IRISH CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

CHALLENGE TO THE PERVERT JEPHSON.—The Priests' Protection Society in Ireland have issued the following challenge to the Rev. John M. Jephson, an apostate from the true Church of Christ:

Rev. Sir,—I am charged by the Reformed Priests in connection with the Priests' Protection Society for Ireland, to invite you to a public discussion on the subject of the errors of the Apostate Church of Rome, to be held either in the Rotunda of Dublin, or in the Town Hall of Birmingham, in the first week of the ensuing month of October. In the mean time, the preliminaries for the discussion can be arranged: and I am commissioned by them to say, that they are ready, on the shortest notice, to prepare and ratify such arrangements.

Their great object is, to bring, in the most amicable manner, the doctrines, teachings, and practices of the Church of Rome, to the bar of public opinion, and the test of God's word, and to prove, that as the Church of Jerusalem, Alexandria, and Antioch have erred, so also the Church of Rome hath erred, not only in her living, and manner of ceremonies, but also in matters of faith, and consequently has become apostate and anti-Christian.

Some of the publications, written by our reformed Priests have been very extensively circulated through all parts of England, and none of them has elicited a similar invitation from you or any other apostate. Our Priests have, therefore, now recourse to this appeal to the public tribunal, with the fervent hope that it may draw you forth to the controversy, and that the discussion may be the means of promoting the vital welfare of our common country, and of the empire at large.

I have the honour to be, Rev. Sir, your very humble, faithful, and obedient servant,

GEORGE POWELL,
Assistant Secretary to the Priests' Protection Society for Ireland.

Office, 23, Upper Sackville Street,
Dublin, 21st Sept., 1848.

IRELAND: *The Pope and the Irish Colleges.*—A letter has been received from Rome, according to which Dr. M'Hale has succeeded in inducing the Pope to issue another rescript condemnatory of the Irish Colleges, the polite solicitations of the Earl of Clarendon notwithstanding.

WEEKLY CALENDAR.

Day.	Date.			1st Lesson	2d Lesson.
A	Nov. 5.	20TH SUND. AFT. TRINITY. Gunpowder Plot.	M. E.	Joel 2. Micah 6.	Luke 21. 1 Thes. 1.
M	" 6.	.....	M. E.	Eccles. 24. " 28 or 13.	Luke 22. 1 Thes. 2.
T	" 7.	The first Gazette in Engl'd publ'hed at Oxford, 1665.	M. E.	" 27. " 28.	Luke 23. 1 Thes. 3.
W	" 8.	.....	M. E.	" 29. " 30 or 18.	Luke 24. 1 Thes. 4.
T	" 9.	Prince of Wales b. 1841.	M. "	" 31. " 32.	John 1. 1 Thes. 5.
F	" 10.	Martin Luther born at Isleben in Saxony, 1483.	M. E.	" 33. " 34.	John 2. 2 Thes. 1.
S	" 11.	Battle of Crysler's Farm, 1813.	M. E.	" 35. " 36.	John 3. 2 Thes. 2.
A	" 12.	21ST SUND. AFT. TRINITY.	M. E.	Habak. 2. Prov. 1.	John 4. 2 Thes 3

THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 2, 1848.

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KING'S COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.

This interesting occasion, which was celebrated with the usual observances on Thursday last, was the Second Triennial Commemoration. Although the weather was unfavourable, the attendance was large, and the Hall, indeed, did not seem to us to have lost many of its wonted assemblage.

Six were admitted to the Degree of M.A., which, with one exception, is the first admission to that Degree in the University. Our esteemed friend, Dr. Bovell, received, we were pleased to observe, the Degree of M.D., ad eundem. He was presented to the President by Dr. King; the other Candidates, both for Degrees and Matriculation, were presented by Professor Murray.

The Prize Compositions [illegible] to ascertain their merits merely from hearing them,—were excellent. The English Verse appears to have given much satisfaction; and as for the compositions in Greek and Latin, a close inspection, of course, would be requisite to determine their ability: but, as the public have no opportunity of giving them this examination, we are willing to take the well-established reputation of the University as a sufficient guarantee for their accuracy and elegance.

Where so many acquitted themselves creditably, and received the congratulations of the Professors, we can scarcely single out any one except as *primus inter pares*. There can be no question, however, but that public attention has been attracted to M. Crooks, amongst the Under-graduates, and to Mr. Wedd, amongst the Graduates. The former, it will be remembered, distinguished himself last year by obtaining a Double First Class, and this year he has attained the high honour of being elected to the Wellington Scholarship. The President, in announcing his election, said, in a very happy manner, that it had been his good fortune to arrive at one of the highest distinctions which the University itself was privileged to claim,—that of having his name associated with the venerated name of WELLINGTON. To Mr. Wedd the President expressed himself in a very complimentary and affectionate manner. As Mr. Wedd has now been admitted to the Degree of M.A., and is no longer in what is called *statu pupillari*, the President stated that he could avow unreservedly the high opinion which he entertained of his peculiar abilities, industry and success. Amongst his various honours, Mr. Wedd has been the first to bear away the Prize for Latin Prose, which up to the present time—as the learned President observed—has been withheld. In addressing the successful candidates for the University, Upper Canada College, and District Scholarships, the President took occasion to make some appropriate remarks upon those valuable institutions. They were well calculated, he considered, to encourage and stimulate native talent; to asssist talent in its struggles with domestic difficulties; and to bring forward real worth without reference to wealth, rank or station. One object of their establishment was, to raise the standard of education throughout the Province. It was for this purpose that the examinations for the scholarships were connected with the University, in order that the University might prescribe the requisite qualification. It was deemed that this mode of disposing of them would be more productive of good to the country at large, than placing them unconditionally in the power and gift of the Grammar Schools. From his former connexion with Upper Canada College, it might be supposed that he was chiefly concerned in the prosperity of that institution. He was indeed deeply interested in its welfare, and he could bear cordial testimony to the ability of its present management. But he was delighted, nevertheless, to welcome to the University, amongst the successful candidates, one from a District Grammar School. It was during the course of his observations upon this subject—a subject in which the public, we are sure, are becoming every year more interested—that the Rev. Gentleman alluded, in terms of marked commendation, to the careful and thorough attention to *ground-work* evinced by the pupils sent forth by Upper Canada College; and he pronounced a strong encomium on their compositions in Latin and Greek, which he declared were amongst the best that he had ever seen given at an examination.

For the rest of the proceedings we are glad to avail ourselves of the *Patriot's* remarks:

In his concluing remarks, the learned President stated, that since the opening of King's College, over two hundred students had availed themselves of its advantages, twelve had been admitted from other Universities, and about fifty Degrees had been conferred on its own alumni. Small as this number was when compared to the Universities of the parent State, it must be considered large when reference is made to the Colonies, more particularly to the circumstances of this Province, its sparse population, and the general inability to afford the expenses of a University education. There were, moreover, but few possessed of the necessary literary and scientific qualifications for admission, and there had existed a prejudice on the ground of "exclusiveness." This was indeed totally unfounded; and he confidently appealed to the proceedings of the University, and to the fact that many had attained the highest honours who did not belong to the Church of England. He referred also to the affectionate attachment manifested by them towards the Authorities of the University. The learned Doctor concluded by explaining the reason that this commemoration was not celebrated as the first had been, and in doing so paid a well merited tribute of respect to the memory of one (the late Mr. Justice Jones) whose loss was felt to be not only a private but a public affliction, and who is mourned alike by the community, the University, and those more intimately connected with him, as a warm-hearted and faithful friend, a kind and affectionate relative, an upright and independent member of society, an able and laborious Judge, and a sincere and humble Christian.

The Rev. Dr. Beaven made some excellent remarks on presenting the Hebrew prize to Mr. Wickson, which we have not space to dilate upon. Professor Croft, Murray and Connor also briefly addressed in appropriate terms the successful candidates in their respective departments. We must not pass over Mr. Evans, whom the Vice-Chancellor specially noticed as having obtained "a double first."

Remembering as we do most of these young men as mere boys at the Upper Canada College, we cannot review these proceedings, and consider the praiseworthy manner in which their hard-worked-for honours were obtained, without feeling the highest gratification at their success; and cannot conclude without offering our hearty congratulations not merely to them, but to the masters of that admirable institution, whose excellent instruction has formed the basis upon which such a solid superstructure has been raised.

SEPTEMBER CONFIRMATIONS.

(Continued from our last.)

On Tuesday the Bishop proceeded through a capital farming country to the beautiful little village of Paris, on the Grand River, north of Brantford. It appears to be so called from the quantity of gypsum, (or plaster of Paris) dug in its neighbourhood. We observed, also, traces of of the clay fit for making the white bricks, and found that it is not entirely unknown to the inhabitants, although they have not as yet applied it to its proper use. The walls of the Church, and some of the houses of the place, are faced with large round pebbles, or boulders, placed in layers, and have accordingly a very neat appearance. Some of the houses are built in one of the peculiar fashions which prevail on the other side of "the lines;" and although the pattern be not very admirable in itself, it certainly adds to the picturesque in the appearance of the town. The Church is not strong here; but we trust that the useful, kindly, pains-taking habits of the Rev. C. Ruttan, lately removed thither from Toronto, will produce a steady improvement. We noticed several persons in the congregation, whom we afterwards understood to be dissenting ministers; we therefore trust they will be profited by the Bishop's exposition of the claims of the Church of England. One of the candidates for confirmation here was a student in the Diocesan College at Cobourg. By what accident his confirmation could have been so long delayed we did not hear.

Through some misunderstanding we had to return the next morning to Princeton, a village through which we had passed on our way to Paris. There the Church is just struggling into light. The inhabitants have hitherto been under the charge of the Rev. W. Bettridge, and have erected a frame Church. It was, however, so unfinished that it was with difficulty that a firm position could be found for the chairs near the altar; and the carpenter's bench was still within the walls. There were notwithstanding a few candidates, all, for a wonder, of the male sex. The Bishop exhorted the people to make strenuous exertions to render their Church somewhat more worthy of God's service. There seems to be a good disposition on the part of the people, but they live at a distance from their Pastor, and there is no one on the spot who seems entitled or inclined to take the lead amongst them.

After this confirmation we returned to Paris, and after resting the horses proceeded on to Galt, which is under the charge of the Rev. M. Boomer. On [illegible] from the country of clay and sand, to that of fragments of [illegible] the soil, and masses and beds of the same underneath. The result was that a part of the route was sufficiently rough, and another result is that in Galt itself you dig, from the formation and cellars of your house, stone enough to build it with. This little town seems steadily improving, and justifies the judgment of those who selected its site. The Church is solidly built of lime stone and stands upon a plot of such size that it can easily be enlarged at any future day. It is very neatly furnished, and has a good organ, built by Hager & Vogt, of Preston. The singing and chanting here was very good, being conducted by a person who appears to have a solid, reverntial taste, suited to divine service; the singing was, therefore, much more congregational than is customary in our town Churches. The chanting in particular was the best we remember to have heard in a parish Church in this country, every word being distinctly heard, and with no undue predominance of treble voices. On the other hand there was no drawling, nor fanciful variations of the time, such as we have heard in Toronto. It seems a very simple thing to sing a chant so as for every word to be distinctly heard, and thus avoid irreverence, and at the same time to sing with life and energy, so that the voice and the animal spirits shall not be too much exhausted by dwelling too much upon the notes; and yet how seldom do we find the happy mean arrrved at. One great mischief is that our English Cathedrals, until recently, instead of being patterns to all other congregations, have been flagrant examples of irreverence and neglect; and, consequently, if any person concerned in a choir wishes to have a decent slowness in the recitation of the words in chanting, those who look only at the musical effects, and merely sing in Church to amuse themselves and display their talents, quote against him the example of the Cathedrals. But this is only one of the many neglects by which those who have occupied those splendid foundations for the last century, have done what they could to give cause for the total dissolution of those establishments.

At Galt we met the Archdeacon on his visitation, and he being one of the Bishop's actual Chaplains, Dr. Beaven resigned into his hands, at this and the ensuing station the functions which he was provisionally discharging.

In the neighbourhood of Galt is the almost entirely German settlement of Preston, where, however, they are fast becoming English in language. Here reside the organ builders, whom I have already mentioned, who are by trade watch makers; here also resides their former associate, and now rival, Limbrecht. The former excel in the manufacture of the metal pipes, the latter in knowledge of the principles of construction, and in the finish of the woodwork and mechanism. That being the case, it seems much to be regretted that they do not join their forces again, for each party supplies precisely that which the other wants.

Friday, the 22nd, the Bishop proceeded to the improving town of Guelph, where for some time before you enter the town you come upon an excellent gravelled road; nor is this the only road of that description, for one is being constructed to Fergus, of which four or five miles are finished; and there is a third in the direction towards Dundas and Hamilton. We thus find centres growing up in all directions, from which enterprise is continually radiating improvement and civilization in all directions around.

The Pastor, the Rev. A. Palmer, resides in a comfortable house, resembling an English Parsonage, though we are sorry to say it is not the Parsonage. That is at some distance from the town, on the road to Elora; but the rapidity with which things have advanced may be guessed, when we say that the first ministerial days of the present Pastor was spent in a small log cottage which still exists within the town, and that he is still in the prime of life.

The congregation was very good here, and the organ was exceedingly well played—the voluntaries, &c., being in a good Church style—by a young lady, to whom the congregation have presented a handsome gold watch, as a token of their obligation to her. There was a large number confirmed; but here, as at Woodstock, the large majority was females. Is it unhappily the case that we are losing the young men in our towns, and allowing them to slip out of our hands, and fall back into a halting profession, or into positive sin and irreligion? We cannot answer the question; but we beg to recommend the serious consideration of the facts to the Pastors of the congregations in which such an undesirable state of things occurs.

In the afternoon of the same day, the Bishop confirmed at Puslinch, where we found a simple congregation composed, apparently for the most part, of those who had been English labourers. Our ears were gratified by the tone of the old English *Amen*, but we missed the full congregational response which ought to have accompanied it. The Church itself, however, was a testimony that they had not been neglected by their former Pastor in England, being raised, in a great degree, from funds sent by him. We here remarked the best constructed seats (furnishep with convenient kneeling boards) which it has been our lot to see in Canada, excepting in the Chapel of King's College. They were simply made of common pine, but they completely answered all their purposes, which (as any person will say who has observed the constant failures in these respects) is saying a great deal. We imagine the reason in this case to be, that they were made under the direction of the Pastor; and that he is neither too spiritual nor too indifferent to study what arrangements are best suited to carry out the directions of the Church, and therein best promote the glory of God, and the edification of the people.

The last post under the direction of this Clergyman was a place in the township of Eramosa, to which, as yet, lacks a name. Here divine service is held in a large room at the back of an inn, built for some secular purpose. The disadvantage of such an arrangement (however necessary it may be at the time) is, that persons can never feel that the same reverence is due to such a place, as to one solemnly dedicated to the service of God, and reserved for that use alone. Thus, for instance, persons bring their dogs to such a place without feeling any impropriety is so doing; and when they have formed the habit they without reflection carry it on in the place which is so reserved and dedicated. Still it seems necessary that such places should be employed, for this reason, that in a large majority of cases, until the religions feeling is revived, the people will not tax themselves to erect a suitable edifice. But wherever there is a feeling that will lead the people to exert themselves in any degree, we think, they should be stimulated to erect by their personal labour even the humblest Church, rather than employ secular places for the purpose. And when that cannot be done, we venture to suggest that the clergy should be very watchful to train the people from the very first to reverence the place which, for the time, is devoted to God's service. They may possibly displease a few individuals by so doing, but they will approve themselves to the hearts of most men; and even were it not so, it is not our business so much to procure numerous hangers-on to our Communion, as to train up our members in the way most acceptable to Almighty God. There occurred nothing which appears to require special remark; but even in such a place there were ten persons ready to receive confirmation. Indeed, there is no place to which the ministrations of the Church are carried, in which she does not find some of her children ready to renew their communion with her, and to draw it closer than before; and few indeed are the places in which she does not draw into her those who have previously belonged to other communions.

(To be concluded in our next.)

FIRE.

We are indebted to the *Globe* for the following particulars of a fire, which, though not extensive in its ravages, is to be deeply regretted as resulting in much injury to one of the first of our mercantile establishments:—

"A fire broke out about four o'clock on Sunday morning last, in the shop occupied by Mr. E. H. McSherry, hatter, on King Street, one door east of Yonge Street. The fire began in the back shop, but soon spread throughout the building, none of the contents being saved. The flames rushed with great violence out of the window of the house next to the shop of Messrs. Betley & Kay, and we regret to say, the window sash of the show room, on the second story caught fire, which communicated to the light goods lying about, and the room filled with the richest fancy articles, of great value, was speedily enveloped in flames. The fire also communicated to the dwelling on the story above. The engines were now on the ground, and the devouring flames were speedily stopped in Messrs. Betley & Kay's premises, but much damage was done by the water, and in the removal of the goods.

The fire spread but little to the east, the shop of Mr. Ellis, watchmaker, being but slightly injured, though that gentleman suffered severely in the removal of his goods.

As to the loss of property it is difficult to arrive at any near estimate. The building in which the fire broke out, which has little more than the walls standing, and that occupied Mr. Ellis, are owned by Mr. Walker, of Messrs. Walker & Hutchinson, who is insured for £700 in the British America, and £200 in the Quebec, which will cover the loss. Mr. McSherry, or rather Mr. M. O'Donohoe, to whom the stock had been assigned, was insured in the Hartford Protection Company for £400. As to the loss we cannot tell. Messrs. Betley & Kay were insured for £5800 in all; in the British America and Montreal £1500 each; in the Mutual and Phœnix, £1000 each. This may cover the loss of property, but the interruption to their trade at this, the busiest season, must be a serious injury to them, in which affliction their fellow citizens sincerely sympathise. We trust that the interruption will be of short duration, and that the firm will soon resume its business, with its usual energy and activity. Captain Strachan, the owner of the building, was insured for £200 in the British America, which will amply cover the loss on the house. Unnecessary damage was done to it by the mad zeal of some of the parties who dashed in two of the splendid plate glass windows, instead of seeking ingress by the doors."

THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER.

On Sunday first this anniversary occurs,—and we cannot doubt but that it will be fittingly commemorated and improved, by every English Catholic Churchman. There is much in the present aspect of affairs, to call forth our special supplications on this occasion. In Ireland a conspiracy has just been frustrated, which had it been successful, would, like the *Gun-powder-treason*, have struck a stern blow against the Church of Christ. And the ministers of our Protestant Queen have proclaimed their intention of endowing, if possible the schismatical Popish Bishops in that land, where the waters of the Boyne, and the war-worn wall of Derry bear witness, that the last of an ancient line of monarchs lost his Crown for a corresponding, but not more aggravated attack upon our Constitution, Civil and Ecclesiastical.

CONCERT.

We believe that we are only advocating, though feebly, the claims of distinguished musical talent, by directing the attention of our readers to the Advertisement of the Hutchinson Family, in another column.

THE REV. C. C. COTTON, A.B.

We are called upon this week to record the decease of another labourer in the Canadian Church, the Rev. C. C. Cotton, formerly of Oriel College, Oxford, and Rector of Dunham, near Mississquoi Bay, in the Diocese of Quebec. Mr. Cotton, who had attained his seventy-fourth year, was the oldest Clergyman in the Diocese, and the longest employed. He was ordained Deacon in England, by the then Bishop of Lincoln, and Priest in 1804, by the first Protestant Bishop of Quebec, who appointed him to a charge, of which the Mission which he held till his death formed a part.—Though he suffered much in his last illness, he was very humble and resigned, and appears to have felt the power of faith. A large concourse of people followed his remains to the grave, and much kindly regard has been testified to his memory.

CHURCH DEPOSITORY.

We are requested to state that a very large number of Books have been received during this week, at the Depository of The Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, and that orders can now be executed for all the Books on the Catalogue of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and that the stock of Miscellaneous Books of the class usually kept at the Depository is very good.

SCOBIE & BALFOUR'S CANADIAN ALMANACK FOR 1849.

Messrs. Scobie & Balfour's Almanack for this year, is the most complete of any that has yet been published in the Province. It contains eighty-eight pages of closely and neatly printed matter, embracing subjects of the greatest importance to the mercantile, agricultural, and other interests of the country. The Calendar is comprehensive and correct, exhibiting the declinations of the sun and moon, the right ascension and declination of the planets, the time of the sun and moons rising and setting at Toronto and Montreal; also the Sun's rising and setting at Quebec, Halifax, N. S., and Fredericton, N. B., with the duration of the morning and evening twilight at each of these places. To each of the months are appended agricultural notices and meteorological tables suited to the season. The remaining part of the Almanack is devoted to lists of Crown Offices and Officers, Courts of Justice, Postal Arrangements, Customs Tariffs, Provincial Clergy, Geographical notices, Distances of towns, &c. As a whole the Almanack reflects much credit upon the spirited publishers, and it ought to be upon the desk or library table of every one, whose business or studies leads them to the consideration of Canadian affairs. We may also remark, that the months contain a blank column for the insertion of private notes, a feature in the work no less convenient to many persons perhaps, than the varied information which it otherwise contains.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

(Addressed to the Editor.)

Toronto, Monday, Oct. 9, 1848.

Having now returned to the point whence I first commenced my observations, I made the object of my next circuit the inspection of the Farm Stock. The pens and stalls, containing which took up a continuous line round the enclosure, between the carriage drive and the fence. First in the line, to the right of the entrance, were placed the bulls of the Durham and Ayrshire breeds. Among the former some truly noble animals, scarcely leaving room to imagine improvement. I leave it to the prize list to show which were considered the most perfect animals by the judges. The Ayrshires were also good of their kind, though not at all equal in appearance to the pure blooded Durhams. Next in order came the pigs, of whom there was a respectable attendance The Chinese, Berkshire, Woburn, Worcester, and Yorkshire, I believe, all had their representatives; from the squeaking roaster, to the huge tusker of two or three years growth. The lovers of good bacon had no good ground of complaint with the display in this line. After the swine community came the sheep. First in order, I had to notice the Merinos, of which description there was a fair show. The diminutive and ridiculous proportions of these animals caused a good deal of amusement to the breeders of the more strong Leicester, but the wool is undoubtedly extremely fine, and in some situations this variety might be found the most profitable. Next to the Merinos were placed the South downs; of these there were some very good specimens, and some crosses, with other varieties. A pure breed of this sheep forming, as it does, a medium between the small pure wooled Merino, and the heavy carcassed, long wooled Leicester, would be a valuable acqusition to the farming stock of Canada. Lastly, in the show of sheep, came the favorite mutton sheep, the Leicesters, of which class there was a very fine display. A large number exhibited by Mr. Wm. Miller, of Pickering, were particularly admired. Having passed the sheep, I found the pens adjoining them occupied by fat cattle, and further on by Durham and Devon cows, heifers, and calves, and some good grade animals of both those kinds. The beautiful pure blooded Devons, shown by Mr. Gapper, of Yonge Street, for which he received the first premiums, excited well-deserved admiration. The splendid Durham cows, exhibited by John Wetenhall, M. P. P., also, though low in condition, were remarkable for their display of high breeding. Having finished my observations of the cattle, sheep, and pig department, I entered the arena in order to take a view of the horses. Here were found in full show the heavy draught stallion, the thorough bred horse of the most perfect symetery, and half bred animals, down to a few which strongly excited the curiosity of the spectator as to why they were there at all, unless it were merely for the purpose of setting of by contrast the well bred cattle exhibited. Conspicuous among the thorough bred appeared Mr. George Cooper's splendid horse, Sir Tatton Sykes, to whom was awarded the 1st premium. Mr. Boulton's Black Jack, Old Tom Kimble, and several others of known celebrity were there to attest their blood and bone. The heavy draughts were well represented by Mr. N. Davis, of Yonge Street. King Alfred—Mr. J. Askford's Young King Alfred, sired by the former; besides several of the Clyde, and other breeds. The handsome matched horses in competition for premiums, formed a pleasing part of the exhibition, as they were driving spiritedly on the circular carriage way around the grounds.

Finishing with the horses my survey of the out-door part of the fair, the specimens of skill contained within the frame buildings next demanded attention. The largest and centre erection, entering by the southern front, was appropriated on the right to the display of the fine arts; in the centre, on raised tiles, to the fruit, greenhouse and horticultural department; and on the left was placed the ladies department, consisting of needlework, netting, knitting, embroidery, &c. In the last mentioned class were some highly beautiful samples of raised work, embroidered chairs, &c., in juxtaposition, with patchwork quilts, worsted stockings, and other articles of the more useful description. In the Horticultural Department, were some splendid varieties of apples, enormous pumpkins, and a few green-house plants, consisting principally of cacti, and orange trees. The Fine Arts Department, contained a few very good pencil and crayon drawings, water colourings and oil paintings, and a greater proportion, remarable more for their absurdity than for any other property. A case of beautiful Canadian stuffed birds in this department, excited much admiration. Leaving this building, I next entered that to the left or westward of it—which was appropriated principally to domestic manufactures. Here were seen some very beautiful ladies' shawls of domestic (not factory) make. The pieces of cloth, flannel and blankets, from Mr. Mackechnie's factory, at Cobourg, supported the well earned reputation of that establishment. A piece of fine black broadcloth, particularly made from fine Merino wool, grown by Mr. H. Covert, of Cobourg, would compare favourably with some of the best West of England cloths; a piece of beautiful fine flannel, also from the same place was much admired. Some very excellent blankets were from the establishment of Mr. W. Gamble, at Milton, on the Humber. The right or eastward building contained the grain, seeds and roots, dairy produce, &c. Many of the samples of wheat here shown were almost of uniform, excellent, so much so, that it must have been a matter of no small difficulty to the judges to decide in their awards. The Canada Company's prize of £20, was, however, carried off by Mr. Clarkson Freeman, of Flamboro' West, who won the same distinction last year—in the other description of grain, there was very much competition. I noticed, however, some fine samples of peas, and spring grain. Mr. Alex. Shaw, of Toronto, exhibited among other things, a splendid lot of Indian Corn. In the Root Department, except a few good turnips and field carrots, I did not notice much of a show. In the Dairy Department were found some very excellent speciments of cheese, and a very fair quality of butter. The Imitation Stilton, shown by Mr. Parsons of Guelph, was very superior, but unfortunately arrived too late to be entered for competition.

Having now noticed slightly, some of the leading features in each department of the fair, it only remains for me to give a brief general account of the proceedings of the Association during the two public days, Thursday and Friday. In what I have already written, I am aware that I have omitted many things deserving of notice, but the great space that would be required to give a full and minute report of such an exhibition, renders it necessary to keep within certain limits.—The list of prizes will give a better general idea of the competition evinced than can be done in a report of this kind. In regard to the general character of the grain, as compared with the two former ones, I should say, that in the number or quantity of articles produced, it fell rather short of either that at Toronto, or the one at Hamilton; but in the general excellence of the same, the contrary was the case. I was assured, by many who were present at the late New York State Fair at Buffalo, that [illegible] much greater quantity of articles shewn, and numbers of persons present, it was in no respect superior to the one at Cobourg.—The comparatively small number of persons present, and want of competition, was owing, in a great measure, to the very unfavourable weather in the beginning of the week, which prevented the arrival of many who would otherwise have been present, with live stock and other articles for competition. The number of visitors expected to the present was about 10,000; I should suppose there actually, then, fell 3 or 4,000 short of that number. But, notwithstanding that the Fair, in magnitude, came off rather below what was anticipated, the excellent arrangements effected in every department by the Executive Department, assisted by their active Secretary, Mr. H. J. Ruttan,—the admirable situation of the ground,—the very pleasant state of the weather during the two public days—together with the general good quality of the articles exhibited, combined to render the whole affair exceedingly pleasant and perfectly satisfactory to the numerous persons present. The judges, too, appear to have given satisfaction to nearly all parties concerned, a thing not by any means always the case—as their awards, with, perhaps, a very few trifling exceptions, were admitted to be made exactly according to the merits of the different articles shown.

On Thursday, at 3, P.M., Mr. Buckland delivered an address on the show-ground, of which (not having been aware that it was to be given, and, consequently, not being present,) I cannot speak. On the same day, at 6 o'clock, about 400 sat down to dinner in the building erected for that purpose. The number present was not so large as had been expected; the dinner, however, was well arrayed, and, if not the best in quality, went off very well. The chair was ably occupied by the Hon. A. Fergusson, President of the Association: Henry Ruttan, Esq., Sheriff of the District, and first Vice-President of the Association, filled the Vice Chair. The President was supported on the right and left by Lord Mark Kerr, Mr. Allen, of Black, Mr. Wetenhall, M.D., Mr. E. W. Thomson, Mr. Watts, M.P.P., Mr. Marks, Lieut. Davis, R.N., Mr. Jas. Wetenhall, and several other leading agriculturists. The toasts were of the usual description on such occasions, and were introduced and responded to with appropriate remarks. On Friday the appearance of the Fair-grounds was much the same as on Thursday—though the attendance of the Darlington Board, and the presence of a greater number of ladies, rendered the scene rather more animated than before. At 11 o'clock the prize-list was read, after which the deputies of the Association from the different Districts adjourned to the business office to elect their officers for the ensuing year. Henry Ruttan, Esq., 1st Vice-President, was elected President; John Wetenhall' Esq., 1st Vice-President, and J. B. Marks, Esq., 2nd Vice-President; Geo. Buckland, Esq., was appointed Secretary; Messrs. E. W. Thomson, R. L. Dennison. and Geo. Wells, were appointed a business Committee in Toronto,—and the exhibition for 1849 was appointed to take place in Kingston, on the first Tuesday in September. The Ploughing Match took place also on this day, commencing at 10 o'clock—of which I must leave the prize list to give account, not having been present. The whole amount of prizes awarded at this meeting of the Association, approached nearly to the sum of £800—and the receipts I understood to nearly £1100—leaving a surplus, after paying expenses, of about £100. About 3 o'clock the owners of stock and other articles were permitted to take them away, and before night-fall the whole place where the Fair had been held, had assumed as quiet an appearance as it presented a week before the meeting took place. Not so with the town of Cobourg, which presented a stream of population never before witnessed in the memory of the "oldest inhabitant,"—and which it is probable wil not afford a similar scene for a number of years to come.

Yours, truly, H. T. B.

NOTES OF AN EXCURSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Addressed to the Editor.

LETTER III.

New York, Sept., 1848.

My dear Friend,—I must wind up with all speed and brevity my review of this city, for I have a flying visit to Washington and "intermediate ports," to tell you of.

I said in my last, I would describe to you the process of organizing a Church in these parts. First of all, the congregation is to be gathered. A Bishop sends a clergyman to a particular spot, or a clergyman with an unwieldy population on his hands, canonically invites a brother-clergyman to come, and commence the formation of a new parish. Observe that "parish" means not a district as in England, but persons—the persons worshipping in a particular church. Or, a clergyman in a city, finding in the course of time, that many of his congregation have removed, or from one cause or another reside at a distance from the church, himself begins to establish a new congregation in a locality more conveniently situated for these his parishioners who have thus removed, or who thus reside. Or, from a purely benevolent and missionary spirit, or impelled by a similar feeling to that which already thrusts forth colonies from the old States to advance westward and establish new homes in the vast unoccupied regions towards the Rocky Mountains, a clergyman, without having any positive necessity for so doing, relinquishes into other hands a charge which he has brought to a degree of maturity, and proceeds into some populous and necessarily neglected quarter of the locality where he laboured before, and commences the formation of a new parish.

In every instance the mode of gathering the ἐκκλησια is about as follows: a spacious room is procured in a proper situation, generally some "large upper chamber" conveniently situated. The service is read, and a sermon delivered; perhaps a small organ is introduced, and congregational singing begun; and this is continued week after week, until a congregation collects of sufficient consideration, numbers, and wealth, to justify the commencement of the Sacred House. The clergyman has seldom long to wait for this consummation. Soon in the desired locality the new church "rears its solemn head;" as our energetic Archbishop lately so well expressed himself. The congregation in vestry assembled, with its Churchwardens and Rector, become, according to certain regulations of the legislature in some States, a corporate body for holding lands and other civil purposes; and on due and proper application to the Church Convention of the Diocese, they are admitted into communion and membership with it. And thus, all over these United States, week after week and year after year, there are being added to the great family of the Church Universal, "households like a flock of sheep."

Observe, that so far as I can perceive, in this republican region, singularly enough, the title "Rector" is considered perfectly innocent, and is made no bugbear of, either politically or otherwise. In its religious sense it is confined to the Church, and implies simply the ἐπισκοπος of a congregation. In its secular sense, it denotes the head or chief Di-Rector of a College or School; as I believe it does also in Scotland.

I have never witnessed the institution of a priest to a church here, but I copy out for you from the United States Prayer-book, a portion of the Office of Institution which must be solemn and striking. First, the Rubric directs: "¶ *Then shall the instituted Minister kneel at the Altar to present his supplication for himself, in this form:*" Then follows the form of prayer which he is to use. "O Lord my God! I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof; yet Thou hast honoured Thy servant with appointing him to serve at Thy holy Altar. To Thee and to Thy service I devote myself, soul, body, and spirit, with all their powers and faculties. Fill my memory with the words of Thy holy Law; enlighten my understanding with the illumination of the Holy Ghost; and may all the wishes and desires of my will centre in what Thou hast commanded. And, to make me instrumental in the salvation of the people now committed to my charge, grant that I may faithfully administer Thy holy Sacraments, and by my life and doctrine set forth Thy true and lively Word. Be with me in the performance of all the duties of my ministry; in prayer, to quicken my devotion; in praises, to heighten my love and gratitude; and in preaching to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of Thy holy Word. Grant this for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son our Saviour." This act of self-dedication, audibly uttered in the first person, in the presence of a cloud of witnesses, I can well conceive to be very impressive both to priest and people. It would somewhat remind one of the days of old, when the deeds of gifts and benefactions to the Church used, as Bishop Andrewes sets forth, to be tendered "super Altare" by the donor on his knees.

I have forgotten, after all my notes already despatched to you of Trinity Church, to refer to the ring of eight bells in its stately tower. By means of these your ear every Sunday is saluted with solemn, cheerful peals, and the old-fashioned chiming of psalm-tunes awakening within the soul, oh! how many before-slumbering memories of by-gone days—how many mingled associations of sadness and gladness!

One remark too I have to make in respect to the church-music generally which you hear here. The wide-spread error prevails in these localities, as it does also so lamentably with us, that it is sufficient to have an organ and a few fine voices curtained off, in a high-raised, exclusive gallery, aloft, far above the heads of the people. The consequence is, here, as elsewhere, as indeed common-sense, had it been consulted, would have predicted, the singing is confined too much to this high upraised ethereal shrine. The poor people below, have to sit or stand, twisting their books, and looking blank, while the fine performers aloft are getting through the difficulties of laboured and artificial chants and anthems and psalm-tunes.

It seems to me to be too generally forgotton that the *congregation* are the persons that should sing; that everything should be arrayed with a view to *their* joining in: that prejudice, tradition, pet usage, every thing, should be sacrificed and laid low, rather than that the congregation should be *silent* during the praises of God.

The best congregational singing that I have heard in these parts, was at the "Church of the Holy Communion," and the excellence there arose from the quire and organ being situated on the floor, toward the head of the congregation, and the music of the latter being kept subordinate. At Trinity Church, what with the quire—the leaders of the people in the musical portions of divine service—being raised up so far above the heads of the people, and their situation *behind*, instead of *in front* of the people, whom they are supposed to lead, and not *drive*,—and the converting of the *Venite* and *Te Deum* and other canticles, into difficult and intricate pieces of music, adapted only to display the skill of an organist and the splendour of two or three voices, the music to me was not satisfactory; was not at all answerable, in my opinion, to the will and intention of the Church, which desires that the great congregation should take loud and united part in all portions of divine worship.

As arrangements generally stand now, there are, you may be sure, numbers in every congregation who have sufficient musical ability and taste to join in a psalm or a chant, but who, from an innate diffidence, are afraid to do so, because their voices, when they exert them, seem to be, as it were, so exposed. This would no longer be the case, there is reason to believe, were the leaders of the singing, the inanimate as well as the animate,—I mean both the instrument and the quire,—to be placed down *with* the people. All would then feel themselves *encouraged* to sing.

As you meet with great intelligence in Church-matters, and indeed in most other matters, among the lay-people here, so you find also, that there necessarily exists great intelligence on the same subject among the clergy. I have, indeed, been fortunate enough to be thrown among some of the *elite* of the clerical body. You find among these, principally, I imagine, through the influence of the General Theological Seminary, men who, in addition to being personally pious, are also as the Apostle would have Christians to be, οὐ παιδια ταις φρεσιν,—men who have studied the subjects of Christianity and the Church as scholars and real philosophers—men who have advanced beyond the region of mere feeling and opinion, and who can delightfully and instructively converse with you on the common tangible ground of historical research and scientific knowledge.

I assure you I shall come back to my humble and obscure labours in ——, [the M.S. is not clear; quære Mono?] where still, alas! even in this intelligent and enlightened day, to too great an extent

"The night in silence driveth by"—

I shall come back greatly set up in heart by my brief intercourse with the Catholic-minded theologians and divines, and other high-principled Christian men that I have been privileged to meet with during my sojourn in these United States. I shall come back strengthened in the belief and hope that, as it was, some fifteen years back, much worse, in a Church point of view, in the United States, as in England, than it is now—so with us, some fifteen years hence, perchance, if it please God, an advance will take place; and that there will be with Church-people, as it has been so often before in the world,

—"The old history;—Truth without a home,
Despised and slain,—there, rising from the tomb."

In matters not so distinctly appertaining to the duties of the clerical profession, as, for instance, in mathematical, classical and literary science, perhaps many of the clergy here are behind many of their brethren in England. And you, with old-country notions, and tastes, and criteria, regret to hear what you have been accustomed to consider vulgarisms in