

counsel of the President; than as a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature. Indeed, if we mistake not, it was so called in official proceedings of that day. There are not many probably of the present generation of readers, who remember the fact that, in the first session of the first Congress of the United States, President Washington personally came into the Senate, when that body was engaged on what is called executive business, and took part in their deliberations.

When he attended he took the Vice-President's chair, and the Vice President took that of the Secretary of the Senate; or some of the secretaries, (heads of departments,) occasionally accompanied the President on these visits. The President addressed the Senate on the subject before them, and in many respects exercised a power in respect to their proceedings which would now be deemed entirely incompatible with their rights and privileges. This practice, however, did not long continue. An occasion soon arose of collision of opinion between the President and the Senate on some nomination, and he did not afterward attend, but communicated by message what he desired to lay before them.

At that period the legislative as well as executive proceedings of the Senate were always transacted in secret session, and the public knew of the proceedings of that branch of government only from its message to the other house announcing its decision. It became evident, however, that in practice, all responsibility to the Constitution under such circumstances was ideal; but it was not until February 20, 1794, after a considerable struggle, that the Senate came to a resolution that its legislation should, after the end of that session, be public, and that galleries should be provided for the accommodation of auditors. On this question we find the yeas and nays recorded; nineteen members having voted for it and eight against it.

From the day of this triumph of popular principles, the Senate has gradually parted with the character of reserve which appears to have belonged to it. By the increase of members from the admission of new States in the Union, its legislative business has become so laborious that its peculiar character of the executive council is almost overloaded, notwithstanding the great importance of this feature of our government, and the debates in the Senate are of much greater length at this day, in proportion to the House of Representatives.—*National Intelligencer.*

A NEW WAY TO REPAIR STEAMERS.—In November, the British steamer *Himalaya* arrived at Malta on her way home from the Crimea, in so damaged a condition that she could proceed no further without repairs. There was no dock there of sufficient capacity to take her in, and after some delay, the following method of raising her stern sufficiently high to allow of the requisite repairs was conceived and successfully put in practice:

"She was taken to the dock about noon on the first day of December. Her fore compartment was filled or kept filling by four syphons, for about two hours. At that time a powerful purchase was fixed aft to four derriks hoisted taut, and she started up 18 inches. Three hours later the purchase was hoisted again, when she moved up 12 inches, and so continued till half past 11 p. m., when it was found her shaft-hole was 15 inches out of the water. At this time her immersion was 7 ft. 10 in. aft and 27 ft. forward, with about 2 ft. of water under her forefoot; and this was done so easily that persons witnessing the operation almost doubted their own eyes. She strained nothing whatever, and when her defects had been made good, she was let down, the water in her fore compartment pumped out, and in 12 hours she regained her natural position, and looked as trim on the water as she ever did—that is, after she got her mizenmast in and topgallantmast pointed yards squared, &c. It will be seen that she was waterborne the whole time, and that by destroying the buoyancy forward the assistance she required aft to raise her was comparatively small.

THE STEAM FIRE ENGINE.—A correspondent of the *Boston Transcript*, writing from Cincinnati, thus describes the capabilities of the new engine which has been built in that city for the Boston city Government: "You will probably bear in mind the height and size of our Mechanics' Institute buildings. The two streams were each thrown over the corner spires of the building, about one hundred feet in height. We then cut the two streams into four. Each of these was thrown about eighty feet perpendicular height. We then connected these by throwing two three-inch streams into a three-inch line, and putting on a 1½ in. nozzle, threw a heavy body of water on the roof of the

house, 130 or 140 feet high. At this time we took off the nozzle, and added 130 feet of perpendicular hose, carrying it to the top of the 'look-out' on the Institute, and from that throw water through a 1½ inch diameter nozzle about 150 feet horizontally on the neighboring buildings, and about 70 feet perpendicularly. Taking into consideration the body of water in a three inch column at that height, I think she does very well for a country engine."

The late *Henricus Octavius Rice*, of Weston, near Baldock, Hertfordshire, has left the subjoined munificent bequests:—£1,500 each to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; £200 to the Sons of the Clergy; £500 to the Governors of Corporation for Relief of Poor Widows and Children of Clergymen; £200 to the Governors of the Society for Clothing, Maintaining, and Educating Poor Orphans of Clergymen of the Established Church of England; £500 to the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels; £300 to the Incorporated National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor on the Principles of the Established Church throughout England and Wales; £200 to the Church Missionary Society; £200 to the Church Aid Society; £150 to the British and Foreign Bible Society; £200 to the Bedford Lunatic Asylum, near Bedford; £500 to the Bedford Infirmary; £500 to the Hitchin Infirmary, Herts; £500 to the Brompton Hospital; £100 to the Addenbrook Hospital, Cambridge; £200 to the Baldock Provident Society; £200 to Queen Ann's Bounty; £400 to the Baldock Almshouses; £200 to the National Society Committee of Privy Council for Rebuilding and enlarging, or Extending the National School at Weston; £15 in aid of any grant given by the Church Building Society for the parish of Weston aforesaid; £500 to King's College Hospital; £1,000 to the Church Almshouses at Stotford; £500 to the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wansstead.

THE FOLLY OF PRIDE.—The Rev. Sidney Smith, for many years one of the contributors to the great English reviews, thus discourseth on the folly of pride in such a creature as man;—"After all take some quiet, sober moment in life, and add together the two ideas of pride and a man, behold him, creature of a span high, stalking through infinite space in all the grandeur of littleness. Perched on a speck of the universe, every wind of Heaven strikes into his blood the coldness of death; his soul floats from his body like melody from the string: day and night, as dust on the wheel, he is rolling along the heavens, through a labyrinth of worlds, and all the creations of God are flaming above and beneath. Is this a creature to make for himself a crown of glory, to deny his own flesh, to mock at his fellow sprung from that dust to which both will soon return? Does the proud man not err? Does he not die? When he reasons is he stopped by difficulties? When he acts is he never tempted by pleasure? When he lives is he free from pain? Pride is not the heritage of man; humility should dwell with frailty, and atone for ignorance, error, and imperfection."

Although complaints have been made of the want of Engineer officers in the Crimea, and it has been found necessary in consequence to send out some of the juniors, almost before they had completed the regular course of instruction at Chatham, it appears from the *Army List* that there are at present nine officers of the corps seconded, that is, pursuing a civil calling under leave of absence for the customary term of ten years, subject to recall to their posts in case of war. They are thus apportioned—one colonel, three lieutenant-colonels, four captains, and one second captain. Two of them are abroad as governors, two in London on the Railway Commission, one is inspector of the Welsh Roads, two are employed in Dublin, one in the Mauritius, and one on special service in Turkey. The two governors are Sir W. Reid and Sir W. Denison.

As we might anticipate, now Austria has joined the Western Powers, the sympathy of Italian refugees is with Russia. Gavazzi writes to the daily papers that by joining the alliance with the same powers the King of Sardinia will lose all Italian sympathies, and with them the way to the Capitol, without reaping any but a very doubtful immediate advantage. "I speak as an unfettered man who considers only the true interests of his native land. I apprehend, with regret, that all the bravery of Piedmont in war, and all her steadiness in peace, have been sacrificed to some diplomatic bargain."

The *London Gazette* of Friday contains an order authorizing Private Andrew Anderson, of the Sappers and Miners, to accept and wear the Order of the Medjidie, which the Sultan has conferred upon him in approbation of his distinguished bravery at the passage of the Danube on the 17th July last, and subsequently in rescuing the body of his commanding officer, Lieut. Burke. It is provided, however, that this honour shall give him no precedence appertaining to a knight of the United Kingdom.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

DARTMOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE.

The Dartmouth Branch of the Diocesan Church Society, held its annual Meeting on Wednesday evening the 31st ult., in the Church School House, which was well filled by the members of the Society, and others interested in the advancement and prosperity of the Church of Christ, the ladies, as usual, forming the majority, to countenance a Society to which the Church in this Diocese is so largely indebted.

The chair was taken at 7 o'clock by the Rector, the Revd. Dr. Shreve, who, after the Hundredth Psalm was sung, offered up to Almighty God, the bearer of Prayer, the prayers appointed before entering on business.

The Chairman having addressed the Meeting at some length, called upon Mr. Gallagher, the Teacher of the Church School, to move the 1st Resolution:

That this Meeting desires to return thanks to Almighty God, for the success that has hitherto attended the efforts of the D. C. Society, the objects of which claim our united sympathy and support, to the utmost of our ability.

This was seconded by Mr. P. J. Kuhn, the Superintendent of the Sunday School, and passed unanimously.

The 2nd Resolution was moved by James R. Smith, Esq.:

That it being the duty of all Christians, who enjoy the means of grace, to provide the same for their less favoured brethren,—this meeting rejoices over every effort made to spread the knowledge of Salvation among those less favoured than themselves, and desires to praise God that the Society contributes so generously towards the support of assistant Ministers in large Parishes, and of travelling Missionaries, whom they convey to the most retired settlements, and secluded cottages of the Province, the glad tidings of Salvation, through the regularly appointed Ministry of the Church.

This was seconded by Mr. James Turner, Churchwarden, and passed as above.

The appropriate and touching Missionary Hymn, by Bishop Heber, was then pleasingly sung. Here it is but just to mention, that all felt grateful to Mrs. Turner, for having kindly sent her Melodeon to the School House,—and to Mrs. Mott (who as Miss Walker, received, some time since, the thanks of the congregation,) and other members of the choir, who willingly attended, and so heartily joined in, this pleasing part of the proceedings of the evening.

S. P. Fairbanks, Esq. moved the 3rd Resolution:

Whereas the Church in this Diocese, which has thus far been chiefly sustained by the noble generosity and Christian charity of the Venerable Societies in the Parent Kingdom, must, in a few years at the farthest, depend upon its own resources for support,—Resolved, that this Meeting hail with satisfaction, that object of the Society relating to the Endowment of Parishes, and pledges its co-operation in carrying into effect so important and desirable an object. Which being seconded by M. B. Desbriay, Esq. passed unanimously.

In moving and seconding the above Resolutions, very many useful remarks were made, and much important information elicited, with wholesome advice and counsel given to the members of the Church in this Parish, for united and strenuous exertion for the welfare and prosperity of the Religion of Christ.

The Rector then again briefly addressed the meeting, expressing the grateful satisfaction he had experienced at this, his first meeting with the Dartmouth Branch of the D. C. S., and urging upon all, the duty and the privilege of assisting a Society, whose objects were at once so high and holy. He alluded to the past and present state of his late Mission, and to the exertions made, and still making, by the Parishioners, to advance the interests of the Church of their affections, and to secure the services of the ministering servants of Christ among them,—and pointed out, how much might be done in every Parish, by the ready adoption of, and the carrying into effect, with united zeal, a well directed system.

A collection was then taken, amounting to £2 8 0. Several new members enrolled their names and paid their subscriptions,—when the chair being taken by the Revd. J. Stewart, Assistant Missionary, it was moved by S. P. Fairbanks, Esq. and seconded by Mr. E. H. Lowe, Churchwarden, that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Rector for his conduct in the chair, and passed as above.

The Doxology was then sung, and the meeting dismissed with the Apostolic blessing.

May the blessing of God descend upon the exertions of His people, and may they be "ready to give, and glad to distribute," ever bearing in mind that the D. C. Society is not only the dispenser of benefits to others, but is a sacred bond of brotherhood among Churchmen, the rallying-point for our best energies, and our warmest love,—a claim upon both Ministers and people, for the most persevering attention,—a call upon all for mutual affection, sympathy and confidence.