

Correspondence.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

MR. EDITOR,

I was one of the large congregation at St. Paul's Church on Sunday evening. I feel it would be quite impossible for me to do justice to the excellent sermon preached by the Bishop. To those who listened in an humble and teachable spirit, it could not but be useful. The pleasure I received from it has made me earnestly wish that his Lordship would, during this solemn season, give us a series of lectures on the doctrines and practice of our Church.

We cannot know, and perhaps few, if any, of the Clergy know, the marvellous amount of ignorance that prevails on the subject. This ignorance is not confined to those who are called by other names, but is a sad cause of stumbling to many who are in the Church. They are members of the Church, as it were by accident; they have nothing to say in favor of it, and will listen to the most absurd objections brought forward by others against it.

Knowledge of our Church, it seems so to me at least, must produce love of it,—the more we know and practice truth, the better we love it, the better we appreciate it.

The Bishop's plain, practical and lucid style is eminently fitted to convey the information required in the most effective and attractive form.

As the pastor of pastors, in this part of the fold, his voice would be listened to with greater attention than any other could command.

I doubt not he has a great deal to do, but if it is possible for him to accomplish this also, I hope he will. If not now at some future time. That his heart is in his work, that his work is to do good to those over whom the Holy Ghost has made him overseer, I cannot doubt; and with the blessing of God on him and his efforts, I hope to see a brighter day for the Church in Nova Scotia than she has ever yet known. A LISTENER.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

The following memorandum shows the number of days on which rain and snow fell during the year 1853—

January,	rain 3 days; snow 4.
February,	— 2 — — 4.
March,	— 3 — — 3.
April,	— 8 — — 2.
May,	— 6 — — —
June,	— 7 — — —
July,	— 7 — — —
August,	— 8 — — —
Sept.,	— 7 — — —
October,	— 5 — — —
Nov.,	— 6 — — snow 2.
Dec.,	— 8 — — — 5.

Rain 72. Snow 20.

This includes days on which snow and rain both fell, and light rains as well as heavy. March and October are the most drying or best seasoning months of the year for wood stuff—the wind carrying off the moisture very freely—it has the same effect on the human body. Ladies should be careful to wear veils these months.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1854.

D. C. SOCIETY.

It is very gratifying to find from the Report of this valuable Society, for 1853-4, that its importance is being more generally felt, as evidenced by the general increase in the contributions from the respective Parishes of the Province. Foremost among them stands Liverpool, which has even exceeded itself in the liberality of its subscriptions, and that is saying a great deal, considering how much that Parish has already done. The remittance this year is upwards of £60, which is 50 per cent. more than that of last year, or than the contribution from any other quarter. Granville, Amherst, Guysborough, and Margaret's Bay, have each sent 80 per cent. more than for one or two years past. When the failure of the fisheries at the latter place for the last few years is considered, this increase is highly creditable to the worthy people of that Parish. Sydney, O. B. also sends one-third more than last year. In other places also additional subscriptions have been raised; and we doubt not that the new and interesting objects which are this year presented to the notice of Churchmen, will elicit a still more abounding liberality. We have reason to know that many of the Clergy take unwearied pains to promote the cause of the Society, incurring far more personal labour in the collection of subscriptions than those who read the Reports would suppose. One young Clergyman told us that he was on horseback for days together during the most "biting" period of this winter, gathering the shillings and half dollars that swelled his increased remittance, all of it being cheerfully given. Indeed it must not be forgotten, that the great bulk of the Society's income comes from these small donations rather than from the larger ones of the rich. The most of these donors actually feel what they give, as "that which costs them something."

We are glad to find that a good commencement has been made with the Widows' and Orphans' fund.—The Honbles. H. H. Cogswell and M. B. Almon, have each given £100, and Judge Bliss £50. Arrangements are being made for a general application to the lay friends in the City, and we hope to be able in our next to announce the attainment of the £1000 proposed as the basis of this most important Fund. Nor we trust will the contributions of our laity rest here, but rather continue to pour in, year by year, from those whom God has blessed with the means of thus cheering the heart of the poor missionary, in the midst of pinching cares, by providing for the relief of those he may leave behind him when death shall terminate his toils.

KING'S COLLEGE.

THE new Board of Governors of King's College have been engaged in weekly meetings since their election, their attention being more particularly directed to the pecuniary resources of the Institution; A Committee consisting of the Honble. M. B. Almon, A. M. Uniacke, and Hugh Hartshorne, Esquires, were appointed to take up the subject of the present income and liabilities of the College, and to report thereupon, which they have performed, and after giving a full statement of all its invested Funds, they find that the income for the present year, will not be sufficient even to uphold the present limited staff of Professors, but will leave a deficiency of about £400 at the end of the year. We therefore cannot too urgently press upon all who feel an interest in maintaining our College at Windsor, the absolute necessity there exists for prompt and immediate aid. We earnestly solicit the contributions of our fellow Churchmen throughout the Province, trusting that our appeal on behalf of the Institution will not be made in vain. The Governors have unanimously approved of the call put forth and circulated by the Alumni, and are prepared to sanction the principles upon which they hope to obtain the sum requisite to uphold and place the College upon a basis more extensively useful, viz: the granting of certificates to subscribers of £100, the allowing the students to reside out of College, subject to the approval of the President, and the permission to attend any particular course of lectures, without being required to be present at all.

A subscription list has been opened, and we hope in a few days to be enabled to announce through the medium of the Church Times, the names of some who by their donations will show that they are actuated by an earnest desire to preserve an Institution so intimately connected with their own Church, to promote the great cause of education, and to contribute a portion of their means for the advancement of their fellow countrymen and the glory of God.

THE LATE, REV. DR. GRAY

We copy the following obituary notice of this aged Clergyman from the St. John Church Witness. The Doctor was well known in every part of this Province, and by his demise another of the few links which still connected us with a former generation, has been snapped by that hand which dissolves all earthly connections. He was the companion of the fathers of those Missionaries who are themselves now fast descending the hill of life, and will in a few years rest from their labours. We believe the Rev. W. C. King, retired Missionary at Windsor, and who is probably over 80 years of age, is the only remaining one of that veteran corps, who began their course when their fellow laborers did not exceed a dozen, instead of the sixty now at work. Next to him in seniority we believe, come the Rev. C. Ingles (retired), Rev. Edwin Gilpin, Rev. Dr. Twining.

OBITUARY.—Died on Saturday evening the 18th inst., in the 86th year of his age, the Rev. BENJAMIN GRAY, D. D., formerly Rector of St. John, and, for many years, Chaplain to the Garrison in this City. Dr. Gray was one of the oldest surviving Missionaries of our Church, in this or in the adjoining Province of Nova Scotia. His first Mission was at Preston near Halifax, where, prior to the commencement of the present century, he had charge of the Maroons, about 440 of whom were settled in that vicinity. He was afterwards appointed to the Parish of Backville, and subsequently to that of St. George at Halifax, from whence in 1825 he was removed to the Rectory of St. John, which he held for 15 years. Dr. Gray was an active and faithful Missionary, never shrinking from the labours of his sacred office, until the infirmities of age compelled him to relinquish them. His vigorous mind, which had been shaken by infirmities and trials, regained at the close a portion of its

former clearness, and under sufferings of no ordinary character, gave evidence of strong faith and deep devotion.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, from the residence of Rev. Dr. Wm. Gray.—The former part of the solemn service for the burial of the Dead, was performed at Trinity Church, which, by order of the Vestry, was hung in mourning on the occasion. A large number of persons, including the teachers and scholars of the Sunday School, were present. The mortal remains, attended by eight of the clergy belonging to the city and its vicinity, the Wardens and Vestries of the Parishes of St. John, St. James' and St. Mark, and other citizens, were then conveyed to the Church burial ground, and there committed to the Tomb. "When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written:—DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY."

On Thursday evening, the Rev. Geo. Hill delivered the second of a course of Missionary Lectures, to a crowded audience, in St. George's School House. His subject was the Greek Church, the rise, progress, tenets, and present condition of which, he traced and unfolded, in a very interesting and instructive manner, illustrating his Lecture by a fine Missionary Map of the World, showing to the eye the religious aspect of every country on the Globe. At this juncture of political affairs, with which the Greek Church has so small concern, information of this kind is peculiarly appropriate. The origin and history of Mahomedanism, were also sketched in the concluding portion of the Lecture, in a plain and familiar manner.

We the undersigned Parishioners of St. Margaret's Bay Parish, have the pleasure through the Church Times, of conveying our united thanks to Revd. JOHN STANNAGE, for his unwearied zeal in raising over ten thousand pounds, amongst our brethren the good Churchmen in Britain, for the endowment of this Parish, and also to convey to him our sincere wishes for his speedy return amongst us; and a continuance of God's blessings for health and happiness to himself and family.

Signed by PETER DAUTHNY,) Church
JAMES REDMAN,) Wardens

St. Margaret's Bay, 21st. Feb'y, 1854. [Cos]

The Rev. W. H. Cooper, formerly of King's College, Windsor, and lately a Clergyman in P. E. Island, who with his family was a passenger in the ill fated San Francisco, has published several letters in the Episcopal Recorder, giving a touching and graphic description of the terrible scenes through which he has passed. One of them we give to-day, and will insert a portion of another next week. The following testimony to the value of our Liturgy as a vehicle of the most intense feelings and aspirations of the soul we find in one of our exchanges:

THE SAN FRANCISCO—AFFECTING INCIDENT.—At a moment when Hope was almost abandoned, and despair on every countenance, Death in the most appalling form seeming inevitable, in a state of half-contraction, "Do, sir, pray for us," was the request to the Rev. Clergyman. Some one having said, "Oh, sir, in this awful crisis your Prayer Book can be of no service to you"—the only response to this, by the faithful Herald of the Cross, the Missionary of the God of Mercy, was to fall on his knees, and with a fervor that penetrated every heart implored, in the words of the Litany:

"O God, the Father of Heaven, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners."

"O God the Son, Redeemer of the World, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners."

"O God, the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners."

"O Holy, blessed, and Glorious Trinity, Three Persons and One God, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners."

The effect of this was electrifying. Tears were in every eye, and they all, as if with one heart and one voice, joined in supplicating their God to save them from a watery grave, themselves, their wives, and their children—whom He, who rides in the whirlwind, and directs the storm, and commands the winds and the waves, "peace be still," and there was a calm, raised their sinking hearts, granting the earnest prayers of the humble supplicants.—Philad. Inquirer.

ITEMS.

There has been a change of Ministry in P. E. Island, but we have not heard the names of the holders of office.

Governor Elliott, of Bermuda, has assumed the government of Trinidad.

Vice Admiral Seymour, accompanied by Mr. Jones, his Secretary, and other officers, came passenger in the Merlin from Bermuda.