

another vestry was there and then advertised for the following Thursday.

The vestry again appeared, and occupied the chair. He opened the proceeding by repeating a notice which he had given on a former occasion, "that no person should set foot within the church without his permission in writing."

After this a discussion arose respecting a certain suspicious-looking little desk. It was voted to be removed—the vestry and the curate being the only dissenters. It was then decided that certain deacons were to be used at the celebration of holy communion, and that water was mixed with the wine.

England, March 7, 1856.

Correspondence.

Mr. Editor,—I take the liberty to request a little space in the columns of your widely circulated and ably conducted paper, for a little information upon several subjects on which I have been intending to write for some time past; and you will excuse me if I am sure for wandering so far from home as the Aylesford Circuit.

In this extensive and promising Circuit, I spent for the most part three happy, though laborious months. During these years we had gracious revivals of religion in several places;—the most extensive took place in the winter and spring of fifty-four. This revival spread through nearly the whole of Wilton, and a large portion of Aylesford, and was largely participated in by both the Methodist and Baptist Churches.

Further particulars are impossible at present. You will kindly insert a line to inform our friends of this sad event, and commend to their prayers his bereaved Society? Our loss is his infinite gain, we know—but what a loss!

stances the most trying, during a protracted period of "bodily sufferings, and having cheerfully bid adieu to the wife of his youth, and children, and numerous friends, his spirit departed rejoicing in the blessedness of that hope which is "an undying and immortal soul."

During the season of the revival, he was in other places; but my main object for referring to the Aylesford Circuit remaining untouched, and my communication becoming somewhat lengthy, I must deny myself the pleasure of longer dwelling upon this pleasing subject.

A society now upon the main object above referred to. Myself and family received many acts of kindness from our friends during our stay in the Circuit; but I wish gratuitously to mention two "donation visits" which they they have honored us.

I remain, Dear Sir, Yours truly, C. LOCKART.

Barrington, May 6th 1856.

Obituary Notice.

Died at Sandy Point, near Shelburne, after an illness of six weeks, in the 60th year of his age, Mr. AUGUSTUS VERNON. He had been completing for some time the manuscript of a history of the town of Sandy Point, which he had written in a most finished specimen of penmanship, and which he had intended to publish.

Shelburne, 1st May, 1856.

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1856.

Death of the Rev. Dr. Beecham.

THE tokens of mourning which so significantly line the columns of this sheet are the suitable but inadequate expression of that profound sensation of grief which the Wesleyan Connection of Eastern British America can not fail to experience on receiving the announcement to which with sorrowing hearts we now give utterance.—The Rev. DR. BEECHAM—the President of the Eastern American Conference—is no more.

The excellent and highly esteemed Senior Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, had late been in a state of health which created great anxiety in the minds of his friends. The early part of this month Dr. Beecham passed at St. Leonards in the hope that rest and seclusion would restore the energies which for some time had been observed to be much impaired.

Further particulars are impossible at present. You will kindly insert a line to inform our friends of this sad event, and commend to their prayers his bereaved Society? Our loss is his infinite gain, we know—but what a loss!

Yours truly, G. OSBORN.

WESLEYAN MISSION-HOUSE, LONDON. April 24th, 1856.

DEAR SIR,—It is with the deepest sorrow that we communicate to you the intelligence of the death of our dear and valued friend and colleague, the Rev. John Beecham, D.D. The afflictive event took place on Tuesday, the 22nd instant, about one o'clock in the afternoon. It is a merciful alleviation of our sorrow, that Dr. Beecham's labors and useful life was terminated by a death eminently peaceful and happy.

the power of Divine grace. He uttered no murmur at being laid aside. He calmly acquiesced in the will of God; and was a servant waiting for the coming of his Lord. His family and friends manifested the most unfeigned grief at the manifestation of Divine love by which he was visited within two hours of his departure.

You will sympathize with the bereaved family of our departed friend, and with the Missionary Society. Your prayers will be offered, that the solemn event may be sanctified to the spiritual benefit of all who knew him; and that God may continue to guide and bless the Society from which He has been pleased to resume a gift of such great worth.

The funeral is to take place on Monday the 28th instant. The President and Rev. President of the Conference, with the Rev. Dr. Hunting, and the officers of the Society, will assemble at the house, 19, St. George's, Villas, Islington, at ten o'clock in the morning. The Ministers resident in and near London, and other friends, are invited to be present, and requested to assemble at Islington Chapel, Liverpool-Road, at eleven o'clock, when the service will be read; an Address, also, will be delivered on the occasion by the Rev. John Scott. The procession will afterwards move to the Highgate Cemetery, where the honoured remains of Dr. Beecham are to be interred in the family grave.

Again commending the sorrowing relatives and the Missionary Society to your Christian sympathy and prayers, We remain, Dear Sir, Yours very sincerely, GEORGE OSBORN, WILLIAM ARTHUR.

Close of the War.

Many a heart will be lifted in fervent thanksgivings to God that the clamour and calamities of War have been so speedily succeeded by the calm of Peace; and we, as religious journalists, should waive unwarrantably an estimable privilege, and leave an imperative duty undischarged, did we not through these columns proclaim our grateful recognition of the hand of the Most High in this dispensation of His mercy. We devoutly hope that the expression of a Parisian diplomatist, that the concord achieved was *une paix mais pas la paix*, may prove to have been truly significant of its character, but that the city now concluded may be to the nations of Europe a bond of perpetual amity. We acknowledge our disturbing apprehensions that the basis for so bright and pleasing an anticipation is not so firm as desirable; the elements of fresh and fearful commotion are, it may be, gathering force in many portions of the Continent, and the lull which we now experience may but precede the bursting forth in fiercest fury of a yet more desolating storm; but the less ardent is our prayer that God in His good providence may be pleased to accomplish without the intervention of the sword the freedom and regeneration of many enslaved and sighing peoples.

There are, it cannot be denied, in connection with the present pacification some facts of most favourable omen; and as not the least of these we regard the professed (and we presume probable) intentions of the Czar Alexander,—The Emperor of ALL THE RUSSIAS,—The Watchman remarks,—"The first year of his reign has conquered both ambition and misfortune; and from the ancient capital of the Czars he points out the track which, if followed, will lead his Empire to a height of real power and supremacy greater than that upon which two years ago it was mistakenly believed to be enthroned. He has already opened his frontiers to the Commerce of the world, and foreign vessels are once more filling his ports." Then we have the cheering certainties of England's power so clearly established by her evident vigour at the close of the war while the other nations engaged in it, excepting indeed the rising kingdom of Sardinia, give unmistakable signs of exhaustion. Protestantism may yet repose with confidence on the arm of Britain while Popery may well be diffident of Austria, nor sanguine of the capacity of France to maintain a protracted struggle. The gain to the cause of religious liberty and progress comprised in the concessions accorded by Turkey and the guarantee for its perpetuity afforded by the influence of England in the councils of the Porte are results that must call forth in every Christian heart the most lively emotions of gratification and gratitude.

Fruits of the War.

Our victories and our undiminished resources are their own reward. The defeat of the Czar and the dispersion of his hordes has broadened over Europe the losses of Russia. Even though no concession had been wrung from the enemy, even though Sebastopol and Bomarsund were again to bristle with guns and shelter squadrons beneath their batteries, Russia would not be what she was. The Allies have scattered two illusions—that her armies were invincible, and that her territory must be the grave of an invading force. They have shown that the increase of maritime commerce and the progress of science have made possible a campaign with the sea for a basis of operations, and that Russia may be at any time assailed according to the tactics of 1854. They have not only destroyed one of her navies and forbidden its reconstruction, but they have shown that naval forces in any sea are to Russia only a feeble exorcise, fostered with unceasing care and vast expense, to impose on the world in time of peace, but useless when the day of trial comes. Whatever may be the future destiny of the Turkish empire, it is at least delivered for the present from the fear of invasion and dismemberment. There is, therefore, time to regenerate, if regeneration be possible. Perhaps the most solid gain of the war is the right to advise and to enforce advice on Turkey. In one sense we garrison the frontiers of the Ottoman State. For many years unless France and England be more reckless and Russia more prudent than we can believe, the ascendancy of the Western Powers must be complete at Constantinople. Some what similar are our relations with Sweden. The two seas along the shores of which Russian power has so craftily advanced are commanded by two States which have been the victims of Muscovite aggression, and which are now bound to us in close and natural alliance by the events of this war. Such a state of things could have been between his long-continued alliance, and was only made possible by a convulsion like that which is about to end. Viewed dispassionately, these new alliances, the result of our exertions and victories, are of more importance than I had severed a province from the Czar's dominion, or restored to his savage population the supremacy over a mountain chain.

While, therefore, we regret that the weight of the war was on our Allies, and that their unwise and undignified demonstrations in favour of peace, have given to Russia better terms than she had reason to expect, we cannot believe that this war has been in vain. Nothing that the country has done or suffered will be lost; even its short-comings, so speedily and amply repaired, will add to its future fame. It will not be again believed that a nation must be unfitted for the exercise of high policy because its people in times of peace devote themselves to those pursuits by which alone the advantages of peace can be attained. These two years have shown that industry and enterprise are the surest bases on which ever military power can rest. The nation which is said to have recklessly, foolishly, even sordidly neglected the art of warfare, is found, after a short term of hostilities, possessed of the largest armaments by land and sea that the world has ever seen, while military monarchies are exhausted and the bases of the war on our Allies, and that their unwise and undignified demonstrations in favour of peace, have given to Russia better terms than she had reason to expect, we cannot believe that this war has been in vain.

Let it not be said that the Bishop of Exeter does not represent his own community. The Secular Power which enthroned him and, at its pleasure, in spite of the grief and shame of evangelical Churches, gave him the Church of England. Nor did one of the assembled prelates repudiate that assertion! Let it not be said that the Bishop of Exeter does not represent his own community. The Secular Power which enthroned him and, at its pleasure, in spite of the grief and shame of evangelical Churches, gave him the Church of England. Nor did one of the assembled prelates repudiate that assertion!

dependence of the Bishop of Rome, they too are guilty of the "sin of schism," they are excommunicated and anathematized. On their own principles, to them the Popish reproach is just; they keenly suffer under it, and to escape it have gone over to Rome, and the logical development and tendency of that party is Rome-wards. The Church of England may some day be thankful that Methodism,—from whose shield this ecclesiastical missile fell point-blank, and to whose plain language the Bishop of Exeter is so ridiculous as to un-Catholic, un-Christian, and atrocious,—has declined to accept overtures which, in whatever spirit they have been tendered by some, are watched with a regard partly insidious, by the Tractarian sectarian section of the Anglican community.

Dissensions in the Romish Church in Ireland.

Dr. Cullen the Papal legate in Ireland, takes exception to certain articles which have lately appeared in the *Traveller* and *Nation*. One of these is signed "Ossoriana;" and the other presents a sketch of a Sunday oration recently delivered by "Archdeacon Fitzgerald," in the town of Rathkeale, in the county of Limerick. "Ossoriana" professes to be a priest of Ossory, and his letter is met by a rejoinder from a brother priest. This "Greek messiah" is "Priest Fitzgerald's" paragon gives a tolerably fair idea of the state of parties in the Romish communion at the other side of the channel. It will be borne in mind that the scene is laid in the market-place of Rathkeale, on a Sunday morning, and "after mass." The parish priest, of course, carries the mob with him. His address is evidently intended for the bishops of his Church. He talks most exultingly of "the gano filth of venality, perfidy, and political dishonesty, which never fails to cast the serpent's hiss of its calamity on every public man who is a true friend of the masses of the Irish people."

Maynooth.

The following extract recounting the recent success achieved by the advocates of the immediate disendowment of Maynooth encourages the expectation that their perseverance will speedily attain its reward in the withdrawal of the endowment.—"This House do resolve itself into a Committee for the purpose of considering the Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the endowment of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment out of the Consolidated Fund, due regard being had to vested rights and interests; and the subsequent speeches, most of them brief, exhausted the defensive argument, but assuredly not the strength of the case against Maynooth as a national, political, and religious ground. Mr. Black's amendment found only twenty-one supporters, and after its defeat the whole strength of the Romanist adherents and patrons, cheered on by an animating speech from the Prime Minister, was brought to oppose the original motion. After the division, Mr. report proposed to the House, that the Government should again to rise, expressing his approval of this mode of reducing the former vote of the House to an absurdity and getting rid of the question. With a levity for which he was justly rebuked by Mr. James M'Gregor, the Premier expressed his hope that the Government would be pleased to be reported to be all the progress made in the matter. But again Ministers and Romanists were defeated,—this time by a majority of 22. The House was about afterwards to divide on the main question, when Mr. O'Connell resorted to the appeal of the House, and the Government was again to rise, expressing his approval of this mode of reducing the former vote of the House to an absurdity and getting rid of the question. With a levity for which he was justly rebuked by Mr. James M'Gregor, the Premier expressed his hope that the Government would be pleased to be reported to be all the progress made in the matter. 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