

visitors as on some previous days, but the numbers there and the excursionists to Kew have been already estimated by the boat and train. In Regent's park the numbers have not been counted at any time during the summer, though some of the "ponny-rollers" have given exact numbers. There was an immense crowd listening to the people's subscription band in the Regent's park, and at a low estimate the numbers considerably exceeded 100,000. In the Victoria park, where another people's band played from five till seven o'clock, there were about 60,000 persons present at one time. The aristocracy had a very large number of carriages in the Hyde park, and about 8,000 entered Kensington Gardens during the afternoon. From these estimates, intended to be free from all exaggeration, it would appear that out of the population of London, about one quarter of a million were engaged in what has been characterised as the "public desecration of the Sabbath."—*Morning Star, Aug. 24.*

## The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, SEPT'R. 19, 1857.

### INDIA.

THE affairs of India, at the latest advices, do not seem to be in a very promising state. More mutinies have taken place, and the horrid massacre at Cawnpore has been committed—not however unavenged, as the place has been retaken. The British forces hold their own in the face of the native rebel soldiery who are ten times their number, and possessed of all the material of war. This is a redeeming feature of these revolting transactions. It is a moral as well as a physical influence that can thus awe an infuriated people, and prevent them from hurling their masses upon the small force which assumes in spite of all untoward circumstances, the mastery. It will be well indeed if the reinforcements arrive, are emboldened by the defensive inactivity on the part of the British, the natives recover their astonishment, and with confidence inspired by numbers, skill and abundance of warlike materials, try an overwhelming pressure at all points to rid themselves of the foreign domination. It is fortunate that up to this time, they have no leader among them of sufficient ability to inspire their resolution, or direct their efforts.

We should be inclined to award the Hindoos in this struggle the praise of patriotism, did they show themselves worthy of their object, which we take to be the relieving the country from a foreign rule, only however to subject it to the dominion of caste. But they have learned nothing from their contact with western civilization. Gross brutality and horrid cruelty, have characterised their proceedings. The fiendish propensities displayed against a people who had exercised dominion over them, but such a dominion as compared with the oppression of their native princes must have been lightly felt, shows that as a nation the Hindoos are quite unfit for self government. Nor will Divine Providence permit, that crimes so wantonly perpetrated against the defenceless, shall be the means of achieving any noble end. Doubtless Great Britain in the trust committed to her hands by the King of Kings, may have been remiss in the fulfilment of her duties, and has deserved the chastisement that has been inflicted, but there is no reason to suppose that she has forfeited her possession: on the contrary, she will learn through suffering where the fault lies, and to what extent has been her dereliction, and the remedy will be all the more efficacious, and the future welfare of the dependency all the better secured, through the fiery ordeal to which its retention has been subjected.

Enough has transpired we think, to prove that neither on the one hand, has the rebellion been caused by the religious apprehensions of the Hindoos—nor on the other is it to be attributed to any disgust at the proselytizing spirit of the Christian religion. The former has no doubt been used as an exciting cause, in the same manner as any and every accessory is used by political agents to further the grand design. The latter has never created any serious alarm. To neither of these may the revolt be properly ascribed. It is Brahminical in its conception and in its execution. It is evident that the lower castes, care very little about it, except as they help to swell the catalogue of horrors, being ever ready to plunder and murder whenever either is likely to serve a momentary and personal advantage. A profound ignorance of the social structure of Indian society on the part of the Indian government, appears to have contributed largely to the melancholy result. The most obvious precautionary measures have been disregarded, and every thing has been done for a long time to prove to the

Indian army, and in spite of various insurrectionary movements, the unbounded confidence of the government in its loyalty and devotion. The overweening, proud, subtle, and treacherous Brahmins, who largely compose it, had their already superabundant conceit of their superiority much enlarged by the concessions made to their caste, and hence their desire again to forcibly resume the supreme power, of which just a century before, the renowned Clive broke the prestige. Every warning was unheeded or repelled with scorn, and the policy still pursued of petting their discontent, and conceding their demands. The consequence as foretold by that wise judge of Indian character—the far seeing statesman and able general Sir Chas. Napier,—has followed, and the British dominion in the East has been jeopardized, or at least the governmental policy is responsible for the wanton destruction of property, the sacrifice of treasure, and the misery and bloodshed that have carried weeping and lamentation to many a British home.

Except that some such attempt as we have referred to in the commencement of this article may be made by the hosts which surround the British force before Delhi, we do not anticipate much change in the news from India, until the reinforcements from Britain reach that country. In the meantime the gallant band who are upholding their country's honor there, will be subject to many privations; and disease, the effects of the climate, will have claimed many a victim. Let us pray that through it all they may be enabled to maintain their position. A retreat would be a fearful calamity, the consequences of which it would be difficult to foresee; altho' the moral effect upon a population halting between two opinions, would probably be in the first instance, to arouse the savage hatred of all who now deem it politic to be neutral, and to place in a state of siege every station held by the British army.

The mercy of God towards a nation, has never been more conspicuously displayed than in His dealing of late with Great Britain, in the accomplishment of her high mission as the arbitress of the world. The pretensions of Russia, a gigantic empire seeking to disturb the balance of power, and consequently the peace of nations, have been humbled, and confined within its own straitened boundaries. A peace well secured, takes away all pretence for national interference between England and her rebellious subjects in India. The quarrel with China, will remain in abeyance, and but a small portion of her strength will meanwhile be required to keep the mischievous propensities of that faithless people in check. Her alliance with France, will devolve upon the latter much of the responsibility of bringing the celestial nation to terms, upon a basis satisfactory to the general interests of mankind. With the powers of Europe all her relations are of the most amicable description. Her whole strength and all the resources of her statesmanship will therefore be exerted in regulating the future government of that vast continent with whose destinies she has been entrusted by the God of the Universe. Can there be a reasonable doubt in the minds of Christians, that for these purposes God has raised her up. Can there be any danger that she will be forsaken, while in the accomplishment of the designs of the Almighty for the general happiness of his creatures, and for the fulfilment of the time when "the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ."

The Halifax Yacht Club have throughout the summer been the means of affording recreation and delight to the citizens of Halifax, and deserve their thanks. The contests in which they have been engaged, and which involve no small degree of skill and nautical management to achieve success, are just the right sort of thing for a seaboard mercantile community; and a capital incentive and preparation of our youth, for that higher skill and daring, when from the harbour they shall launch upon the ocean, and navigating its broad waters, seek by compass and chart, for the wealth of commerce to enrich and beautify their native home. Although the approach of winter will suspend the activity of the Club—we may express a hope that nothing will ever occur to endanger their existence; but that they will grow with our growth, and be the means of encouraging excellence in naval architecture, and an incentive to that naval enterprise which shall make many of our citizens famous at home and abroad.

The Cape Breton *News* states, that the Naval Survey of the Bras d'Or Lake from Baddeck to Whyecocmagh, a distance of 20 miles, and the River Denny also, has been completed. The *Gulfstream* returns to P. E. I. and Miramichi. The *Ariel* remains to survey the harbour of Louisbourg.

### THE CIVIC ELECTIONS.

THE talk on this subject is all in the papers—out of doors they are a matter which seems to concern nobody. If what the papers assert be true, (altho' we should not care ourselves to depend upon the truth of all they state,) there are few if any fit persons in the Council, from his Worship downwards. But the quiescence of the Citizens under civic rule does largely negative any such inference—and may on the other hand be taken to mean that they are the best that can be provided. Any how there seems a repugnance to coming forward as candidates for civic honors. Perhaps the reason is, that persons who know themselves to be fit for such offices, are troubled with that scarce commodity called modesty, and would like to be solicited. Well, if it be so, it might be worth the while, if a good and healthful tone could thereby be given to our Civic affairs, and newspaper confidence established, to try for a change.

The Coal Trade has been unusually brisk at Pictou during the Summer. It is stated that the shipments at the end of the season will reach 100,000 chaldrons. We doubt if any result like this could have been attained short of the operations of the General Mining Association; but as there is a prospect, we understand, of one or two reservations of coal, being at the disposal of the Legislature, in the settlement that has been effected, individual enterprise will be enabled at least, if it chuse, to enter into a limited competition with the means and enterprise of the G. M. A.

### LIFE IN AUSTRALIA.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following extract of a letter from Australia, which gives a graphic description of the mode of life in one section of that vast country. The writer is a brother of a Clergyman of this Diocese, and a Graduate of King's College, Windsor:—

GAYDAH, N. S. WALES,  
8th April, 1857.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

Your welcome letter reached me last month, and I would have answered it before now, had not the late heavy rains stopped all postal communication with Sydney. I have not met a Novascotian since I have been in this colony, but it is easily accounted for, as with the exception of two years I have always been in the interior, about nine hundred miles to the northward of Sydney. I am pleased to hear that old Alma Mater still exists, and think you acted wisely in giving up the Legislative grant; but I am really surprised to find that you could raise £10,000 in Nova Scotia. I will now give you a rough sketch of the Country. I went up overland in the interior, distant about 700 miles, in company with a squatter, the common designation of the Stockmaster, with whom I remained two years. Since that I have been a pioneer in the uninhabited country, surrounded by hostile blacks, who have often been near making a — less. But thanks to the backwoods of America, where I became used to danger, and a steady hand, I have always escaped, although our encounters with the aboriginals are frequent. In fact when you lie down at night, you cannot say whether you will see the morning or not. Hardly a week passes but I hear of some shepherd being killed. We have a police force formed from the natives themselves, chosen from another side of the colony. They are mounted and clothed like mounted police, and are most excellent from their peculiar native habits in tracing their countrymen after committing any depredation far superior in tracking to the North American Indians. They are officered by white Gentlemen. The whole, about 200, are under the charge of a Commandant, and nothing gives them greater pleasure than in shooting their countrymen. I could make you laugh were I to give you a description of scenes I have passed through. Talk about hunting in England! If a fox-hunter were out here riding by night after wild cattle, I would show him what he never knew. I have been out for nine months collecting wild cattle, never under a roof, most exciting, at the same time dangerous, especially if you are not well mounted, and a bull turns round and charges you!

But now to give you a description of the part where I am at present. It consists of beautiful open country, watered by numerous rivers and tributaries, stocked with horses, cattle and sheep. The stockholder possesses according as he pays Government, five square miles of country paying a rent of £10, which they consider capable of grazing 550 head of cattle or 4000 sheep. But he must be a very small settler who does not possess 25 square miles of country, and 12 to 15,000 sheep, or cattle in proportion. The sheep are herded in flocks, about 1500 by one shepherd, whose wages are about £30 per annum. The cattle are herded by a Stockman who generally has about 1500 head under his charge. This requires a very steady hand, as the Blacks get in amongst the herd, spear and drive the cattle off the run. The rule is on a cattle station to shoot every black you find. This you may think cruel, but if you had seen the men I have murdered by them, you would not spare them. We are gradually taming them—they are very useful on a station, but not to be depended on. And now, as to what I am doing—I am superintendent of a sheep establishment consisting of 19,000 sheep, for which I receive £200 per annum. This is the finest country in the world, a cripple can get a living in the bush, no fear of starving. You would scarcely credit that a bush mechanic can earn £5 to £6 per week, and if a shearer he can earn from 28 to 35s. per day. The state of morals in the bush is very low. The working classes spend all their money in the public houses. It is no uncommon thing for two men to go down from the stations to a