

interest in the Diocesan Church Society, and contributed annually pretty largely to its funds, but not feeling satisfied with this, one of the proposed to instruct in singing, the Choir of St. Mary's Church in the adjoining Parish of Aylesford: the place where they met was seven miles from his residence, so he had to travel forty-two miles a week; and that for several months in the most inclement season of the year. When the engagement was drawing to a close: the Choir were so much pleased with his unremitting attention, that to compensate him in some degree for his kindness, they presented him with a very handsome Church Service, accompanied with a five pound note, which he handed over, as his subscription for the year, to the Wilnot Local Branch of the Diocesan Church Society: this, added to the subscriptions of the rest of the family, amounted to a larger sum for that year, than was sent in from the parishes of Wallace and Puzwash put together. From this, and many such instances, the Chairman argued, that there was nothing like earnestness, and perseverance, in a good cause. Passing from individual instances, he went on to state, what a community when united might accomplish. Take as for instance (said he) the quiet parish of Wilnot, altogether agricultural, the number of Church members not very great, yet they were able to do a great deal for the Church: by securing a neat Parsonage house, paying regularly the Clergyman's stipend, and tending on an average twenty pounds a year to the funds of the Diocesan Church Society—repairing and improving their Church, and many other things of a local nature too numerous to mention. This I am sure made a good impression on those present, for a subscription list was opened: and many came forward, and doubled yea tripled their former subscriptions, the Rev. Chairman heading the list, by requesting the Secretary to put his name down for two pounds, which he did for three reasons: first as a thank offering to the Lord for the measure of health vouchsafed to himself and his family—Secondly, to testify the great importance he attaches to the Society,—and Thirdly, that others who are far better able to contribute more largely—would be stirred up to greater exertion. The meeting felt deeply indebted, to the following Ladies, Mrs. Chandler, Mrs. Sismer, Mrs. J. . Mrs. Ferguson, Miss De Wolfe, and Mrs. Ryan: for their presence, and their ready and willing co-operation and consenting to be named as collectors. After singing the Doxology, and pronouncing the Apostolic Benediction the meeting separated. And now Mr. Editor, it certainly is very pleasing to hear a Minister bear such ample testimony to the merits of those among whom he was ministering, as our Rev. Chairman has done of the people of Wilnot: but without detracting in the least degree from their efforts, let us contrast what has been done within the last few months by the people of this district. Regular monthly collections are commenced at the Church, to defray the necessary expenses, besides other collections for special purposes; all of which are doing remarkably well. A lot of communion vessels were wanting; to procure these a subscription was made, and an order has been sent to a London House, amounting to twenty pounds; the Clergyman's stipend is fully secured, and it is more than probable from the great exertions now making, the fund for the Diocesan Church Society, will far exceed what it has hitherto. One Church is in the act of being built, and repairs contemplated for the other: and a very comfortable and convenient house is in treaty for at this moment as a Parsonage; this is advancing in the right direction; from all this, we might be justified in inferring, that the time is not far distant, when Puzwash, instead of being as it is at present, a dilapidated district, will take a more prominent stand. The Church members though not very numerous, are consistent and love their Church: the rising generation are becoming more acquainted with its order and discipline. Our Merchants here are enterprising men, and are spirited in a good cause. The town is well situated as a resort, with a harbor as to its extent, not to be surpassed by any, capable of floating at all times vessels of any size, and in the season, flags of various nations may be seen floating in the breeze. The surrounding Country is excellent for agricultural purposes, in proof of which Mr. Frederick Bergman's farm is a good specimen, which would compete with any model farm in England.

Fearing this will trespass too much on your time and space, I remain Mr. Editor,

ONE THAT WAS PRESENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH TIMES.

SIR,—Should you consider that the accompanying extract of a Letter, I have recently received from my son, in South Australia, would prove interesting to any of your Readers, I will thank you to give it insertion in your Paper.

I remain, yours &c.

E. BUTLER.

Narlock House, Jan. 1st. 1855.

"On landing at Adelaide, the stranger is at once struck with the thoroughly English appearance of the place. From the Port to the town of Adelaide (a distance of eight miles) you can be driven by an old English coachman in an old English coach and four, and put down in the main street of the city after a swinging trot of three quarters of an hour. The majority of conveyances however, which appear equally novel and unsafe to a "new chum," are the "spring carts;" they are on two wheels, are licensed to carry nine people, but have often carried eighteen with a pair of horses in tandem; and as these vehicles go

centering along, not over a very level road, you are led to doubt whether the local life assurance companies are in a flourishing condition.

"The colony of Adelaide was founded very soon after that of Melbourne, in 1836, and its progress has been very rapid, notwithstanding the severe check it received on the discovery of the "Diggings." South Australia became almost deserted, and, for a time, the prospect of the Colony was anything but cheering; within the last two or three years, however, the absentees have returned, and the greater part have invested their nuggets in land, although a large amount has gone to the benefit of the Publicans. The generality of the "old hands" are singularly reckless, in this respect; it is quite a common thing for them to enter a public house, deliver up the whole of their money to the landlord, who signifies to them when it is all expended, and they then return to their work, or to the Diggings, for more to be spent probably in the same manner."

"The very high prices at Melbourne and Sydney for food, has raised every thing here; cattle, sheep, hay, &c., commanding more than double the former prices, so that the "squattling" interest which embraces the cattle and sheep owners, is in a very prosperous condition. The town was laid out on a very large scale, and consequently there are several streets as yet un-built, though almost all the land has been purchased at very high prices. The public edifices having been erected by Government labor, are very creditable buildings, especially the Government offices, which form a quadrangle of one story, surrounded with trees and having a garden in the enclosure. For the Botanist and Mineralogist the field is most extensive, and I much regret never having cultivated a taste for their interesting studies, which by the way, would be no inefficient substitutes (in this practical age) for those time-honoured Rhetoric of Aristotle, so diligently skimmed over at Old King's College. I was very much pleased with my introduction to Adelaide Society, which though perhaps wanting in that extreme refinement, rarely to be found save in large Capitals, is easy, well bred, and singularly free from those petty funds and jealousies too often the bane of Colonial coteries. As I arrived just in the picnic season, I had a very fair opportunity of observing "the manners and customs" of the South Australians, and with one or two painful exceptions witnessed at an "at Home" at Government House, I could not detect that an entrance into society had been forced by a golden wedge.

"I am sorry to say that Church matters here are not in the most flourishing condition, indeed I have already heard more than one Clergyman complaining of the great "absence of mind" evinced by the great body of Church members when any species of "argumentum ad pocketum" absconded to be proposed.

"I must now explain to you the nature of the expedition with which I am connected. All the large cattle and sheep owners hold their leases of their "runs" from Government; to obtain these leases they must put in their "claims" officially, at Adelaide, and occupy each "run" for at least twenty four hours with a number of cattle or sheep proportional to the number of square miles they wish to claim. This being effected they receive a long lease at a nominal rental, which however protects them only until application for purchase is made to Government, when they are obliged to "move on." Consequently when the Colony becomes populated, the "squatters" are pushed further and further back into the unsettled parts. Mr. Jacob, the gentleman who is the leader of our party, and who is one of the largest stock-owners in the Colony, is in this predicament, hence the object of our journey. His present "run" which he will soon have to relinquish is sixty miles N. E. of Adelaide, and was the furthest in "the Bush" when he occupied it several years ago, but we are now about 160 miles beyond that, and quite eighty miles from any white face! We started from Mr. Jacob's place of Woodlands on the 13th of May, our party consisting of eight persons, viz, Mr. Jacob, Mr. Young, a government surveyor, two stock-keepers, a bullock driver, hat-keeper, a native acting as guide, and the "new chum" myself. We took up a small "draft" of 500 head of cattle to occupy and commence stocking up the new "runs," and a "dray" (or two wheeled waggon) which carried three months supplies, and all the necessaries for forming a "Station." We were all mounted, with the exception of the bullock-driver and hat-keeper, who went with the dray, and travelled from ten to twenty miles each day. Breakfasting at sunrise, we started as soon as possible, and travelled slowly through the day, generally coming to camp (at some water) about an hour or two before sunset; then the tea kettle was put on, the tent pitched and everything made ready for the night, in the mean time the cattle had been watered and camped i. e. rounded up into a circle, where they must be watched all night by two hands, in four hour watches, to prevent their separating and starting for home again. Our supper (or rather late dinner) was always a pleasant meal, as we all, master and man alike (in the true patriarchal style) sat round the camp fire; all but myself and Mr. Jacob had been at the Diggings for either a long or a short time, and each of the party had his story or adventure to tell over the post-prandial pipe. The excitement, the exercise, the beautiful weather, and the entire novelty of every thing around me, transformed what is generally considered a laborious undertaking, into a party of pleasure, as far as I was concerned, and you who will remember my predilection for camping out at the Panuke Lakes, will not be surprised at my having enjoyed the trip thoroughly."

[To be Concluded next week.]

Middle Musquodobou, 29th Decr. 1854.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CHURCH TIMES."

Rev. and Dear Sir,

As you expressed a wish in your Paper a short time ago to be able to report the various parochial occurrences of our country Missions, the following information may not be unacceptable:

On Friday, the 14th Decr., a meeting of the Clergyman, church wardens, and parishioners of the Mission of Musquodobou, was held in Middle Musquodobou, to consider the best means to be adopted in order to erect without unnecessary delay a Parsonage in that settlement, on the Globe of twenty-eight acres given by Col. Gladwin. Mr. Jackson, one of the Church-wardens, produced to the Meeting a very satisfactory subscription list, consisting principally of contributions of materials and labour by Church members and well-wishers of other denominations belonging to the settlement. After the question had been fully discussed, it was unanimously resolved that operations should be commenced forthwith, and proceeded with, as far as the present unfavourable part of the year will allow of. The people confidently hope that by their labour, and assistance from friends in Halifax, the Parsonage will be quite finished and fit for the reception of their Minister in the early part of next summer.

I am, Rev. and dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

S. DUTTON GREEN.

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Asia. Dec. 23.

The Committee of the London Union on Church Matters has just issued its fifth annual report. It commences by congratulating Churchmen on a slow but sure progress of right principles. Some few things are distressing, but reasons for encouragement predominate. In the progress made by the Convocation of Canterbury, Churchmen will thankfully rejoice at the prospects of vigorous life in the Church. On legislation for the Colonial Church, the committee made the following remarks:—

"Your Committee have on two occasions referred to the bills before Parliament for synodical organization of the Colonial Church. They are satisfied that they were right in declaring that while the introduction of the former of these measures was of happy augury, its abandonment was no subject for regret, the simplicity of the measure of this year was its best recommendation. They know not whether it is intended to introduce any other measure of the same kind in the present session of Parliament. Your Committee are not anxious on the subject, because they are satisfied that this great question is settling itself, as all such questions ought to be settled, not by a measure imposed by any central authority, civil or ecclesiastical, but by partial measures in each locality, dictated by the good sense of the Church itself, with a view to its wants and the circumstances of society with which it has to deal, and in conformity with its own principles.

"The measure of last year was not unreasonably objected to on account of its attempted completeness. It would have established provisions not universally applicable by an authority which neither the Colonial Church nor society in the colonies could see interfering with their local affairs without a feeling of uneasiness. These objections would have been valid against it if it had passed into an Act of Parliament; they have no force against a bill presented by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the House of Lords, as the fruit of the mature deliberations of his brethren, the Bishops of England. Accordingly, those who might have been jealous of an imperial law defining their relations to the mother Church, and fixing their local affairs, have most readily adopted the great features of the measure recommended, to them by such high authority. Of their own free will they have declared their identity with our Church, which the somewhat short-sighted opponents of these measures were determined to secure by enactment.

"The Bishop of Melbourne has prepared a measure mainly on the basis of that of the Archbishop, which he has submitted to a synodical meeting, with a view, after gaining their assent, to procure its enactment by the local legislature. The law officers of the colony appear to have assisted him in the preparation of it, and in the debates in his synod.

"Your Committee are disposed to refer with peculiar pleasure to the precedent thus set. They have formerly pointed out that any secular aid given in the colonies to ecclesiastical authority must be derived rather from the local legislatures than from the Imperial Parliament. They trust that such aid as may be necessary will be given both in the colony of Victoria and elsewhere; and they look to the interference of Parliament only in those cases where the imperial law has imposed some disability which the Colonial Church and legislature desire to remove, but cannot. When this is the case, they cannot doubt that Parliament would do its duty.

"More recently, the important diocese of Nova Scotia has responded to the Bishop's appeal, by agree-