

THE CHURCH.

COBourg, Friday, February 2, 1844.

CONTENTS OF THE OUTSIDE.

First Page. A New Creature. Origin of the Baptists. The Church's Trials in Western New York.

We request the attention of our readers to an article on our first page from the Gospel Messenger, an article which, perhaps, we might more appropriately have headed 'The Christian Editor's Trials in Western New York.'

Our correspondent 'A Subscriber from the first' will, upon reflection, agree with us in thinking that it is time to have done with the Oxford controversy.

The Annual Meeting of the Newcastle and Colborne District Branch of the Church Society was held in St. Peter's Church of this town on the evening of Tuesday last, the 30th ult., which, notwithstanding the great severity of the weather, was numerously and most respectfully attended.

But it is to be hoped we have learned to bear it all with becoming equanimity and patience; and most sincerely can we say that there rests within our breast no worse retaliatory wish than this—that all may see as we see; that all professing Christian sects and parties may leave their distractions and contradictions; and be one with Christ's one and undivided Church; that one and all may commence the union on earth which is to be unbroken and perpetual in heaven.

We observe from our late English files, that the intelligence of our recent political movements had been heard, and discussed in England; and in those papers which support the Conservative cause in the Mother Country, our political affairs are spoken of in terms of warm encouragement to our honoured Governor General, and his loyal supporters.

The following is from the Times of the 3d of January:—'The truth is, that responsible government, or, in other words, representative government, in a colony, is not, and cannot in the nature of things be, the same thing as responsible or representative government in an independent state.'

to maintain their connexion with the Mother Country, and that they stand in firm, unmovable array against a principle which, if unchecked, would soon dissolve it,—an encroachment, namely, upon the rights and prerogatives of the Crown, which the Crown's Representative in this Province has felt it his conscientious duty to resist.

Never perhaps was there a sadder exemplification of the licentiousness to which, in certain cases, the press submits itself, than a publication which has recently been transmitted to us, entitled 'The People's Almanack,' and published by the Messrs. Lesslie of Toronto.

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REPORT.

In presenting the First Report of the Newcastle and Colborne District Branch Association, your Committee would, in the first place, desire to express their fervent wishes, that the gift of all good things, from whom alone "all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works proceed," for the success which has attended the attempt to establish in this portion of the Lord's vineyard, a branch of that noble Institution, THE CHURCH SOCIETY.

An article of the Constitution of the Society provides that "in connection and correspondence with the Society, District Associations shall be established, comprising one or more Districts, into which the Province is by law divided; the same to be composed of the Clergy resident within the bounds of the same, and all other members of the Church who shall be desirous of joining the Society."

Although the regular Quarterly Meetings of the Association were held, according to the constitution, in July at Cobourg, and in January at Port Hope, when the Parochial Committees were duly organized, yet in accordance with the advice of the chief supporters of the Church Society, it was deemed expedient to defer the commencement of more active operations to the beginning of the present year, and to date the subscriptions from that period.

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held in Peterborough on the 4th January 1843, and great gratification was exhibited on witnessing the first general meeting of the Society in the new and promising District of Colborne.

In January the Rev. Wm. Lawrie was appointed Travelling Missionary for the year 1843, and a brief summary of his services in that capacity—He officiated in fourteen different stations, in the Townships of Seymour, Percy, Asphodel, Dammer, Manvers, Cartwright, Oranville, and Murray. The total number of Services was forty-six, number of Baptisms forty-two, and of Marriages, two.

was administered to seventeen communicants, and also a visit to Percy. It will be borne in mind, that still, as heretofore, the Clergy, especially of the rear Townships, are in the habit of rendering extra Parochial services in the Townships neighbouring to those in which they reside.

Your Committee, knowing the great importance of an abundant and cheap supply of Bibles, Testaments, Prayer-books, and also of books and tracts, incalculating either in pleasing and attractive narratives or in didactic treatises, the fundamental principles of Evangelic Truth and Apostolic Order, have been very anxious to make the Central Depository at Cobourg as effective as possible; their wishes, however, in this respect have been partially realized, as the appropriations for Travelling Missionary service, and to Parochial Committees for local purposes, have absorbed the greater part of their available funds.

Table with financial entries: The Treasurer's account for the year 1843 is as follows:—Dr. The Newcastle and Colborne District Branch of the Church Society, in Account with the Treasurer.

Table with financial entries: 1843. Cr. £ s. d. Dec. 30.—By Subscriptions and Donations from Cobourg Parochial Committee, to date 84 7 0

Table with financial entries: 1844. Jan. 30.—By Balance in hand 7 1 6

It is confidently hoped that there will be a great increase in the resources of the Association during the year in which we have now entered. The efforts have been made in the building, enlarging, repairing, and ornamenting of Churches; and this notwithstanding that the times have not been very propitious in a pecuniary point of view.

By order of the Managing Committee, JONATHAN SHORR, Secretary.

The Report having been read, Resolutions were moved and seconded as follows:—Moved by the Rev. S. ARMOUR, and seconded by W. C. CROFTON, Esq., and

Moved by the Rev. R. J. C. TAYLOR, and seconded by G. M. BOSWELL, Esq., and

Moved by the Rev. W. M. SHAW, and seconded by J. V. BOSWELL, Esq., and

Moved by the Rev. S. GIVINS, and seconded by JAMES CALVERT, Esq., and

Moved by the Rev. A. N. BETHUNE, and seconded by R. TROTTER, Esq., and

Moved by D. E. BOULTON, Esq., and seconded by J. V. BOSWELL, Esq., (Churchwardens), and

Moved by G. M. BOSWELL, Esq., seconded by BENJAMIN CLARK, Esq., and

Moved by the Rev. J. WILSON, six months' salary to date, on account of Travelling Missionary duty, by order of Standing Committee, £32 5 0

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indeed be monstrous if a religious establishment moulded by the hands of God yielded no instruction—no practical example for human guidance. Far from admitting so profane and impious a supposition, we boldly avow that no sincere and enlightened reader of his Bible can be opposed to National Church Establishments, or hesitate in admitting that the Jewish Church, separated from the best ground-work of a national religious polity, and left to its own devices, would have been a barren and fruitless tree.

Nothing can be more clear than that the enemies of ecclesiastical establishments never read their Bibles with a sincere view of ascertaining the truth. For in every page such an institution stands forth in bold relief, and presents a brief but complete refutation of all their objections.

The Jewish polity, as established by God himself, likewise furnishes a complete refutation of the monstrous dogma of modern infidels and political dissenters, that governments ought to have no business with religion.—It shows that the duties of the people, as men, and as rulers of thousands, &c., and let them judge the people at all seasons." In the teeth of this, modern reformers in Church and State prefer men without religion. Whether they or God be right, judge ye.

ON THE POLICY OF A GENERAL UNION OF ALL THE BRITISH PROVINCES OF NORTH AMERICA. [CONCLUDED.] LETTER XII. RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

It was remarked in letter third, that one of the advantages resulting from a General Union would be the facility of uniting the moral and religious improvement of the population might be promoted, and institutions established similar to those in the Parent State, by which they would learn to distinguish between liberty and licentiousness, and between social tranquility and anarchy.

There is perhaps no greater blessing possessed by any nation than that which the mother country enjoys in having so many men whose behaviour and conduct are unquestionably of the highest character, established as permanent residents all over the kingdom.

Resolved—1. That the members of this meeting have heard, with much thankfulness to Almighty God, that the Church Society of New Brunswick, conducted by a zealous and successful Missionary, has been in the habit of promoting Christian knowledge throughout the neglected settlements, &c.

Resolved—2. That the fact of the Church Society being a Missionary Society, a Bible Society, a Prayer Book Society, a Religious Tract Society, a Church-Building Society, and a Sunday School Society, should constitute a very powerful appeal to all who prize the faith of Christ, as professed by the Reformed British Catholic Church, to contribute gladly and liberally to the timely support of that Institution.

Resolved—3. That a moiety of 'The Offertory' collected in this Church during the present year be immediately transmitted to the Treasurer of the Church Society, and that the same be limited towards 'the building of Churches and Chapels' in the Province.

Resolved—4. That the Visiting Missionary be requested, in the name of the Local Committee, to make an early application to the Executive Committee of the Parent Society for further pecuniary aid towards providing the good blessing of a House of God in the large, scattered, and religiously destitute parish of Nelson, in this Province.

girls; the average attendance being 75 boys, and 60 girls; covered by 12 teachers for the former department, and 8 for the latter, under the zealous and efficient superintendence of the Rev. J. Wilson, to whose faithful and valuable services in every department of his Bible, the Rector of the parish is happy, upon this occasion, to bear testimony.

The Parochial School, conducted by Mr. T. Goode, in the commodious and handsome Gothic building erected for that purpose, has, during the past year, shown an average attendance of 18 boys, and 14 girls; there having been upon the books during that period about 57 in all. Besides the ordinary branches of education, these children are carefully instructed in the Holy Scriptures and in the Church Catechism.

The rapid increase of the town of Cobourg during the last two years, and the large accession, consequently, to its population of members of the Church, has for some time proved the necessity of further Church accommodation; and measures it is hoped, will be adopted without delay to make such an addition to the present sacred edifice as will materially add to the number of its sittings, and at the same time form the commencement of a new Church which, when completed in after years, will prove equal to the wants of the whole Church population, and commensurate in all respects with the growing extent and importance of this rising town.

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