

work, they had previously contributed; but it is some consolation to know that it was less a deliberate sacrifice of principle on the part of the representatives of the nation than a timid surrender to infidel clamour and opposition, veiled as usual under the imposing name of political expediency, by which this anti-British and unconstitutional desertion of the Gospel cause was brought about. And happy are we to think that the nation, by the blessing of an interposing Providence, is awaking from its lethargy, and putting forth its might in conservation of those principles by which alone a nation can be blessed.

But, in contemplation of the great and sudden difficulties which, by this Parliamentary dereliction of Christian duty, have been begotten, we cannot refrain from expressing our opinion that the venerable Society,—to which the Protestant Episcopal churches of America look with so kindly, so filial a regard,—acted not the part which, from their well known sense of justice and honourable and conscientious dealing, was precisely to be looked for. At that moment of embarrassment, we conceive that it did not become them to permit their old, and tried, and faithful servants, who had spent their choicest youth and were growing prematurely aged in the duties of their laborious service;—it did not, we think, become them to leave these almost worn-out labourers deprived of nearly a moiety of the narrow stipend with which their services had been previously rewarded. It is true that the amount of reduction has since been lessened; but still it is great enough to bring often most painfully to mind how fallacious is the policy of paring down and straitening the income of a clergyman to the mere possibility of a subsistence. Estimating the loss of premium upon bills, formerly an important advantage possessed by the clergy in drawing upon England, and the actual reduction of 15 per cent upon their previous salaries, fully £50 per annum, of the currency of the country, is lost to those who commenced their ministry, in the vigorous days of youth, and with no dependents around them, upon the undiminished amount of the Society's fullest allowance.

It may be said that this was a consequence not to be avoided, and that nothing but an insurmountable necessity would have permitted an embarrassment so distressing to the highly-prized servants of the Society. We must be allowed to express our doubt of the existence of any such necessity. Had the people of England been appealed to, specifically on this behalf,—and that they ought thus to have been appealed to, none can deny,—the means would have been raised, in a week, by which every shilling of the just dues to the servants of the Society could have been defrayed. And, pending the result of such an appeal, no extraordinary difficulty, we apprehend, would have been experienced in anticipating the requisite amount by way of loan upon the security of their funded property;—and nothing more than an act of common justice would have been performed, had the amount of legal debt been appropriated, in the interval, from the funded property itself!

We believe that the venerable Society has never yet fairly considered this view of the subject;—if they did, we cannot repress the assurance that they would feel themselves bound, by a conscientious and solemn sense of duty, to pay to every clergyman, during his life, or during at least the faithful discharge of his duties, the "utmost farthing" of the allowance which they originally covenanted to advance. We might dwell long and strongly upon this subject, from our knowledge of the distressing embarrassments and the pinching penury to which many, by this very serious abatement of income, have been reduced; and the more so, because, as their years wear away and their wants increase, we could wish to see the present gloomy prospects which await their "fatherless children and widows" somewhat brightened and alleviated by a timely act of justice on the part of those from whom they have a right to demand it.

To the fullest extent of this obligation we cannot help believing that the venerable Society, upon a proper representation, would feel conscientiously alive; nor can we doubt their further willingness to persevere in that field of duty to which their attention is so powerfully directed by the Bishop of Montreal. Both Upper and Lower Canada have still a legitimate claim upon their benevolent consideration; and we have only to remind them of the thousands of Protestant families who yearly emigrate to these Provinces, and of the tens of thousands of immortal souls who are thus left to stray, in the moral waste, without a directing shepherd,—to beset, we should hope, the determination to apply a redoubled energy towards the succour of those whose cry is so loud and so wide to their better provided countrymen to "come over and help" them. As our limits, not less than the patience of our readers, remind us of the necessity of brevity, we would briefly suggest that were a couple of thousand pounds appropriated annually in each Province towards the support merely of itinerating Missionaries, an incalculable good would be achieved. And surely, if, to effect this holy object, an augmentation to the present resources of the Society be needed, the people of England would not listen to a further appeal, on this behalf, unmoved or in vain. The income of the Church Missionary Society seems, somehow, to be quadruple that of the Propagation Society; but can it be that, while professors of the Gospel feel,—as they ought to feel,—for the benighted and unconverted heathen, they have no hearts nor sympathy for destitute countrymen and expatriated Christians? Let the appeal, with all the weight and influence of our Society, be made, and we shall answer for the result.

DEATH OF THE LORD BISHOP OF QUEBEC.

Recent accounts from England had prepared us for the intelligence which it is now our mournful duty to announce,—the death of our revered and beloved Bishop. He expired on the 19th July, at the house of his nephew the Earl of Galloway,—aged 63.

So extensively was his Lordship known;—so well acquainted are all classes and denominations of persons in these Provinces, yes, and throughout all the churches of this continent, with the evangelical virtues and christian worth of our lamented Diocesan, that to offer any lengthened tribute of eulogy were rather to mar than add those solemn sensations which this loss to the Christian world will awaken. He was, emphatically, an Apostolic Bishop;—single hearted and sincere in his devotion to the Redeemer's cause; of never-tiring zeal in extending the blessings of that faith which was so precious to himself; a self-denying follower in the steps of that crucified Master who "gave himself a ransom for all."

Allied by birth to the wealthy and titled of the realm; approaching, in family connexion, close to the grade of royalty itself,—the departed bishop left, in the days of his brightest earthly promise, the home and country of his fathers, and toiled for years, like the humblest of Christ's devoted labourers, amongst the scattered sheep in the wilds of Canada. And long will they, amongst whom his first missionary years were spent, remember the warmth of unaffected piety, the devoted earnestness of zeal, and the boundless benevolence of heart, by which his faithful declaration of the Gospel message was uniformly accompanied.

Untutored in the ways of the world, a stranger to its intrigues, and unambitious of its perishable and unsatisfying honours, he bore to the Episcopal throne the simple and unostentatious spirit of the Missionary;—transferring to those who now constituted his more especial charge the same anxious care and paternal affection which had so eminently characterized him as the pastor of a flock. Who, indeed, amongst the Clergy of this Diocese, had not experienced from our departed Bishop the sympathy of a friend and the kindness of a father?

Much might we say in grateful recollection of that Apostolic prelate,—who had known him so long and well, who saw his Christian character developed under so many varieties of circumstances, and who had been honoured by so many tokens of his undeserved favour and regard! Under every circumstance of care and trial, putting often to the test his Christian fortitude and firmness, our lamented Bishop continued on the same unvarying, even-minded Christian, knowing no will but His who bade his disciples "follow Him;"—actuated by no ambition but that of being the humble instrument, in his God and Saviour's hand, of bringing many to the "knowledge of the truth."

His Lordship, as has been often remarked, had grown prematurely aged. The toilsome duties of his missionary life, and the complicated cares of the Episcopate,—borne at a period when so many outward causes of discouragement were added to anxiety from within, had, earlier than his years would seem to cause, enfeebled his frame, and relaxed the vigour of his mind.

To the last, his thoughts were intent upon the work which was "given him to do;"—and ourselves have seen him, since the disease which has terminated his useful life had gained, as all believed, a fatal hold upon him,—in intervals of bodily weakness and mental prostration, gathering up his energies, and speaking with wonted animation upon the plans and prospects of his arduous duties.

Cherishing towards him, as we know all our brethren did, sentiments not merely of reverential affection as their spiritual Father in God, but of filial love as their never-varying personal friend and benefactor, we feel that there is one wish of which his clergy will mourn the disappointment,—that they might have received their Bishop's blessing before he died!

He has finished his course and fought the good fight; and, with the fullest assurance of faith, we believe that he has exchanged the earthly mitre for a heavenly crown.

CHURCH STATISTICS AND INTELLIGENCE.

RECTORY OF AMHERSTBURG.

Rev. Frederic Mack, Incumbent. Divine service is performed in the Church at Amherstburg twice on each Sunday, the third Sunday in each month excepted, when afternoon worship only is performed. On that day, in the forenoon, attendance is given at Colchester, about 15 miles distant. The congregation at this place is rapidly increasing, and would now fully employ the services of a resident minister. As the population in the neighbourhood of Amherstburg consists chiefly of Roman Catholics, and as the troops, formerly stationed at this post, have been withdrawn, the congregation there is not numerous; but an increase is anticipated from the gradual settlement of the Huron Reserve in the immediate vicinity of the town.

The Sunday School in Amherstburg has been prosperously conducted through the pious zeal and Christian philanthropy of Lewis G. Gordon Esq.—who, though unaided, has persevered in his useful work, obeying the divine precept, "Be not weary in well doing."

The Minister of Amherstburg rejoices in bearing testimony to the pious liberality of his little flock in contributing not only to all the needful repairs of the Church, but to the augmentation of his own insufficient salary. And here he would desire to express his grateful acknowledgments to some unknown member of his congregation for a munificent gift lately presented to him, "the administration of which service not only supplieth the want, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; while by the experiment of this ministration he glorifies God for their professed subjection unto the Gospel of Christ." Nor should he omit here to bear testimony to the zeal of the ladies of his congregation in furnishing the means of ornamenting the church with the becoming draperies, &c.

For the year ending July 31st 1837, there were in Amherstburg, Baptisms 7; Marriages 6; Burials 5; Communicants 30.

We have some little time been in possession of the intelligence of the lamented death of the Lord Bishop of Madras, but it is only during the present week that we have been furnished with the particulars of that melancholy event. The estimable and lamented prelate died at Madras on the 5th February last, aged 59;—another added to the list of Episcopal martyrs in the East. We subjoin the following testimony to the high estimation in which the departed bishop was deservedly held,—and propose to furnish a short sketch of his life in our next:—

Fort St. George, Madras, Feb. 7th, 1837.

With feelings of unfeigned sorrow, the Rt. Hon. the Governor in Council records the demise of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Madras. The Venerable Prelate expired at half past three o'clock on the morning of Saturday last. As a tribute of respect for his memory, the flag of the garrison was hoisted half-staff high during the day, and on the funeral procession leaving

his Lordship's late residence, fifty-nine minute guns, corresponding with the age of the deceased, were fired from the Fort battery.

His Lordship's remains were attended to the grave by the Right Hon. the Governor, the Judges of the Supreme Court, His Excellency the Commander in Chief, the Members of the Council, all the principal Civil and Military Functionaries of the Presidency, and an immense concourse of all classes of the community, desirous of manifesting the feeling of respect which the unaffected piety, benevolence, and exemplary life of the Bishop had universally inspired.

Published by order of the Right Honble. the Governor in Council.

H. CHAMBER, Chief Secretary.

The duties of the Episcopate of Madras, it appears, devolve upon the Bishop of Calcutta, until the vacancy can be supplied. From the Bishop of Calcutta, a Madras paper states, that accounts had been received, dated Lucknow, 24th January, 1837. We have ourselves lately been favoured with the perusal of a letter, dated Cawnpore Jan. 27th, in which it is stated that his Lordship was then at that place, in good health, and was engaged in laying, at that station, the foundation of a new church.

LETTER OF THE LORD BISHOP OF MONTREAL.

(Continued from our last.)

I have been desirous of thus exhibiting at one view the successive steps which have been taken towards the regular establishment of the Church of England in Canada, in order distinctly to shew, that a proper branch of the Established Church of England has been there constituted and recognised by formal, solemn, and repeated Acts of the Government and Legislature of Great Britain.

If then after all that has been here stated, the protection of England is to be withdrawn, according to the tenor of late proceedings and declarations of authority, from this branch of the Establishment, it would appear that such a dereliction must be founded either upon the fact that the experiment has failed, and that the means which have been provided are without an object in the country which calls for their application; or else that the country itself can now afford those means in some form which had not been anticipated, and that not only the season has come for weaning the infant establishment from the bosom of the parent state, but that new supplies have offered themselves upon the spot, which dispense with all necessity for retaining the provision originally assigned for the Church.

Now, with respect to the first point, the fact is as opposite to the supposition just taken as can be well conceived. The demand for the ministrations of the Church of England in the Canadas has been constantly progressive from the date of the conquest; the supply has never at any one period been sufficient; and its inadequacy is at this moment felt more severely than ever.—Upon the arrival of Bishop Mountain, he found six Clergymen established in the whole diocese, with, I believe, fewer churches. During his Episcopate the number of Clergy was augmented by means of the bounty of Government and the Society to upwards of fifty, and a corresponding number of churches was erected. The number of both (I am not speaking with minute precision) has been since doubled. I am in possession of abundant documents to shew that the applications to bishops for Ministers, during all this period have far exceeded the means at their command to answer them; and that even on the part of religious bodies, not originally episcopal, there has existed, in many instances, a decided disposition to coalesce with the Church (see note B.)—a disposition which might have been improved to the happiest advantage for the permanent interests of religion in the Colony, but for the frequent inability of the Bishops to provide for the demand, and the unsettled condition of questions relating to the reserves.

Of the fruitful and prosperous labours of the present Bishop, when a missionary, for the space of twenty years, either stationary or itinerant through the whole diocese, it must be unnecessary to speak; the churches of which he procured the erection, the congregations which he formed, the happy change which he was often the instrument of effecting in the habits of the people, are the witnesses of his acceptance among them, and the monuments of his success. It is indeed difficult to suppose that the Clergy would have persevered in the fatigues and exertions which, in numerous instances, they have undergone, unless they had been stimulated at once by experiencing a desire on the part of the people for their ministrations, and a hope in their own breasts, from what they had been permitted to effect, that the Divine blessing was with them in their work.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The beautiful poem on the "STONEHENGE" by a deceased Oxfordian, shall have an insertion.

J. C.'s translation from Tasso, shall also have a place in "The Church" as soon as possible. His Essay is also received; but we should be gratified by the possession of some further numbers of his proposed course, before commencing with their publication.

The "Saturday Preacher, No. IV." is designed for our next; to which, under the same title, the excellent reflections of Rufus shall, shortly, succeed.

The poem of JUAN is received, and shall have an insertion.

We regret to be obliged so greatly to abridge the portion of the interesting letter of the Bishop of Montreal, designed for insertion in this Number,—as well as still to postpone the communication from Belleville, in relation to the monumental tablet of the late Rev. Thos. Campbell. The notice of the late Bishop of Quebec, the intelligence of whose death arrived at so late a period of the week, has compelled these omissions.

LETTERS received during the week ending Friday Sept. 1st:—Rev. L. Doolittle, subs.: Rev. J. Shortt; Rev. M. Burnham, add. sub.: Wm. Proudfoot, Esq., rem.: Rev. E. Boswell, [the package of No. 9 for Carleton-Place, was duly sent from this office; it must, through some mistake or accident, have been opened on the way; but should the missing papers not be recovered we shall endeavor to replace them.] Rev. W. Leeming, [his new subscriber is supplied as he requests.] Rev. J. C. Usher, subs. and rem.: Mr. James Vrooman, [the Nos. required are sent.] T. Griffith, Esq., subs.: B. Y. McKyes, Esq., add. sub.: Rev. W. D. Baldwin, [his desire is attended to.] Rev. W. Macaulay.