

that in "whatsoever we do," we are to consult the interests of religion.

Now Dissent is not something indifferent and passive, it is hostile and active in its relation to the Church, and every Churchman knows that it is. What Churchman, then, is there who can conscientiously withhold that unequivocal disavowal due to the Church's enemies? "He that is not with us is against us," said He who spake as never man spake; but how much more is he against us who gives countenance to our declared enemies!

Every one knows how Dissenters speak of the Church, every one is aware of the organised system which they have prepared for its overthrow—refusing rates, hiring mock martyrs, calumniating all orders of the clergy. This is said to be all extremely Liberal, and the shield of conscience is extended for its protection.

THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1841.

Probably before the issue of our next number, the event so long anticipated with hope in some quarters and with alarm in others, and on which there has been so much speculative wisdom expended, will have taken place.—we mean the UNION OF THE PROVINCES.

Many of our public functionaries have, it is said, been summoned to Montreal, the present head quarters of our civil and military authorities, to be present at this nuptial tie; and may there be verified, in this instance, the poet's description of a kindred bond,—

"Folices ter et amplius, Quos irrupta tenet copula, nec malis Divulsus querimonibus Suprema citius solvet amor die."

May it prove the cement of British connexion,—the harbinger of an union of hearts and hands in the noble work of extinguishing civil feuds, in loyalty to our Queen, and in devotion to our country's good.

One of the earliest results from the proclamation of the Union will, doubtless, be an unpleasing one,—the bustle, the strife, the heart-burning of a General Election. The country has, for many months, been unusually tranquil, and most persons,—even the most restless amongst our unquiet spirits,—began to extol the comfort of this unwonted serenity; and many a well-regulated mind will regret that this gratifying calm is so soon to be broken, and every noisy disputant in politics is again to fret his hour upon the public arena.

We wish the country well over this approaching conflict, and the social disorganization which it begets; and while we anxiously desire, as in duty bound, that Conservative principles may maintain their pre-eminence, it would be well nigh "hoping against hope" to entertain any strong conviction of this as the general result.

In a limited Monarchy, the adoption of the representative system may be indispensable: the control of the authority which might otherwise become despotic must, in some way and to some extent, be exercised by the people; yet it is deeply to be lamented that, in our own mother country, during the last ten years, its strides have been so great towards the usurpation of a power dangerous to the very existence of the throne, and subversive of a principle of government which, as being revealed in God's own Word, the Christian must ever regret to see crippled or infringed upon.

If this limitation of the monarchy,—rendered needful from the infirmity of human nature,—is best exercised by the representative system, in conjunction of course with a separate hereditary estate, it does not appear a necessary inference that a similar control of the monarchical or executive power should be vested in the inhabitants of a Colony; for the representative power in the heart of the empire, supplies every requisite check to the assumption of absolute dominion in any of its dependencies.—Practical results will be found to bear us out in the belief that the delegation of this popular power to the Colonies only clogs the wheels of their administrations, renders the machinery of their government more intricate, and causes its whole working to be more dilatory and expensive.

Calm observers of Colonial histories come almost universally to the conclusion, that the concession of a representative constitution was more generous than wise; and that instead of contributing to the stability of their connexion with the Mother Country, it only serves to hasten the dissolution of the tie. In the Colonies there is almost a total absence of fitting materials for a popular legislature. With their inhabitants life is generally a struggle, and self-interest consequently will be made to mingle deeply with public acts and patriotic professions.

Local prejudices, too, are apt to sway more powerfully than general principles; and the permanent good of a Province is often sacrificed to the petty and temporary advantage of a country or a township. Combinations amongst members are, therefore, often made, involving mutual compromise: the canal at another extremity of the Province is conceded, if a bridge at another is allowed; and the court-house or divided district will be voted in one quarter, provided the railroad is granted in another! This species of political barter often works injuriously enough; but it is by no means always confined to matters of local and passing interest. The spirit which dictates it extends to the discussion and decision upon other points, of moral and universal concern; and its blighting influence will often be felt, where the vitality of the constitution or the integrity of our Christian establishment is submitted to popular debate. To check these manifold evils, we need a more independent and a more enlightened representation than Colonies in general can be expected to furnish; men who have extended their contemplations beyond the narrow circumference of their personal interests, and who will be content to sacrifice some local advantage for the obvious welfare of the whole.

And while we have this disadvantage to contend with, touching the composition of our popular assemblies, we are wholly without that intermediate control, both upon the people and the executive, which is furnished by a separate estate, possessed of a large and inalienable stake in the land, and who have an hereditary claim to a share in the government of their country as much as to the titles and honours which they bear. Where the latter is wanting, the popular assembly must be expected to exhibit all its native, because uncontrolled, viciousness; and this is generally soon discerned in every colony by its erection into a jealous and petulant rival of the executive authority. It is true we have our

Legislative Councils; but the members of these are not, either as to circumstances or privilege, standing in the position which is borne by the hereditary peers of the realm. They can form no standing class in the body politic: each fresh accession to its component parts becomes, as it were, an isolated and incidental thing; there can be no lively sympathy from common interest or privilege; they exhibit no link between past and present generations; and they are without the inherent power of ensuring a succession and perpetuating their office.

But we are bound to make the best of the existing state of things, and by prudence and forbearance on every side to mitigate, as far as we may, the political errors of a bygone day. The evils we have been enumerating will not be diminished by the approaching Union; for though, possibly, our popular Assembly may henceforward be more select, there will be a greater departure than ever from the resemblance which ought to subsist between our Legislative Council and the Peers of Great Britain. Yet, if the signs of the times permit us not to indulge in any very gratifying anticipations of the future, the apprehended calamities may, with the blessing of God, be happily mitigated by our own cheerful submission to constituted authority, and by the earnest inculcation of brotherly concord in our civil as well as our social relations. Let this be faithfully done; and the result may hopefully be left to Him "in whose hand is the king's heart," and who "maketh men to be of one mind in a house."

We have recently received a copy of a little work by Mr. A. J. Williamson, of this city, entitled "The Doctrines of Modern Geology refuted;" and we give a cheerful welcome to this auxiliary to the Gospel when standing on the defensive, as in these last days it is so often required to do, against the "opposition of science falsely so called." Many an eminent geologist, we can believe, has been, and is, a sound Christian; but to minds not thoroughly fortified by the truths of the Gospel, nor brought into a humble, child-like temper of dependence and obedience, by the grace of God, to His revealed will, the prosecution of that study too often proves a snare, leading on to be "wise above what is written," and causing its votaries to limit even the power of the Almighty by the rules and systems of a vain philosophy. There is too much truth in this remark of the late Rev. Edward Irving, "It is a poor mechanical age, with expediency for its pole-star, and reason for its divinity, and knowledge for its heaven.—Truly, O prophet, according to thy prophecy, 'many have run to and fro, and knowledge is increased.' And faith is waxed cold and faint, whereby also we know the latter day is at hand."

Modern geologists, from their examination of the combinations of strata in the earth, have promulgated their conviction that the world must have endured for thousands of years longer than the period ascribed to it by the Mosaic records: but rather than contradict the direct revelation of God's Word, they attempt to shew that the six days in which, it is asserted on Divine authority, that the heavens and the earth were made, may without any contradiction of the spirit of the Mosaic records be interpreted to mean as many thousands of years! It is always unsafe to advocate this species of strained interpretation, or to depart, unless in cases where the context plainly justifies it, from the letter of the Scriptures. Although, in many cases, metaphorical expressions are employed which it is impossible, without violence to the obvious sense of the passages where they occur, to interpret literally, still in matters of numerical calculation a departure from the exactitude of Scriptural language would be scarcely warrantable. One effect would be, by assuming any such hypothesis, to overturn every thing like chronological accuracy, in estimating the generations of men and in calculating the various eras and epochs in Scripture history, on which it is important that we should arrive at something like correctness. It would be better to leave unexplained the geological difficulty which may result from the admission that only six days were employed in the creation of the heavens and the earth, or to allow it to be ranked amongst the many things in nature, as in grace, past finding out, rather than drag it forward as a thesis for empty speculation, and the erection of theories which must disparage, in many minds at least, the credit which is due to the Divine Revelations.

A few years ago a very imposing display was made in England of the results of the investigations in various departments of natural history and science of learned men; and as far as they trespass not upon the authority of God's written word, we must hail them with admiration and gratitude. Amongst the topics then discussed with extraordinary learning and ability, was the science of geology; and, included in the theories flowing from investigations into that branch of natural history, was the opinion to which we have already adverted. These were theories, which, being felt to be dangerous to the credit of Divine Revelation, attracted the notice of several able Christian writers; and it is easy to perceive that the severe reproofs which they received in several of the religious periodicals of the day, have induced a much greater caution in the attempt to adapt the revelations of the heavenly wisdom to the theories of fallible and short-sighted mortals. In regard to the various strata found in the earth which, upon the admitted principles of geology, require thousands of years for their formation instead of the limited period assigned to the creation in Scripture, we would simply remark that as it is impossible to account for the Universal Deluge by any mere natural causes, so it may reasonably be considered equally impracticable to ascertain all the influence of that Deluge upon the internal conformation as well as the external appearance of the earth. The precipitation, for example, of large portions of vast mountains into valleys, with all the varieties of geological combinations which they contained, might, as the effect of the Deluge, be a sudden and a frequent thing; and therefore, through its operation in various ways, earthy, fossil or vegetable strata might come to be instantaneously thrown into a sort of orderly arrangement.

And what geology is in the physical, so perhaps may phrenology be considered to be in the moral world: we are far from pronouncing any condemnation upon the general principles of either; but as Christians, it becomes us to beware "lest haply," in limiting the Divine power in the one or the influence of his grace in the other, we be "found to fight against God."

The Annual Sermon in behalf of the Newcastle District Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge was preached in St. Peter's Church, Cobourg, on Sunday last, the 31st ultimo, by the Rev. Saltern Givins, Rector of Napanee and Missionary to the Mohawk Indians on the Bay of Quinté,—the result of which was a collection of £13 18s. in aid of its funds, augmented by a subsequent contribution from the congregation of Grafton of £1 9s. to the total sum, on that day, of £15 7s. The Sermon was one of the most complete and effective on this subject which we ever had the satisfaction of hearing,—setting forth a mass of the most interesting statistical information regarding that venerable and admirable Institution, and pressing the Christian duty of

contributing to the advancement of all works of piety and charity, in a strain which could not fail to make a very deep and useful impression.

On the evening of the following day, a public meeting was held in St. Peter's Church, Cobourg, in furtherance of the objects of the District branch of the same excellent Society, and it gives us great satisfaction to say that it was very numerous and respectfully attended. The chair having been taken by the Rev. C. T. Wade, the senior clergyman present, the business of the meeting was commenced with an invocation of the Divine blessing in a selection of Prayers from our admirable Liturgy; immediately after which was sung by the effective choir of St. Peter's Church, accompanied by the organ, Bishop Heber's Missionary Hymn. A report was then read, embracing the operations of the District Committee during the preceding two years,—in which was stated the following issue of publications in the course of that period:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Quantity. Bibles, 62; Testaments, 97; Prayer Books, 443; Bound Books and Tracts, 982.

The public have already been made aware of the munificence of the Parent Society in remitting the amount of debts due by the several Colonial Committees,—a liberal arrangement, by which the Newcastle District Committee have benefited to the extent of £70 sterling. Towards the liquidation of this debt a bill for £40 sterling had been transmitted to the Parent Society in the month of June last; but as this obligation had been antecedently cancelled, intimation was promptly conveyed that the £40 on that occasion transmitted stood at the credit of the Newcastle District Committee, and was available towards the purchase of a fresh supply of books. This Committee will be able, as the accounts of the Treasurer manifest, immediately to add to the late gift of the Parent Society a further sum of at least £30 sterling, to be expended in books for the replenishing of their several Depositories.

The following resolutions were subsequently proposed and passed,—the movers and seconders having added, generally, some appropriate and impressive remarks in furtherance of the objects they were intended to promote:—

- I. That the report now read be received, and that 200 copies of the same be printed for distribution amongst the members and friends of the Society in this District.
II. That the warmest thanks of this Committee to the Parent Society be recorded, for their liberality in remitting the amount of debt due by the Committee at the commencement of the last year.
III. That the thanks of this Committee be expressed to the Rev. Saltern Givins, for his able and effective appeal on their behalf to the congregation of St. Peter's Church, Cobourg, on Sunday the 31st January.

IV. That the several congregations of the Church of England throughout this District, be earnestly invited to co-operate with this Committee in forwarding the general designs of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, within the limits of the same.
V. That the education of children upon Christian principles is an imperative as well as important duty, and that for the advancement of this object in the town and neighbourhood of Cobourg it is expedient that a PAROCHIAL SCHOOL, be established in connexion with St. Peter's Church, to embrace the daily gratuitous instruction of those children whose parents,—such especially as are members of the Church of England,—are unable to provide it themselves; and that the Vestry of St. Peter's Church, in conjunction with the Rector thereof, be a Committee for immediately carrying into effect this desirable object.

VI. That the humble and fervent thanks of the Newcastle District Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, be now publicly expressed, that He has been graciously pleased to enable them to "continue unto this day," and to have begun, as they humbly hope, instruments of benefit to their fellow-Christians in this District.

Upon the fifth resolution, which, though associated collaterally with the general objects of the Society, is more local in its character, many animated and excellent remarks were offered by several gentlemen present. While the advantages of ordinary practical education were admitted, the solemn obligation of building it up upon a Christian foundation was earnestly pressed by the speakers, and seemed to be as cordially received by the hearers. Their hearty approbation of the plan now submitted was testified in a subscription, made at the close of the meeting, towards the erection of a building suitable for a Parochial School, of £93 10s. currency, while by the same individuals was contributed upon the spot the sum of £16 15s. towards the advancement of the general designs of the Society. We have little doubt that, in a few weeks, these amounts will be respectively doubled; a proof that the expectation of the Parent Society, expressed at the time of their cancelling the Colonial debts, is, in the District of Newcastle at least, not likely to be disappointed,—that an opportunity might be given of re-commencing their operations with zeal and vigour."

In reply to the correspondent who asks some explanation of recent expressions of our own in relation to the settlement of the Jews in the promised land, we beg to say that our remarks,—that "upon their spiritual recovery, the very fact of their being scattered throughout all lands may, from the missionary character which they would then possess, be more influential for good than their settlement in one country, though that be the country of their ancestors," was begotten, not by any doubt of the fact of their eventual restoration to the land of their forefathers, but to check any impatience that might be felt in some minds as to the seeming delay of this happy consummation and the continued degradation of this most interesting people. Those remarks,—and they might perhaps have been more explicit and less exposed to misconception,—were meant to show, that even if the restoration of God's ancient people should be longer protracted than many sanguine believers in this event are led to anticipate, there is no room for murmur or disappointment, because even in their scattered and isolated capacity they may be rendered eminent instruments of good,—as being a body of missionaries already planted in all lands, ready in God's good time to vindicate His truth and preach the gospel to every creature.

We are glad to perceive, from the Ecclesiastical Gazette for December, that it has been determined to proceed, without further delay, with the plan proposed in the Bishop of London's letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury for the endowment of Colonial Bishops. In addition to the grant towards this object of £10,000 from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, already recorded, Her Majesty the Queen Dowager has announced her intention of contributing the munificent sum of £2000; the Archbishop of Canterbury, £1000; the Bishop of London, £1000; the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, £5000; and the Colonial Church Society, £1000. It is understood that the first objects to which the fund will be applied, will be the endowment of bishoprics in Malta and New Zealand. It is altogether probable that Jerusalem,—the scene of the crucifixion of the Saviour of the world, and emphatically termed the Holy City,—will be included under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Malta, when a prelate, so anxiously desired, should have been appointed to that island and the parts most contiguous.

Now, Mr. Campbell has only to inquire at the Depositories of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the British and Foreign Bible Society, and he will find that the actual prices paid by those societies to the printers of the Bible are—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Brevier Testament, s. d. 0 10; Minion Testament, 0 7; Minion Bible, 1 1; Minion Bible, fine, 4 5; Small Pica Bible, 7 3; Small Pica Bible, fine, 16 0.

We are requested to state that the following Circular, since the date which it bears, has been referred home, and has received the approbation of high Ecclesiastical authority in the Mother Country:—

Marchmont, near Quebec, 18th August, 1840.

Rev. Sir, The question having been more than once brought under my notice, whether it would not be proper to establish certain rules and restrictions in this Diocese, relative to the admission of monuments within the walls of our churches, I have given the best consideration which I beg to put up within any Church, the inscription prepared for which, shall not have been first approved by the clergyman in charge, upon the spot.

- 1. That no monument shall be put up within any Church, the inscription prepared for which, shall not have been first approved by the clergyman in charge, upon the spot.
2. That the privilege shall be confined to the case of persons who are habitual communicants of the Church.
3. That the fee to be received by the Clergyman, (established with a view of restraining the undue and inconvenient multiplication of monuments,) shall vary according to the circumstances of the congregation, but in no case shall exceed £10 for a mural tablet; or £20 for a monument of whatever magnitude or design; and in no case shall be less than £2 10s.; all differences upon the subject being referable to the decision of the Bishop.

The first of these rules must be made applicable in the case of tombstones and other memorials erected in burial grounds which are under the control of the Church of England. The second will in effect supersede the necessity of a rule which I have already intimated my desire to establish, respecting persons who have fallen victims to their compliance with the custom of duelling; it being presumed that no such persons will be found to have been numbered among our communicants.

I am, Rev. Sir, Your faithful and affectionate brother, (Signed) G. J. MONTREAL.

COMMUNICATION.

For the Church.

RESOLUTIONS passed at a Meeting held in Woodstock Church, on Monday, 18th January, 1841, to form a Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, to be denominated "The Brock District Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge," Rear-Admiral Vansittart in the chair:

Moved by the Rev. Wm. Bettridge, Rector, and seconded by J. ROYSE YELDING Esq. Resolved, That as Christians the call is imperative on us to supply our neighbours, as far as in us lies, with the sacred Scriptures, which are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ; and as Churchmen it is also our duty to provide the members of the Church with that "form of sound words" the "Book of Common Prayer" in the spiritual use of which, the public worship of Almighty God may be acceptably performed.

Moved by Captain Graham, R. N. seconded by Alex. Murray Esq. R. N. Resolved, That the fact, disclosed by the late census, of the existence of thousands in the District of London, (of which this District formed a part) who belong to no denomination, and who consequently must be supposed to be living without any participation in the privileges of Christ's Church, or in the communion of His blessed Sacraments, calls upon us to unite, in the strength of the Lord, and in the power of His might, to gather these wanderers into the one fold, of which Christ is the one Divine and gracious Shepherd.

Moved by Edward Buller, Esq. R. N., seconded by Frederick Fauquier Esq. Resolved, That a Committee be now therefore formed, to be denominated "The Brock District Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge." Which being once brought into active operation, and establishing depositories for Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books, and Tracts, in the various parts of the District, may warrant the hope, that the Word thus circulated shall not return void, but shall accomplish the end whereunto God appointed it; that subscriptions, however small, be requested, for the furtherance of the objects of the Society. And that the office-bearers and members of the Committee be, viz.

- REAR-ADMIRAL VANSITTART, President.
REV. WM. BETTRIDGE, B. D., Rector, Joint Secretary.
J. ROYSE YELDING Esq., Secretaries.
HUGH BARWICK Esq., Treasurer.
COMMITTEE.
Colonel Light, Messrs. Elliott,
Captain Graham, R. N., " Sharp,
Edw'd Buller Esq., R. N., " Jones,
John G. Vansittart Esq., " Rich'd Adams,
Alex. Murray Esq., R. N., " Bartles,
Frederick Fauquier Esq., " Cummings,
Henry Finkle Esq., " Hart, and
" G. Edgar.

With power to add to their numbers.—That the President, Secretaries, and Treasurer, be ex officio members of the Committee. That the Committee meet once a quarter. That an annual public meeting be held, at which a Report of the proceedings of the year shall be read; and that the Rector be requested to preach a Sermon on the Sunday preceding such meeting, and to allow a collection to be made in behalf of the Society. Further, that the Secretaries be authorised to acquaint the Bishop of the Diocese and the Parent Society, with the formation of this Committee. (Signed) HENRY VANSITTART, Rear-Admiral, President and Chairman.

WM. BETTRIDGE, J. ROYSE YELDING, Joint Secretaries. Woodstock, Jan. 18th, 1841.

ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

NOBLE ACT OF CHRISTIAN MUNIFICENCE.—We have heard of another of those acts of splendid liberality which dignify and adorn the character of the people among whom they occur. The Zoological Society, as we are informed, was indebted to the Rev. J. Clowes in no less a sum than 17000; and the Rev. gentleman finding that the funds of the society were by no means adequate to the successful realisation of the objects contemplated by its supporters, sent the directors a release from the debt, on the sole condition that the gardens should not be opened to the public on the Sabbath. The condition annexed attests the Christian principle from which this munificent act emanated.—Manchester Chronicle.

OPENING OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WOODSIDE, BRKENHEAD.—The new church in the increasingly important and populous parish of Birkenhead was opened on Friday last. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a large and respectable congregation attended. An admirable sermon was preached by the Rev. Fielding Ould, Incumbent of Christ Church, in this town; and a collection made for the erection of new school-houses within the district, in connexion with the Church. We trust the exertions of the Incumbent, the Rev. Joseph Baylee, for promoting education in his district, will be warmly responded to. The population of the whole parish is increasing at the rate of 2000 annually; it now amounts to 10,000.—Liverpool Standard.

CIRCULATION OF BIBLES.

(From the Oxford Herald.)

Dr. Thomson, of Coldstream, and Mr. Campbell, are holding meetings in different towns of the North of England, for the purpose of creating a feeling hostile to the authorised printers of the Bible, on the plea that the prices now paid for Bibles are extravagantly high.

At a meeting recently held at Liverpool, Mr. Campbell is reported to have said that the monopolists' prices are—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Brevier Testament, s. d. 0 10; Minion Testament, 0 7; Minion Bible, 1 1; Minion Bible, fine, 4 5; Small Pica Bible, 7 3; Small Pica Bible, fine, 16 0.

Now, Mr. Campbell has only to inquire at the Depositories of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the British and Foreign Bible Society, and he will find that the actual prices paid by those societies to the printers of the Bible are—

pose that any book so large as the Bible could be printed without errors; but Mr. Campbell is referred to the Report on King's Printer's Patent (Scotland), 1837, where he will find at page 50, that, in order to obtain as much accuracy as possible, the University of Oxford offers the following rewards:—A sovereign to any person pointing out an error affecting the sense, in any of the latest editions of the Bibles or Testaments printed at the University Press; and half-a-crown for a typographical error. Why is it that no claims have ever been made on the University printers, by either Mr. Campbell or Dr. Thomson?

A meeting was lately held at Bakewell for the purpose of raising funds to rebuild the dilapidated parish church; the amount required exceeded 50000, a very great matter; the Duke of Rutland sent the munificent sum of 10000, to the committee, and the Duke of Devonshire 5000. Subscriptions to a considerable amount were raised at the meeting. Leicester Journal.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—We have been favoured with the following extract of a letter from a clergyman of the Scottish Episcopal Church to his friend in Canada, which gives a pleasing view of the prospects of this long depressed, and venerable branch of Christ's Catholic Church:

"Intimately connected as the outward decency and respectability of the Church are with her usefulness, you will rejoice to hear of the steps that have been taken since you left, for the more recent maintenance of her Clergy. I allude to our new Church Society, which is succeeding beyond our most sanguine expectations. Last year the incomes of the Clergy were all raised to £80; a very great matter, when you think of what some of them had before. This year the same minimum has been kept up, and considerable sums have been distributed for enabling aged Clergymen to procure assistants, for building chapels, &c. From the relief this Society has given to the Episcopal fund, the trustees have been enabled to double the allowance to the Bishops, or nearly so—altogether the Church Society this year distributed £1500, and funded £1300. If it shall meet with the same support in future years, it will prove a means of great usefulness. Already it has cheered the hearts of many, who hardly knew, although they were satisfied with the present necessities of life, how, as we say, to make the two ends of the year meet. You will have heard of the Bill passed last year for removing the remaining restrictions of the Penal laws, or nearly so. We are now allowed to officiate occasionally in England, and thus clerical communion is established between the two Churches. Some speak of this as a piece of late and niggard justice, but I know, that the heads of the English Church could not venture to go the lengths in our favour that they wished. As a first instalment we shall be pleased with it. Indeed I am disposed to look at it in a more favourable view than some do. It is of great importance, have got our Episcopacy and the jurisdiction of our Bishops recognised by Parliament. No one can now sneer at the name of Scottish Bishops. Then as to full communion—this affects the English Church, not us. They cut themselves off from us by their political arrangements,—not we from them. I am happy however to say that great interest is now taken in England, in the state of our Church. We have many more warm-hearted friends there, than we had some few years ago. Perhaps their difficulties and troubles are making them look more steadily to the nature of the Church as a religious society, independent of any political considerations. In consequence, the Catholic and Primitive order and faith, the only true basis of our Union, are becoming better understood. You can not think what exertions are making by the Clergy and laity of the Church in England. They seem to be busying themselves in earnest, and as a natural consequence the Church is gaining on the hearts of the people. To return to ourselves, there have not lately been a great many changes among us. Bishop Gleig died in the spring, and as you know the Rev. David Moir succeeded him in the Diocese of Brechin. The Primate is, I regret to say, in a very poor state of health, but he is to be able to deliver his usual course of lectures to the young men preparing for the ministry. Some new chapels have been lately built—a very beautiful one is just about completed at Portsoy, where Mr. Cooper has the charge; a new one is building at Fraserburgh in connexion with a monument by the Rev. John now executing by Mr. Alexander Ritchie, an distinguished Scottish Sculptor, and pupil of the famous Thorwaldsen at Rome; and at Alloa and Inverness, they have also erected new churches."

From another letter received recently from Scotland by our correspondent, we are also happy to learn that the proposed Scottish Episcopal University is in progress under high auspices, and that the eminent Scottish architect, Mr. John Henderson of Edinburgh, has been engaged to prepare the necessary plans for the building, which it is stated will be on a scale calculated to increase the attractions of the far-famed metropolis of Scotland, and to reflect additional lustre on the reputation of the architect.

Civil Intelligence.

CONTINUATION OF NEWS RECEIVED BY THE COLUMBIA.

As our English Files have not yet arrived, we are compelled to draw from other sources a more diffusive account of Foreign Intelligence than we were able, owing to the want of space, to furnish in our last. For the following we are indebted to some of our Montreal contemporaries.

A terrific thunderstorm passed over London on the morning of the 31st inst., accompanied with violent wind and hail, and vivid lightning. Much damage was done among the trees in Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park, St. James's, and the Regent's Parks, numbers of them being shivered to pieces. At the seat of the Earl of Mansfield at Caenwood, Highgate, immense damage was done. The steeple of St. Andrew's Church, on the Croydon road, was struck, and the building took fire, doing considerable damage. A great portion of the clock tower of Spitalfields Church received so much injury from being struck by the lightning that it will have to be pulled down and rebuilt.

An accident occurred on the London and Brighton Railway on the 24th inst. by which three persons were killed. It was occasioned by the giving way of an archway, and the falling of a large quantity of earth. It was reported that another similar accident had taken place, and a number of lives lost. Since the commencement of the works on this line, the railroad has furnished the Sussex County Hospital with between 300 and 400 accidents, and about 70 or 80 lives have been lost, exclusive of the accidents above mentioned.

The Steamer Clyde, from Newcastle for Gibraltar, put into Corunna, where she took fire and was burnt to the water's edge. No lives lost.

There was an accidental collision between H. M. mail steamer Merlin, and a river steamer, on the morning of the 5th January. The former sustained very serious injury, and was obliged to put back into Liverpool.

In a severe storm on the coast of Syria, the English ship-of-war Zebra was wrecked, and seven of the crew drowned. Several other ships-of-war narrowly escaped shipwreck.

There has been a tremendous storm on the Black Sea, and many vessels were driven ashore and lost.

A frightful occurrence took place on Christmas morning, at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Francis street, Dublin. One of the planks upon which the people are accustomed to kneel, owing to the pressure of the people standing on it, broke. This created an alarm, and a rush was made for the door, and so great was the crowd that more than a hundred people were thrown down and trampled upon. Three persons were killed and several more severely injured.

It has been ascertained that upwards of 100 seamen, connected with the ports of Newcastle upon Tyne and Sunderland, unhappily perished in the awful storms which raged on the eastern coast in the month of November—many of them leaving wives and children in a miserable state of destitution.

There has been an awful fire at Dundee, by which three churches, being connected, were burnt down.

Lord Cardigan was hissed out of Drury Lane Theatre, recently.

The Queen Dowager of Spain arrived at Leghorn, 21st ult.

We find no confirmation of the rumour that Prince Louis Napoleon was to be liberated from prison. He is, however, allowed to correspond with his friends.

The elegant mansion of Mr. Hoare, the Banker, in St. James's Park, was totally destroyed by fire.

The Hon. T. C. Robertson has succeeded Lord Auckland to the Governor-Generalship of India, pro tem.

THE CHARTISTS.—On Friday a Chartist meeting of at least 5000 people took place at Merthyr-Tydvil, for the purpose of petitioning the Queen and Parliament to pardon Frost and his companions, now undergoing sentence of transportation in Australia. Several well known itinerant agitators addressed the assembly; some of the speeches were delivered in the Welsh language. The whole affair passed off without any breach of the peace. Circulars were sent round to the clergy, inviting them to attend the meeting, but of course they were not accepted. A son of Frost and a son of Zephaniah Williams addressed the meeting. Hereford Journal.

In comparing the list of ships in commission at the present period with the list of those in active service last January, we find the strength of the navy at sea is increased by three three-deckers, two eighty-fours, three fifties, five sloops of war, and seven first class steamers, forming an addition to our defence of 294 guns &