

fellow Todtleben, who must have been a Scotchman, diligently made good use of the weak points detected at that time, and when the batteries of the north side were afterwards looked over, it appeared that the prayer of the Russians had been that they would attack them, which, if they had done, would have occasioned a great deal more mischief than on 17th Oct. to the fleet."

He would like to say one word upon a man who is now no more, upon whom various opinions had been formed, but those who had come nearest to him, and seen most of him, he believed, never looked upon a more generous or magnanimous spirit, a more calm and self-composed man in the hour of danger, than Lord Raglan. "He believed, he knew that justice would sooner or later be done to every man; but he did not believe the peculiar position of Lord Raglan was altogether properly understood in this country. He recollected a remark made by Admiral Lyons after coming from a conference, that he really did not believe the Iron Duke himself would have been able, in Lord Raglan's place, to carry out the bent of his genius in this alliance. It was very difficult for one man, merely commanding one portion of an army, to plan and to get others to agree with his plan. The great Napoleon, a good judge of these matters, said 'it was better to have one indifferent commander than two good ones;' and such would be found to be the case throughout the late war. No results followed a stroke, even if successful, if not followed up, and this could hardly be done. When the allies first went out together, the English army was rather the superior of the two, and Lord Raglan and Marshal St. Arnaud were perfectly of the same mind. But the French commanders were changed three times, and the army increased, while the English army decreased, and thus reasons for differences could be understood without his dwelling further on the subject. He had every belief in the true and *bona fide* alliance of the French Emperor; but he hoped, really, that if they came to war again, they should each have their own part to play—a single commander with a single corps, so that these incessant consultations would be obviated. Many an intelligent Frenchman had avowed that he considered it fortunate for the allied cause that the English held the right of Inkermann; and at Inkermann there fell one with a heart, one of the boldest, truest, and most gallant that ever filled a soldier's breast—a man belonging to the county of Renfrew, whose family had been long connected with Greenock, whose name was inscribed on one of its streets, and who had given his name to a hill in the Crimea, where many a gallant soldier lay—the memorable Onheart Hill. (Great applause.) He did not think there was an officer in the British army more promising, or of whom more was expected, than Sir George Cathcart. He knew him well; he had heard hundreds speak of him, and many speak of him with moistened eyes after he fell. He had the spirit of a soldier and the patriotism of a Scotchman. (Renewed applause.) Sir H. Stewart then referred with pleasure to the kindly reception which the army and navy had received at the hands of their countrymen on their return from active service, and predicted that when the country's extremity did come the fruits of that kindness would exhibit itself. (Cheers.) With regard to his appointment to another command, he would assume it with a determination to do his duty, to preserve his own temper, and to maintain his country's honour.—(Cheers.) Mr. Cobden was not more sensible of the advantages of peace than he was, and whether he was spared to come back here with the consciousness of having done his duty, or his bones left in another country or under the blue sea, he trusted that his conduct would be such as to give no man cause to regret the kind and affectionate greeting which had been given him that day. (Great applause.)"

"The Army and Navy" was proposed by Sir Archibald Alison. Later in the evening, the Duke of Argyll, proposing "The Memory of the Heroes who fell in the last War," also spoke of Lord Raglan:—"I need not tell you that, in now mentioning him again, I do not wish for a single moment to touch upon those questions which have been matters of controversy in regard to the conduct of this last war. Suffice it for me to tell you, as I can safely say, that the history of that war has not yet been written, and that it will be for another generation to judge of the late Lord Raglan. As far as my means of observation can go, I can sincerely say that there was no nobler specimen of a British soldier ever born than the late Lord Raglan. I mention him simply as a soldier who fell at his post of duty; not, indeed, by the bullet of the enemy, but by the pestilence that walked at noon day among the gallant troops of Great Britain."

The only remaining toast worthy of note was "Miss Florence Nightingale and the Lady Nurses," which was proposed by the Rev. Dr. McCulloch.

## The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, JAN'Y. 24, 1857.

### THE CHURCH'S LIFE.

There is nothing more conducive to religious activity in any denomination, than a knowledge that all the members of the body are engaged in its work, and according to their several ability promoting its interests. This is so well understood, that dissenting journals teem with notices of the doings of their ministry, and the cooperation of the people, in every place or quarter where the former are stationed. The Church alone appears to regard this kind of publicity with suspicion, and as of no account, or is remarkably careless or negligent of its use. If we at any time examine the pages of those authorized mediums by which various bodies of professing Christians, disseminate intelligence of their affairs, we shall find them filled with records of missionary exertions, the history of their revivals, the peculiar working of their systems, relations of conversions from other persuasions, accounts of numbers added to their church through the effective ministrations of their preachers, obituaries of those who have manifested confidence in the hour of death in the principles in which they have been educated or have adopted, and many other things particularly or generally interesting to their own people. Such intelligence is not drawn from the immediate vicinity where those papers are printed, but is the gathering together of a wide spread correspondence, and is the operation of a recognized system, by which these various bodies strengthen the faith of their adherents, and afford them arguments which convince their own souls, and serve them in their collisions with other persuasions. They all know from one extremity of the country to the other, what each section of the body is doing, and what is its progress, and from this they judge of the temporal and spiritual health of the whole, and are thus able to supply strength to the weaker parts, and to encourage the strong to renewed efforts. And when their yearly gatherings take place—their *Synodical* meetings—the fund of information thus disseminated bears its fruit in the assemblage of much larger numbers than could be produced by the *quiescent* system, of those entitled to take part in the business; and in an eager desire in all who belong to them, and are within the distance of fifty miles, to learn what is then to be done, to engage in the devotional services of the occasion, and to make preparation for carrying out the measures that may be devised to give greater efficiency to the denominational operations.

In all such things the Church has been and is wonderfully deficient. Instead of that which would make for her increase or peace, the pages of some periodicals that style themselves Church papers are filled with insinuations against her Bishops and Clergy, and manifest a desire to decry and retard, rather than to advance her operations. In others the columns that might be filled with records of her progress, instructive biographies of her children, interesting incidents in the work of her pastors, lessons drawn from the bed of sickness or of death, instances of happy release from the cares of mortality—are filled with political news and secular events, all well enough in their way, but destitute of any charm to work such an effect as is produced by the dissenting organs. Churchmen may depend upon it that there is a good deal to be learned from the practice in this respect of their dissenting brethren. It may be merely denominational policy on their part, a system to work upon the sympathies of human nature for secular objects through religious influences. These descriptions may be exaggerated in some instances, and in others they may not be unamenable to the charge of hypocritical dening with men's consciences. We may believe all this, and may learn from them what to avoid if we should adopt their practice. But perhaps, this part of the denominational system which enlists the religious sympathies of various localities by means of the press, is no more to be charged with folly than is any other mode of promulgating the truth, by human agency, and therefore in some degree liable to human imperfection. The best test of its usefulness and worth is the increased energy of which it is the promoter, and that while it restrains within one fold, it imparts the activity and zeal that is wanted to invigorate the spiritual life, and to enlarge and extend the denominational pastures.

Now we have seen that the Church neglects this means of mutual knowledge and co-operation. By way of illustration we may observe that its branch at

Annapolis knows nothing of its branch at Cape Breton, except what may be gathered from a notice in *The Church Times*, once a year, of the meeting of the Local Committee of the Church Society. We venture to affirm, that up to the time of the meeting of the Synod, when delegates arrived at the capital from various parts of the Province, not one in fifty of the members of the Church, at either of the extremities we have mentioned, could name a dozen out of all the places where her clergy are stationed—and the probability is that he would know nought of the Church beyond his own parish. In fact, until the Synodical proceedings gave indication of some degree of life in the body, it may be said that nothing at all was publicly known of its wants or its hopes. Thank God for the Synod! It will periodically do a great deal in its proper place to compensate this great, this woful deficiency.

Churchmen, we think, cannot but see that our ignorance of the affairs of the Church and of each other, must impede her progress and retard her usefulness. The Church is too quiet. Her clergy, content with the unobtrusive discharge of their duties, and the people satisfied with their performance, have never considered the importance of this requirement. The spirit of the age, however, is strong to urge them on, and we hope they will not be satisfied, as year after year rolls by, that they have witnessed nothing in their ministration—nothing in their parochial labors—nothing of the joys and sorrows of the flocks committed to their charge—nothing that may affect them for weal or woe, in time and for eternity—worthy of being recorded in the pages of their Church paper. We say, therefore, to the laity—write for your Church as well as assist her with your means. To the clergy, especially, we say—write. Such efforts will have an effect beyond your own parishes—in your experience there are many good deeds which if recorded, would stir up your brethren to emulation in other places—show your zeal to the world, and you will make it infectious—communicate your difficulties and trials, and how you have overcome them, it will prevent despondency and discouragement past your own border—record the blessings you have received, in so far as may be meet, and it will awaken an interest abroad in your piety and make it attractive—write, and it will create an abiding interest in your Church paper—and by increasing a knowledge of the Church, will diffuse her principles. While you preach and pray for the Church, add this to your labors, that you write for her also, exercising the talent judiciously, and it will be to you an exceeding great reward.

THE R. M. Steamship *America* arrived on Sunday evening last, after a lengthy passage of 15 days from Liverpool. She brings the full particulars of intelligence received by telegraph from New York. It appears that Great Britain is again committed to hostilities with China, which may have serious consequences for the Celestial nation, and the present dynasty, harassed as it is by an army of rebels, who seek to overthrow it.

The accounts from Persia and India afford no satisfactory solution of the difficulties with the former. The information is conflicting, on one side that the Shah is prepared to make every concession, and on the other that there is no desire manifested to come to terms. The Persian difficulty will not be long of settlement after the Paris conference has concluded a satisfactory arrangement with Russia.

The dispute between Prussia and Switzerland relative to the Neuchâtel affair, remains in *statu quo*. Both parties are making hostile preparations—but it is expected that both will stop short of active warfare, and that the questions which have led to the embroilment will be disposed of in a satisfactory manner to all concerned.

Our readers will find in the columns of the *Church Times* this week, an account of a banquet given to Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, in which is contained some information elicited from the gallant Admiral, relative to proceedings in the Crimea during the war. Admiral Stewart was actively engaged in superintending the transport service at Malta during the war. He will shortly be the Naval Commander-in-Chief on the North American and West Indian Station.

### THIS WAY, 97TH.

The last words of Capt. Hedley Vickers—a song written by Miss Todrig, Music by Frederic Shirlwell. A few copies received at the news agency of

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Rimmell's Perfumed Almanac for 1857. Punch's Pocket Book, 1857. Punch's Almanac for 1857. The London Journal, Family Herald, and other monthly periodicals, received per steamer at the News Agency of

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Also, Morton's Farmer's Almanac, and other London Almanacs for 1857.