere. "Indeed," says Fuller, "he our attention is England. During the persecutions in 5. When any Division had finished a Book in this ever learned to obey therein; made a shepherd of tants fled to Geneva and the Low Countries; and, on manner, they were to transmit it to the rest to be far- shepherds, before he was a shepherd of sheep; con- the accession of her sister, Elizabeth, returned to their secrated Bishop before ever called to a parochial native land, but with the sentiments of those in whose 6. In case of any difference of opinion respecting charge; which, say some, made him not to sympa- countries they had taken refuge. Though these pernisters." 4 In the year 1621, a sad accident hap- eleventh year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, (the same pened to the Archbishop. He had been invited by in which the Roman schism commenced), they began Lord Zouch to Bramshill in Hampshire, to hunt and to separate themselves and form distinct religious from a cross-bow, and unhappily hit the keeper in the were 20,000 Brownists (Independents) in England. arm, who died almost immediately. This presently And at length the barriers, which had so long resisted put an end to the sport of that day, and almost to the them, were removed, the Church was put aside, and

Whitgift himself did not live to take part in this concerning Preaching put forth by King James in the produced by the tree of Presbyterianism in England, great work. He had been unwell for some time; and year 1623, from their connexion-not, indeed, strictly when it had nothing to restrain it: and, if you can soon after the Hampton Court Conference, going, in speaking, with the Prayer Book, but-with the Pub- from them prove it to be the tree which the Apostles the month of February, in his barge, to the palace at lie Service of the Church. The substance of these planted, and they and the other first Martyrs watered

the weather being inclement and tempestuous, and include and warranted in substance, and Psalms will pretty clearly established and warranted in substance, and provided and the proposition of the Apostolical Succession to the Apost ecclesiastier to dinner, after a long fasting, he suffered inference, in some one of the Articles of religion, or

prived him of speech. Two days after, he was visited 2. That no Parson shall preach any sermons upon themselves. A zealous Presbyterian and fluent railer by the King, who, out of his sense of the great need Sundays or Holy-days in the afternoon, but upon some he should have of him at this particular juncture, told part of the Catechism, particularly the Creed, Ten him, he would pray to God for his life; and that if he Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer, and that those could obtain it, he should think it one of the greatest preachers be most encouraged and approved of, who temporal blessings that could be given him in this spend the afternoon's exercise in the examination of kingdom. The Archbishop would have said some-children in their Catechism, which is the most ancient thing in reply, but his speech failed him, so that he and laudable custom of teaching in the Church of

3. That no preacher under the degree of a Bishop, "Pro Ecclesia Dei! Pro Ecclesia Dei!" The next or Dean at the least, do from henceforth presume to preach in any popular auditory upon the deep points Whitgift held the high office of Archbishop for of predestination, election, reprobation, or of the unitwenty years, and had learning, courage, and temper versality, efficacy, resistibility or irresistibility of God's suitable to his station. It was his custom to do a grace, but leave those themes rather to be handled by great deal of business without much appearance of learned men, and that moderately and modestly by effort. His house was a sort of academy, where young way of use and application, rather than by way of pogentlemen were instructed in languages, mathematics, sitive doctrine, being fitter for the schools than for

a man born for the benefit of his country and the themselves wholly to those two heads, of faith and good life, which are all the subjects of the ancient

ried into effect, directly and materially bearing upon without invitation from the text) to fall into bitter inthe Church and her Service.9 This was the esta-vectives or indecent railing speeches against the perblishing of the Canons, under which the Clergy of the sons of either Papists or Puritans; but modestly and Church of England are now governed; the Clergy, gravely, when they are occasioned thereunto by the since it has been determined by a formal judicial de- text of Scripture, free both the doctrine and the discicision that the Canons do not-proprio vigore-bind pline of the Church from the aspersions of either adthe laity.2 The Convocation met on the twentieth versaries, especially where the auditory is suspected

6. Lastly, that the Archbishops and Bishops (whom amission to Bancroft, Bishop of London, to preside his Majesty hath good cause to blame for their former in the Synod. In the eleventh session, the President remissness) be more wary and choice in their licensing delivered to the Prolocutor a book of Canons, which of preachers: and that all the Lecturers throughout passed both Houses, and were afterwards ratified by the kingdom (a new body severed from the ancient the King's Letters Patent. Those Canons, being a Clergy,) be licensed henceforward in the Court of Fahundred and forty-one, were collected by Bishop Ban- culties, but only from a recommendation of the party croft out of the Articles, Injunctions, and Synodical from the Bishop of the diocese under his hand and Acts, passed and published in the reigns of King Ed- seal, with a fiat from the Archbishop, and a confirma-

> It may well be supposed that these directions gave considerable offence. They were looked upon as a reflection on the discretion of, and an unusual restraint on, the clergy.6

About two years after the issuing of these directions, the reign of James drew towards its conclusion. In the spring of the year 1625, he was seized with a tertian ague; and, when encouraged by his courtiers with the common proverb, that this distemper, during divisions, instead of unity and uniformity; . . . that season, was health for a King, he replied, that the instead of extirpation of heresy, schism, profaneness, proverb was meant of a young King.7

for receiving in point of faith and charity? He said, paniment of Presbyterianism had taken possession of probation, and to choose one who does. And hence he was, and gave humble thanks to God for the same. the land. "The evil," says he, "is at the door; a congregation, as Mr. Gathercole says, "consisting of pital; at which time, you may believe, there was joy at the pital; at which time, you may believe, there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; there was joy at the land. 7 "The evil," says he, "is at the door; the land. 5 "The evil," says he, "is at the a good accommodation and maintenance for the master and thought of the religious books which he had written; wherein this poison is not poured forth."

there is not a city, a town, scarce a village in England thought of the religious books which he had written; wherein this poison is not poured forth."

scholars." Walton's Life of Hooker. tism; and the thirty-sixth Canon gives the form, in which clergymen signify their assent to the Prayer Book.

The added such and expounded by that part of the Catholic Church which was established here in England."

He added such as some the form, in which was established here in England."

The added such as some the form, in which was established here in England. The added such as some the form, in which was established here in England. which was established here in England." He added such numbers of Socinian books, which have swarmed to suit him, may himself become a 'Church,' and pray, with a degree of vivacity, that "whatever he had writ- all upon a sudden." the Church of England were sworn to obey the Canons. The ten of this faith in his life, he was now ready to seal institution to a Living, by which oath the Clergyman taking his charity, he answered, "That he forgave all men

> <sup>2</sup> Collier, vol. ii. p. 687. 3 Wilson's History of James the First. Welwood's Me-

6 Collier.

7 Hume's History of England.

After a vacancy of about nine months in the see of that offended him, and desired to be forgiven by all Canterbury, Bancroft, Bishop of London, was trans- Christians, whom he in any wise had offended."lated to it. Bancroft was a man of deep and accurate Some hours after receiving the Sacrament, he professed

DIALOGUE

CLAYTON, A DISSENTER, ON THE APOSTOLICAL SUC-

(By a Correspondent of The Church.) No. VI.

Mr. Hooker .- I am happy to see you again, Mr.

Mr. Clayton .- I have done so, Sir; and must acunderstanding to a common standard, or to make all gave such promise, the less confidence have I in the various denominations of Christians, which, like Ger-

Mr. H .- I fear that our review of the remaining countries of Europe will only tend to increase these was mounted to command in the Church, before he the reign of Queen Mary, large numbers of Protesreal character. They tell us that "a tree is known It may be expedient to mention here the Directions by its fruits." I will set before you some of the fruits with their blood, then I will give up Episcopacy, and Court, there to confer about the affairs of the Church, 1. That no preacher, under the degree of Bishop argue for "the Apostolical Succession" in the line of

would hardly be impartial witnesses. Mr. H .- No; my witnesses shall be from among at the Bishops, of the name of Edwards, testifies 1

that, within four years after the destruction of the Church, the whole land was overflowed, from one end to the other, with a deluge of heresy. More than one hundred blasphemous errors are enumerated by their own writers, "all of them (as they speak) vented and broached forth within these four years last past."-2"Within that time," says he in another place, "there have been blasphemies of the Scriptures, the Trinity, each person of the Trinity, both of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, of God's eternal Election, of the Virgin Mary, the Apostles, and holy men of Scripture, of Baptism, Prayer, the Ministry of the Word, and the Ministers of all the Reformed Churches, of the Government of the Church, and of the Christian Magistrates." " "We have overpassed," he confesses, "in these last four years the deeds of the prelates, and justified the Bishops, in whose time never so many nor so great errors were heard of, much less such blasphemies, or confusions; we have worse things among us than ever were in all the Bishops' days, more corrupt doctrines and unheard of practices." An eminent Presbyterian preacher, of the name of Crawford, testifies, that 4 "in eighty years there did not arise so many horrid opinions and blasphemous heresies under of a town or city is a further spreading over this kingdom the gangrene of heresy and error; where these enlarging of our quarters is an enlargement of secta-

rianism and a multiplying of schisms." Mr. C.-Why, really, this is strong testimony

Mr. H.—It is indeed so; and it is fully corrobowithin the province of London declared to the world, that "instead of true piety and godliness, the ejectors of the Bishops had opened the very flood-gates to all impiety and profaneness; and that after they had re- the state of those who have turned aside from the sucmoved the Prelaticul yoke from their shoulders by their covenanted endeavours, there was a rueful, deplorable, and deformed face of the affairs of religion, swarming with noisome errors, heresies and blasphemies, instead of faith and truth; torn in pieces with destructive schisms, separations, divisions and sub-

e Fuller. Edward's Gangræna, p. 1. <sup>2</sup> Idem, p. 37.

Idem, p. 143. Future State of England, p. 240. Hornii Hist. Eccles. et Politic. p. 333.
 Peerce's New Discoverer, pp. 135 and 136.
 Owen's Vindiciæ Evangelicæ, pp. 45 and 69.

8 Edward's Preservative against Socinianism.

Edwards alluded.

the present day? for Matthew Henry, and most of the leading men of in the slightest degree influenced by them. number of congregations scattered over England, who in the nineteenth century. ground that these charities were founded by her La- lightenment of the nineteenth century; and truly our the mart of all trade. which they had officiated had, with few exceptions, people think, that, as many improvements have been selves of what had piously been intended for an en- tuted perfect eighteen hundred years ago -- the Church tirely different class of men. The Socinian congrega- of Christ. tions, of course, resisted the action; but in vain. It doctrines on the divinity and atonement of Christ | the following remarkable language, showing how the and other essential points, and that holding such, they | principle of dissent has been carried out amongst them: ble feature in the declension from the truth of those, who have laid aside the apostolical succession and with it the promise of the great head of the church, is not confined to the Presbyterians and Independents in | becomes an individual performing the various offices into Deism. And we have the unquestionable evi- raising of congregations by architectural forcing glasses the faith and love of God, and of His Christ, and with a dence of Archbishop Magee, that Wesley in his "Im- called chapels, -all this may be very proper, and the proved Liturgy" a "mutilated above 60 of the Psalms, system may work well in many instances, but this is remainder. Of the Psalms which he has discarded, Of such things another dissenter thus writes: "Were six at least are admitted to be eminently prophetic of our our forefathers now to land upon our shores, they the two creeds, the Nicene Creed and Athanasian, congregations once flourishing and prosperous, but The 18th Article, which pronounces that 'eternal sal- ton Churches among us."

loctrine as your Church!

Mr. Clayton, that you would acknowledge that to be Mr. Clayton, that you would acknowledge that to be a proof of similarity of doctrine.

generally assert that fact!

by boldly asserting this, they hope (and no doubt ofexceed those of the Bishops as far as the waters of the have known many persons, who, in consequence of the ocean exceed those of the Rhine." And, as if he had want of the ministrations of our church, have been innot sufficiently exposed the guilt of his own party, duced to join the Methodists, and have yet considered Methodists were essentially the same as those of the verpool. errors were never known or heard of before, upon our Church, and that they were as truly members of the Such I believe to be the real state of the case; and, no doubt many Methodists, from want of proper in-

rated by some of their public bodies. The ministers that you mention it, I remember several cases which and endless divisions; that yet enough is visible to have occurred within my own observation, which certainly go to prove it to be so.

Mr. H .- But, Mr. Clayton, it is time to consider cession in England in other respects than that already brought to your notice. The very spirit of dissent is bad. It has its rise in the rebellious temper of man, who is unwilling to bend his will to that of others, and who sets up his judgment and opinions above those of of it. men of mature years and great experience. And if it be right (as dissenters teach), for a body of men who cannot, or rather will not, agree, to set up for them-&c., they had an impudent and general incendation of selves and establish a new sect, and choose their own Four days before his death he desired to receive the all those evils."6 The celebrated Owen sounded the teachers, then it must be equally right for every body Sacrament; and being asked whether he was prepared trumpet of alarm, and declared that the usual accom- to dissent from a teacher who does not meet his ap--he repeated the Articles of the Creed one by one, been," says Edwards, "as the occasion of trouble to have chosen thirty teachers, and have formed themand preach, and administer the Lord's Supper to himself; and should he become convinced of the propriety of adult baptism, by immersion, he may, quite consistently with the principles of dissent, baptise himself in that way!" Astounding as this may appear to some, yet there is the case of a gentleman whom I

<sup>1</sup> Encycloped American, vol. xii., app. p. 599. <sup>2</sup> On the Atonement, vol. i. pp. 159.

lyship and her husband, for the benefit of orthodox days stand prominent in all that concerns the advancesenting ministers; but, as the congregations in ment of science and the arts; but I fear that many ecome Socinian, and of course their ministers were effected in these departments in the last fifty years, Sociulan teachers, they could not legally avail them- so they must also improve on that which was consti-

But to return to the "dissenting interest" in Engwas proved, beyond question, that they held unsound land. I find in the Eclectic Review for Sept. 1831, were not entitled to any benefit from charities set | "Of this spurious Congregationalism, this ultra Inde- most particular attention to them, and will thank you to apart for teaching the truths of Christianity as set | pendency, it may be truly said, that it wants a princiorth in the blessed Word of God. But this remarka- ple of adhesiveness,—that its tendency is almost to as soon as these can be prepared. England. Of the Baptists large numbers are Unita- of the species. The multiplication of Societies by rians. A great many of the Quakers are sinking division—the propagation of dissenterism by slips—the liscarded 34 others and newly rendered many of the no more the congregational polity of our forefathers." Saviour - of His incarnation, His sufferings, and His | would find themselves in a strange country, and feel ascension: whilst the reason assigned for their expur- but little sympathy for a cause that has so strangely

vation is to be obtained only by the name of Christ;' In conclusion, I will mention two circumstances to sixty more, and receiving only nine of our articles be holding the same doctrines with us, then it may be lation, has also decreased; but this could not have

increase for years to come. Mr. C .- I cannot say that I should, Sir. But And that this state of the dissenting bodies is to be why, let me ask you, Sir,—why do the Methodists so generally assert that fact!

And that this state of the dissenting bodies is to be found in other places, I do not for a moment doubt; for scores of their ministers are seeking orders every in these days of our trial, there are those among us, who Mr. H .- I can give you no other reason than this, year in the Church, and there is scarcely a minister of they are notorious for their proselyting spirit; and, any distinction either of the Independents or Metho-Episcopacy,—a government decried as anti-Christian, ten succeed therein) to induce many members of the paring for orders. And three years since, the Rev. to themselves, Let him that is taught in the word, commun as have risen in these few years." Another zealous church to attend their meetings, who would never at-Presbyterian says, 5 "The corruptions of our days tend, if they really knew the facts of the case. I on many points are strongly in accordance with those Lingland, stated, that in travelling 1500 innes in Eugland, the constant object that met his eye was either ral among our people, as it ought to be; if all would recognize the duty which is thus enforced, and heartily Edwards adds, "Our victories and successes turned themselves members of the church, and when argued a church building, a church re-building, or a church Edwards adds, "Our victories and successes turned to the increasing and growing of errors; every taking with regarding this step, have boldly (and no doubt with all sincerity) asserted that the doctrines of the would flourish abundantly.

Lam aware that many excellent persons, considering the step of the would flourish abundantly.

Lam aware that many excellent persons, considering the step of the world flourish abundantly.

I trust, Mr. Clayton, that you will be now convinced taking of towns or cities they come to light; every Church as many of John Wesley's best followers, who that England forms no exception to the general rule, lived and died in the communion of the Church. which I have laid down for those bodies who have that although the weight of the Church establishment, against the influence of Presbyterianism for good in quiry and information, make the assertion in all sin- with its Scriptural Articles and its hallowed Liturgy, Mr. C.—This is probably the reason: and, now strain the natural tendency of Dissent to error, heresy, show what are the tendencies of a principle, which in the time of the commonwealth produced all sorts of begot 200 sects, of which scarcely any now live except on the page of history.

Mr. H.—Perhaps, however, Mr. Clayton, you had better hear me through my whole plan, which will call table Society in England, must be obvious to every one. us to pass several other countries in review. England must, however, suffice for to-day.

Mr. C .- Good afternoon, Sir! Mr H.—Good afternoon, Mr. Clayton; I shall expect to see you soon again.

PROGRESS OF ENGLAND. (From 'Critical and Miscellaneous Essays,' by T. B. Macaulay, Esq.)

The history of England is emphatically the history of progress. It is the history of a constant movement of the public mind which produced a constant change n the institutions of a great society. We see that society, at the beginning of the twelfth century, was forded, would perhaps assist in diminishing this difficulty in a state more miserable than the state in which the most degraded of the nations of the East now are .-We see it subjected to the tyranny of a handful of armed foreigners. We see a strong distinction of caste separating the victorious Norman from the vanquished it no

Mn C .- It was to the Socialian heresy, then, that know, which forms a complete illustration of this prin- Saxon. We see the great body of the population in ciple carried to its utmost extreme. Educated amongst a state of personal slavery. We see the most debasing Mr. H.—Yes; and I believe you will, on observa- Dissenters, he has long since discarded all idea of a and cruel superstition exercising boundless dominion learning, who thoroughly understood the constitution to his son and successor, and his attendants, that "they tion, find my remarks hold good, that Socinianism has Ministry, as one of those things which can very well over the most elevated and benevolent minds. We ever proved the accompaniment of Presbyterianism; be done without. He, of course, repudiates all deno- see the multitude sunk in brutal ignorance, and the Conference was the New Translation of the Bible, accordingly governed with great vigour, and pressed a himself since the receiving thereof." And so quietly and that if you want to find where Socinianism prevails in the present day, you will not go far wrong if one or two others who are dependent on him, for what the name of knowledge. In the course of seven cenyou search for it where Presbyterianism prevailed two he calls worship, on the Sabbath day. He usually turies this wretched and degraded race have become hundred years ago. But the Presbyterians did not lectures himself; but, from some, whom curiosity, the greatest and most highly civilized people that ever long retain possession of their ill-gotten and ill-iin- foolishly indulged, has led to his conventicle, I have the world saw; have spread their dominion over every proved power. As they had turned out the Bishops, learned that it is a curious medley of sacred and pro- quarter of the globe; have scattered the seeds of they, in their turn, were turned out by the Indepen- fane, -of passages of Scripture and his own rhapse- mighty empires and republics over vast continents, of dents. And, after a time, the nation became so dis- dies. Occasionally he administers what he calls the which no dim intimation had ever reached Ptolemy or gusted with them, that almost all joined in restoring Lord's Supper to his family! But I am happy to say Strabo: have created a maritime power which would the King and the Church. I have extended my quo- that the community have shown their good sense in annihilate in a quarter of an hour the natives of Tyre, tations on this subject further than usual, because I utterly refusing to countenance such an outrage on all Athens, Carthage, Venice, and Genoa together; have deemed it best to show the fruits that dissent has borne that is sacred. Enjoying a handsome allowance from carried the science of healing, the means of locomoin England, when freed from the restraining influence | the British Government and moving in the first classes | tion and correspondence, every mechanical art, every of society, it might be supposed that he could have manufacture, every thing that promotes the conve-Mr. C .- But have these symptoms of Socinianism, induced some to follow him; but such is not the case; nience of life, to a perfection which our ancestors of which Edwards complained, extended and produced and I believe that not one of his large and highly re- would have thought magical; have produced a litera-Commissioners, that so our said intended Translation consideration lost their livings to preserve their con- knowledge with pain that the more I think of the state any injurious influences on the dissenting bodies of spectable family, who have left their paternal roof, ture not inferior to the noblest which Greece has have retained the sentiments which he has all his life bequeathed to us; have discovered the laws which Mr. H.—Yes: they have. In the language of a long endeavoured to instil into their minds; but are regulate the motions of the heavenly bodies; have dissenting minister: "The experience of two centuregenerally consistent members of the Church. And, speculated with exquisite subtlety on the operations ries has brought it (the system of dissent in England) although he rented a large room and advertised lec- of the human mind; have been the acknowledged to a sofficient test, and placed us in a position the tures on exciting subjects, and took special care to leaders of the human race in the career of political most undesirable to a well-ordered mind." The Ee- notify the community that there would be "no collectimprovement. The history of England is the history lectic Review of Feb. 1832, the organ of the Eng- tion," his attempt has proved an utter failure; so that of this great change in the moral, intellectual, and lish Independents, tells us that "out of 258 Presby- now be confines himself, I believe, to officiating in his physical state of the inhabitants of our own island. terian congregations in England 235 were at that own family, and writing books and pamphlets, which There is much amusing and instructive episodical time Unitarian." It is well known that all the pupils must cost him a pretty penny, as they are either dis- matter; but this is the main action. To us, we will of the celebrated Doddridge, with one exception, be- tributed gratuitously, or lie to accumulate dirt on the own, nothing is so interesting and delightful as to came Socinians. The meeting-houses built for him, publisher's shelves; for few read them, and nobody is contemplate the steps by which the England of the Domesday Book,-the England of the Curfew and the his day, are now occupied by Socinian Teachers. A Mr. C.-Why, really, this is a remarkable case; Forest Laws, -the England of Crusaders, Monks, few years since an action was brought against a large and one which I should not have expected to hear of Schoolmen, Astrologers, Serfs, Outlaws, -became the England which we know and love, -the classic ground had the profit of Lady Hewley's charities, on the Mr. H .- We hear much, Mr. Clayton, of the en- of liberty and philosophy, the school of all knowledge,

## Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

NOVA SCOTIA.

CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE LORD BISHOP.

Halifax, Janurry 10th, 1846.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR, By desire of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, I forward to you sundry questions, to which they wish for early and accurate replies. I must request your return them to me with your answers on the same sheet,

That you may the better understand the duty which is the duties which are now laid upon them, I must beg you them; and to urge upon all, the nesessity for a prompt and zealous, and permanent discharge of these duties, in wise and holy fear, proportioned to the responsibility

which rests upon the For many years I have endeavoured both publicly and privately, as opportunities have been afforded to me, to prepare the members of the Church for the crisis that has ived; in some cases perhaps with too little effect.

others, however, we gladly and thankfully acknowledge much right feeling has been manifested. So much benevolent assistance has been extended to gation is, 'their being improper for the mouth of a deteriorated." In the same Review for 1831 (p. 420), the Church in this Diocese, in the purest spirit of Christian congregation!!!' But this is not all.... I find the following language, which has reference to ever since the first settlement of the Province that her the two creeds, the Nicene Creed and Athanasian, are totally discarded . . . . the general character of the discarded Articles and Psalms will pretty clearly es-

us, who according to their respective means, allot their tens, and hundreds, and thousands of pounds, for the and the 15th, which asserts 'that Christ alone was show the falling state of Dissent in England. A Deawithout sin, are two of those which the founder of Methodism has declared to be unfit objects for a few years since on the subject with a dissenting bro-Christian's belief," The Discipline of the American ther, when the former exclaimed, "We have lost in for the building of Temples for the living God, or for the Aristian's belief." The Discipline of the American Methodist Episcopal Church" shews that they beleve only the odd nine articles, just as they stand; they than eleven chapels," -all of which he enumerated tily afforded by some for these important objects, has been eject fourteen altogether; and of the remaining twen- to his friend. Of these, eight had been purchased by regarded with complacency, as a liberal and gratuitous reject fourteen altogether; and of the remaining twenty-five, they mutilate or alter sixteen; and thus receive, as they stand, only nine of the thirty-nine Articles of our Church.

to his friend. Of these, eight had been purchased by the Church and been licensed as chapels of ease to the parish church, or as district churches; two had been fitted ticles of our Church.

regarded with companiency, as a normal and gratuatous offering, without considering for a moment, that it was required for the discharge of a binding duty, which should be performed with the alacrity of a willing mind, and should be regarded as a privilege, as well as a duty; a Mr. C.—Why, Sir, I have always been led to suppose that the Methodists held essentially the same congregations dwindling away, most of them no doubt be sinful. But no man, who reads his Bible, can doubt that it is by the command of God himself. conforming to the Church, renders the case more stri-king; for the church renders the case more stri-that the members of his Church are bound to sustain that Mr. H.—If rejecting two of our creeds, discarding king; for though cases may frequently occur, when a Church; and that no believer in revelation can doubt that thirty-four of the Psalms of David, mutilating above church or a chapel is not so well filled as it formerly the wilful and habitual neglect of this, as of any other plain

> But I have no pleasure in dwelling upon cases like these, ready and dutiful acknowledgement of the obligation and a desire to perform it cheerfully, and to its full extent from their heart concur in the declaration of the Apostle, Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the any distinction either of the Independents or Methodists, who has not either a son in orders or one predicts, who has not either a son in orders or one predicts, who has not either a son in orders or one predicts the force of the command, as if it were directly addressed fearfully perceive the bearing of the solemn sanction which the Apostle adds to this command, Be not deceived of dissenters, in giving an account of his travels in England, stated, that in travelling 1500 miles in Eng-

> I am aware that many excellent persons, considering our numbers and the condition of our people, are full of apprehension that it would not be possible, by any effort among ourselves to secure a competent support for which I have laid down for those bodies who have turned aside from the Apostolical Succession; and that although the control of the Church establishment. der to the Church would consist in obtaining her chief support from England, and save her members here from and its Ministry sound in the faith, does much to restrain the natural tendency of Dissent to error, heresy, ion, as I hope all others will be: and am now satisfied here, as she ought to flourish, until we become less dependent on help from a distance, than we have hitherto been; and that when her children feel, as they must hereevils, heresies, and blasphemies, and in a few years after be compelled to feel, that under God, she must chiefly depend upon their love and liberality, her influence will be greatly extended, and abound in holy results, to the glory of her Divine Head.

> Mr. C.—I must acknowledge, Sir, that you make Dissent look blacker and blacker every day, and I am almost tempted at times to wish that I was well quit of it.
>
> But whatever opinions may be entertained on this point, there can be little doubt, the truth will soon be felt. No less than forty-five separate Colonies now belong to the Empire, and the extent of many of these is enormous. The impossibility of sustaining the Church in such widely extended countries, by the benevolence of a chari-The fact has been proved—although the income of that society has increased seven-fold within eight years, the calls upon their bounty have increased much more rapidly, and they have no longer sufficient means to fulfil the ngagements they have been induced to make. this create surprise, when it is known that such income is obtained by voluntary contributions, and a considerable portion of these is derived from the poor. It is therefore most clear that the Church cannot be upheld among us, unless some adequate exertions be made among ourselves,

for her support. cumstances, a zeal would be awakened, and thus means will be found, have difficulty in ascertaining how these means may best be collected and applied to their object. It may not be easy to propose a plan which will be alike applicable, under all the variety of circumstances which will be found in our numerous settlements. The adoption of some rule for settling the amount that should be af--and I venture to suggest the consideration of an amount that is not of man's devising, but ordained by wisdom from above; and if this should be regarded as the most proper measure of bounty to the Church, every individual

\* These documents having been already published, we do not think t necessary now to insert.