

that she might take them to Utah. Her insanity is perfect and absolute. She writes incoherently and absurdly. She compares Elder Pratt with our Saviour and admits that she washed his feet and combed his hair. She hardly seeks to disguise the fact that she had been for some time living with him adulterously.

When, after the perusal of a letter so lamentable, we pause to consider the nature of the pretension, which has misled this unfortunate woman, we are astonished to find it so utterly flimsy and meaningless. We have taken some pains to investigate the subject; we have read a few Mormon Sermons, and we have peeped into a Mormon "Bible." We confess that we have never met with a faith so utterly without foundation, so purposeless and so senseless. We are able to trace the origin of many religious delusions. The followers of Joanna Southcote and of Mother Lee, seem really to have believed in something definite. Mohammedism and Buddhism have a sort of fixed creed. The idolaters of the Southern Sea can boast a certain theology, nor is a thread wanting by which we can trace their excesses to a distorted and perverted truth. But Mormonism is a puzzle. It began in the freak of a sick man, who amused himself by writing an imitation of the Holy Scriptures. Its originator was a blackguard, without intelligence, learning or cultivation. Its prominent supporters since that time have been men of the same class. The sermons which are preached in its temples are merely incoherent farragoes of slang, smut and nonsense. Its professors assume to be saints, without vouchsafing even a nominal proof of their saintliness. In truth, the scoundrels who have deluded so many people prove nothing, teach nothing, and come to no conclusion. The Mormon religion is all comprised in an asserted sanctity.

It is clearly evident that such a scheme, so empty and insane, must soon have exhausted its materials of delusion in spite of the diabolical ingenuity of its inventors, had not pains been taken to graft upon it something which, if not religious, was at least tangible. The doctrine of polygamy gave to the Salt Lake faith that which is so signally lacked—an incentive, a temptation and a stimulus—and this is, in fact, the length and breadth and thickness of it all. Take out the plurality of wives and the whole scheme becomes so nakedly nothing, that all the religious fanaticism in the world would hardly secure it a convert. But there is this low temptation, this appeal to unhalloved lust, this play upon curiosity, this practice upon the morbid minds of men and women. Its main strength is in its novelty and oddity. Bad men think it must be a very fine thing to have seventy wives, and weak women long to know by actual experience what it is to be the inhabitant of a harem. And it is this promise of a Paradise, infinitely more sensual than that of Mohammed, which has besotted the male, and female converts to Mormonism. It is by taking a strange and bewildering step toward barbarism, that Brigham Young has secured so many followers.

Of course a crime so alien to the spirit of the age and to civilized customs would have but a short existence, if it were committed in a locality accessible to ordinary influences. Unfortunately, it is practiced thousands of miles from the places in which it is preached, and that distance which lends enchantment to the view precludes effective exertion for its abolition. It must, then, either be taken in hand by the Government, which has a clear right to interfere with it, so far as it rebels against federal authority, or else it must be allowed to remain and work out its own explosion. The Government has thus far done nothing, nor is there any certainty that anything will be done. But we may safely assume that, even without such interference, such an establishment as that at Salt Lake cannot long endure in the nineteenth century on the American Continent.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Editorial Miscellany.

We recorded last week the death of the Rev. Dr. Binney, formerly of this Diocese, and father of the present Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia. The *Newbury, Reading, and Oxford Gazette*, of June 6, has the following notice of the deceased Rector:—

DEATH OF THE REV. HILBERT BINNEY, D.D.

We have this week the melancholy duty of announcing the death of the Rev. Dr. Binney, the Rector of St. Nicholas' Church, in this town. For many months it had been observed that Dr. Binney was labouring under a disease, which by degrees incapacitated him for the discharge of his ministerial functions, and latterly these have solely devolved upon the respected curate, the Rev. H. T. White. Easter Sunday was the last occasion on which Dr. Binney officiated; since then his illness gradually assumed a character so serious, as to create great anxiety and alarm among his relatives and friends, and most of them were summoned to the rectory, where they remained until after his death, which took place, ten minutes before nine o'clock, on Saturday evening, the 6th instant. The Rev. Dr. Binney was appointed to the rectory (as successor to the late Rev. J. Roe) in August, 1838, by Lord Melbourne, then Prime Minister, the right of presentation being, at that time, in the Crown; he has, therefore, held the living for a period of 19 years, within a few months. By an order in Council, dated August 11, 1854, Her Majesty

ratified a scheme of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, for transferring the patronage of the rectory of Newbury, from the Crown to the Bishop of the Diocese, in exchange for one in Hertfordshire. Although the late rector, from physical inability, was unable to visit the sick and the poor, yet he ever evinced much anxiety for their welfare. The poor, in him, found a friend; true it was they seldom saw him at their homes, but they knew that at the rectory they had a truly sympathising friend, and visits to him were not unheeded or lightly treated. His charity knew no bounds, and many a heart and home have been made glad by the beneficence displayed at the rectory. The parishioners, however, were not neglected in that ministerial care which is ever required, for the Rev. H. T. White, during the last eight years of his residence, has been unwearied in his attention to the sick and the distressed, and in energetic discharge of his more public duties, by which means he has won for himself the affectionate esteem and regard of the whole of the parishioners. The remains of the deceased will be interred this day (Saturday), in that part of St. Nicholas' Churchyard, known as the "Garden." The inhabitants generally have been invited to attend the funeral.

During the week, the following memorial has been signed by the Mayor, Town Councillors, Magistrate, Churchwardens, and a large number of the most respectable inhabitants of the Borough:—

To the Rev. Henry Towy White.

"Rev. Sir,—We, the undersigned inhabitants of the town and parish of Newbury, desire at this time to express to you the deep and sincere respect and regard which we entertain towards you, and the gratitude we feel for the kind, constant, and faithful attention which we and the inhabitants generally of this parish have received during the eight years you have ministered to us, as the curate of this parish.

"The death of our rector will necessarily lead to very important changes. We know not what effect these changes may have on the relation of minister and people, which has so long and so satisfactorily subsisted between you and us; but we are impelled by a deep sense of the sincerity and faithfulness with which you have laboured among us, to say, that we shall deeply regret if your ministrations should cease. We know that the duties you have undertaken, and for so many years cheerfully fulfilled, as the curate of this parish, have been most laborious, and it would be to us a source of great pleasure if circumstances should so occur, as to induce you to remain amongst us, and, if it should please God, to continue your ministrations in this place or neighbourhood."

EXAMINATION OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

THE Annual examination of the National School took place on Monday last, before the Venable. The Archdeacon, Rev. Mr. Maturin, and Henry Pryor, Esq. Among the visitors, were several Rev. Gentlemen, of various persuasions, some ladies and friends, and relations of the pupils, and teachers of other Schools.

The girls' school, which numbers over 90 scholars, was first examined. Needlework, both useful and ornamental, the handiwork of the children, was displayed, and gave much satisfaction to the visitors. Miss Maxwell examined several classes in reading, grammar, geography, and arithmetic. The robus questions were answered with readiness, giving assurance of careful teaching, and fair average capacity on the part of those instructed in the various branches.

There were 90 boys present in the boy's department, in the room below, to which the examiners next directed their attention. The progress of the pupils and the careful discipline of the School, evidenced the painstaking of the teacher. Mr. Willis directed the examination, which was superintended by Henry Pryor, Esq., and the proficiency of the classes, in the various branches of a sound English education, including singing, afforded much gratification. At the close, Mr. Pryor presented a handsome flute to Henry Caldwell, the chief monitor, who has a talent for music, and had been of much assistance to the Master in training the classes in singing. James Gossip, whom the boys had unanimously chosen as the best boy in the School, was crowned with a chaplet of oak leaves.

A reverend gentleman present, whose name we do not know, being requested by Mr. Pryor to give his candid opinion respecting the examination, expressed himself as being much gratified with what he had witnessed—both with reference to the capability of the Teachers and the progress of the pupils, and without saying anything favorable or otherwise, of a system with which he was entirely unacquainted, he considered that the former had shown himself quite competent to teach, and the latter to learn anything that might be required of them. He adverted to the rewards offered to the two best boys, as being appropriate, and hoped they would be incentives to greater proficiency in learning. The boys then sang "Rule Britannia" and "God save the Queen," and were dismissed with a short address by Henry Pryor, Esq.

The *Morning Chronicle* of July 2 has a very

careless statement with reference to the above examination:—"The 'young Gossip' who acquitted himself creditably, to whom it refers, is neither the 'son of the *Church Times*' as therein stated, nor of any one connected with this paper."

A Telegraphic despatch was received from Montreal, on Saturday last, announcing the afflicting intelligence, that the steamer *Montreal*, which plies between that City and Quebec, had taken fire on her passage, and that two hundred lives were destroyed. The following despatches dated the 27th inst., the day of the disaster, were brought by the *Khersonese*:

The *Montreal*, which left Quebec last night at 5 o'clock, when opposite Cape Rouge, took fire. She had 500 passengers on board, and 200 are supposed to be lost. The steamer *Napoleon* being near by rendering every assistance in her power, succeeded in saving from 175 to 200 of the passengers. The principal portion of the passengers were Scottish emigrants just landed at Quebec on their way to the west.

STILL LATER.—*Montreal*, 10 36 a.m.—The *Napoleon* with the saved passengers has arrived. We conversed with several of the passengers, who assure us that the number of lost will reach from 300 or 350—out of 53 cabin passengers only some 8 or 10 were saved. Col. Irwin, A.D.C. to the Governor General, who came up from Sorel, has given us the following particulars which he got from the passengers on board the unfortunate steamer. The *Montreal* left Quebec at 5 o'clock, p.m. yesterday, and when opposite Cape Rouge smoke was perceived coming through one of the state rooms into the saloon, and almost instantly fire was observed. The number of cabin passengers was about 40, and only 3 were saved; the scene when the fire was discovered is described as awful. The cabin passengers rushed to the jolly boat, which from its crowded state was upset, and most of them in it were drowned; many also when the fire was discovered jumped overboard, and were drowned. The most of the passengers were respectable Scotch emigrants of the Highlands.

(From last Saturday's City & Shore Edition.)

ADDRESS TO THE ADMIRAL.

An address of welcome to His Excellency Sir Houston Stewart, was presented yesterday morning by His Worship the Mayor, attended by the Aldermen, City Treasurer, Recorder, and City Clerk. The Admiral received this deputation on behalf of the Citizens very graciously, with the frank and cordial bearing of a British sailor; and in a manner which proved that reminiscences of Halifax, still had a green place in his heart. The following is the Address and reply:

To His Excellency Sir HOUSTON STEWART, K.C.B., Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of the North American and West India Station, &c., &c. The Mayor and Aldermen beg permission on behalf of the Citizens of Halifax to welcome your Excellency to our Shores.

Your sojourn here formerly, when in command of the *Menai*, left among the people of Halifax a very distinct impression of your friendly and amiable disposition, and we have been happy to trace your career of Naval Service in the most important operations of the late war in the Euxine and elsewhere.

Feelings of esteem and good will have ever subsisted between our people and the officers and men of the Royal Navy, and your Excellency, holding this important command, ensures a continuance of that harmony which is at all times desirable to be maintained.

We beg to assure you of those sentiments of respect, which you have a right to claim from us, intrusted as you are by our beloved Sovereign with so great a confidence, and respectfully express our most sincere wishes for the welfare and comfort of your Excellency, Lady Stewart, and family.

ARCHIBALD SCOTT,
Mayor.

Halifax, 25th June, 1857.

REPLY.

To the Worshipful the Mayor and the Aldermen of the City of Halifax:

GENTLEMEN,—The welcome you have conveyed to me on the part of the Citizens of Halifax, is most truly gratifying to my feelings, and from my heart do I thank you, and those whom you represent, for the kind and flattering sentiments which this Address expresses.

Many years have rolled past since my dear wife and myself left your hospitable shores, but time has neither diminished nor deadened the affectionate interest which our pleasing sojourn amongst the inhabitants of Nova Scotia, and of Halifax in particular, implanted in our breasts; and we have always looked back upon the three years spent amongst you as one of the happiest portions of our existence.

The feelings with which we revisit Halifax must, as you will readily believe, be much added by the absence of so many of the cherished friends we parted from, and who have since then passed away; but I trust that the present generation will allow us to deserve some portion of that esteem and attachment with which their fathers honored us.

It is my bounden duty, and it will also be my pride and pleasure, to promote by every means in my power the continuance of that harmony and good will which have always so happily prevailed between yourselves, and the officers and men of Her Majesty's fleet, and I honestly assure you that it will at all times afford me heartfelt satisfaction if I can in any manner forward the interests of that community, for whom I entertain the sincerest respect.

HOUSTON STEWART.