

Thus he is constantly liable to deception, imposition, and fraud; to uncertainty, excessive anxiety, and mismanagement respecting his affairs.

Without education, he is denied the noble enjoyment of the superior part of his nature,—the pleasures of knowledge, thought, and intellect. It was designed by the Great Creator that man should derive much of his happiness from mind—that peculiar bestowment by which he is distinguished, and which elevates him above the brute, but the unfortunate fisherman, for want of education derives but little pleasure from that source. The uncultivated mind can no more afford pleasure, profit, or fruit to its possessor, than can the untilled spot in the barren wilderness, or the barren fig tree in the desert. The illiterate man seldom realises any wants but those of a physical nature, and to supply these would seem to be the great object of his being. What wonder then that he should know but little of the great advantages of education, or should feel but little disposed to procure them for his children?

Without education, the fisherman is kept in a state of the many and increasing facilities, conveniences, and comforts of life. His mind unexercised and untought seldom leads him to better his condition. Shelter and the nearest necessities of life are the most he has been accustomed to: these secured, he is satisfied. He aspires to little beyond his present condition, nor speculates much beyond his little fishing craft, or the probable chances of next year's catch. Old fashions and contrivances are obstinately adhered to. He feels great contempt for all improvements—considers them mere fanciful innovations, wasteful expenditures, or assumptions of pride. It is true he does not feel the want of conveniences and comforts of which he has experienced nothing, but still how much more happy and better off he would be, did he possess the means both of knowing and enjoying them.

I have now afforded some account of the educational condition of our people, and also of that of the Nova Scotia fishermen generally; but it must be allowed that the former have not fallen victims to many of the evils generally prevalent. It is really matter of agreeable surprise that, considering the lack of means of obtaining education or knowledge, our fishermen along these shores are as respectable as they are. They are in many respects far superior to the generality of their class—a fact I can only account for by their constant intercourse with the more privileged Americans.

Permit me, before closing this paper, to ask what are the reasons why the educational advantages of the fishermen of this country are so far inferior to those of farmers, tradesmen, or any other class? The fact I believe to be indisputable;—we have only to glance at the different districts to be assured of it. Have not fishermen equal rights and claims with other men to the common fund—if so, have they not been grossly disregarded? Are not fishermen entitled to a fair share of the public funds for educational purposes—if so, has not that been denied? It will be but an empty subterfuge to say that the claims of fishermen are equally respected with those of other classes, and that they are as fairly satisfied whenever called for, so long as legislative enactments are made more especially for the convenience and benefit of the agricultural districts, and regardless of the disabilities of the poor Fisherman.

Depend upon it, our Fishermen will never thrive as to themselves, or the districts they inhabit, until they receive more of the sympathy of their fellow countrymen, and of the protection and support of the Government under which they live.

RESIDENT.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

MR. EDITOR,—As it is an acknowledged truth, that it is God who gives His people power to get wealth, and trusts it to them as His stewards,—so is it also allowed, by all true Christians, that the same God will hold the possessor of every talent of silver accountable for the use he may make of it. The faithful servant of Christ, therefore, ever remembers that wealth is not given to him to consume upon his lusts—that it is not poured into his lap to be locked up in his coffers,—nor given to him to expend in the trifles and vanities of fashionable life,—but that it is all God's gold and silver, and that they who fail to use a just portion of it as His stewards, to the glory of His name, are faithless to their trust.

It cannot, I think, be denied that hitherto the members of our Church generally have been greatly deficient in this particular. With a wealth, in proportion to our numbers, equal to, if not beyond any other body of Christians, the liberality of Churchmen,—assisted by, as they long have been, and depending upon the generosity of those noble Societies in the Parent country,—as yet has been too stinted and parsimonious.—This being the case, it consequently is always a pleasing duty to the true friend of the Church, the lover of the "faith once delivered to the Saints," to acknowledge "the good deeds which any have done for the House of our God, at the offices thereof." With this feeling, I now communicate to you that the collection you so kindly mention of in your useful paper as taken up in the Church at Dartmouth, in aid of the Clergy Widow's and Orphan's Fund, has been increased from three to £8 3 7—the sum of Five Pounds, and that of three shillings and seven-pence having been added to the sum collected,—the latter in small donations,—the former presented by a Gentleman of the legal profession, being the amount of costs or damages on a certain suit at law which the Plaintiff,—satisfied with having received a verdict in his favour,—was unwilling

to receive—but which (the proposition having been made by the Attorney) was, by mutual consent, placed in the "treasury of the Lord." The above fact might afford a useful hint to Gentlemen of the Legal and Medical profession advantageously to appropriate any costs or fees, which parties in justice should pay, but which those Gentlemen would not wish to apply to their own personal use,—while thus also contributions to the important fund you advocate would rapidly grow in amount, and which, as you justly observe, would lighten the heart of the Missionary, by thus making some provision for those whom he cannot provide for." I would here add that, the "bright sovereign" you alluded to was carefully and modestly wrapped in paper, and thus with other "money cast into the treasury," at first passed for a sum of smaller value. While acknowledging sums given for "the House of God and the offices thereof," I must not omit to mention that our late fellow townsman, John Tempest, Esq. (who we regret has lately left this country for Canada,) handed over to the Rector, a day or two previous to his departure, a sum sufficient to purchase a new Surplice, and that a very neat one has since been procured.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Dartmouth, Oct. 1854.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 1854.

THE PRIMARY VISITATION

Of the present Bishop of this Diocese, has been going on in this City since Wednesday last.—On that day Fifty-nine Clergymen met the Bishop in St. Paul's Church at 11 o'clock, where Divine Service was performed, and the Holy Communion was administered by the Bishop, assisted by Archdeacon Willis. The Sermon (and a good one it was) was preached by the Rev. T. H. White, of Shelburne, from Eph. 11 ch. 19, 20, 21, 22 v. a very appropriate subject, and handled with satisfaction to all. On no former occasion had so many Clergymen been gathered together. A goodly sight it was, to look upon them all. Some with their grey heads, and countenances bearing the marks of many a hard day's work, and bronzed by the storms of some 30 or 40 years. While we looked upon these we thought of the fathers in the Ministry, whose white heads had once been there, but are now resting from their labours—their earthly trials ended and their warfare accomplished. And we thought how soon more of us will reach the bottom of the bill, and our places know us no more. But while thus the mind would dwell on those who already have put their armour off, or are likely soon to do so, the pleasing reflection came up that there were before us on that day so many youthful soldiers of the cross, who had but lately buckled that armour on—ready in all the freshness of vigour and health, to give themselves up to the same glorious service, and to "endure hardness" under the great Master of us all. May each succeeding Visitation witness increasing numbers of these, to fill up the ranks, and occupy new stations in the battle field.

After a brief space, we were again in the House of Prayer. Evening Service was read by Rev. W. Bullock, after which the names of the Clergy were called over by Rev. E. Gilpin, Jr., each one rising in turn, and then returning his seat. Then the Bishop delivered his primary charge, which was so satisfactory to the Clergy and Laity, that at a subsequent meeting, it was unanimously resolved to request his Lordship to allow it to be printed, and a Committee was appointed for the purpose. It occupied about an hour in the delivery, and was listened to with marked attention throughout. It is to be regretted, that on an occasion which, one would suppose, would have been generally regarded as one of surpassing interest, by every member of the Church, so few of the laity were found in the House of God. In the morning the Congregation was smaller than might have been gathered in a Country Parish Church, and in the afternoon it was not very much better. The same remark may apply to the attendance at Morning Prayer on Thursday at 7 45—as well as to the afternoon service of that day, when the Rev. Geo. Townsend of Amherst occupied the pulpit, and delivered a sermon worthy of a fuller audience, from 2 Acts, 42 v. The greater part of Thursday was occupied by the meeting of Clergy and laity at the National School, which commenced at 10 o'clock, and ended at 4.—We must defer a particular account of this most interesting and important meeting until our next, when we hope to give it in detail. We can only now remark that it was characterised by extraordinary harmony, and while the several speakers delivered their sentiments in the fullest manner, for or against the measure, there was, as his Lordship remarked, nothing said that any would wish unsaid, but both among Clergy and Laity the most delightful Christian courtesy was maintained from beginning to end—a result

which we think may be fairly ascribed to the presence of that spirit of love, which was fervently invoked at the outset, and for which we doubt not many a private prayer had been offered.

The Bishop delivered a full and explanatory address at the commencement, and was followed by the Chief Justice, Capt. Ouseley, Col. Gladwin, Mr. Rowley, Hon. W. Rudolf, Messrs. Hockin, Fenerty, Hartshorne, Bowman, Lowe, Clarke, Atkins, and others of the Laity. Revd. Messrs. Gilpin, Senr., Bullock, Arnold, Filleul, A. Gilpin, Nichols, Robertson, Godfrey, and others of the Clergy, and those on the other side.

The whole matter was canvassed in all its bearings by the advocates of periodical meetings of the Clergy and Laity, and much information and light on the subject was imparted during the discussion. The Bishop submitted to the meeting this simple proposition:

It is expedient to hold periodical assemblies of the Clergy and Laity in this diocese.

The Chief Justice, as one of the Delegates for St. Paul's, then proposed in amendment, seconded by N. Clarke, Esq.:

That it is not judicious at present to establish Synods or periodical assemblies of a deliberative body in the Church in this diocese.

The result was as follows:—For the proposition, i. e. in favour of periodical Assemblies, Clergy 87, Laity 28; Against it, Clergy 9, Laity 10.—For Amendment, Clergy 10, Laity 10; Against it, Clergy 35, Laity 28. The votes were taken by orders, in the most careful and regular manner, and duly recorded, together with all the proceedings, by Henry Pryor, Esq. Registrar, and Revd. E. Gilpin, Jr. The principle being thus affirmed, a Committee of five Clergymen and as many Laymen, was then formed for the purpose of preparing a Constitution, and framing the necessary Regulations for the Synod, which is to meet this time next year. In the mean time the Committee are to publish the result of their labours, for the consideration of the Members of the Church. The following Gentlemen compose the Committee:—Rev. T. C. Leaver, Rev. E. Nichols, Rev. W. Bullock, Rev. E. Maturin, Rev. J. Cochran; Col. Gladwin, C. Bowman, Esq., Capt. Ouseley, J. W. K. Rowley, Esq., Danl. Hockin, Esq. and the Bishop of the Diocese.

Let "Prayer be made without ceasing of the Church unto God for them," that they may be endued with wisdom from on high, for the important task assigned them. There were present 88 Lay Delegates, and only six or seven Parishes were without such representatives.

At the close of the meeting, thanks were unanimously voted to the Church Members in Halifax, who had extended hospitality to the clerical and lay members of the Convention. Also to the Venerable Societies P. G. F. and P. C. K.

The early prayers as well as the afternoon service, were new and interesting features of this gathering.

Whoever was there on Thursday morning must have marked the suitableness of the psalms, and must doubtless have felt a refreshing influence and salutary preparation for the busy hours of the day which followed. Rev. W. Godfrey read prayers A. M. Rev. R. Avery P. M. The Bishop has been mindful of a characteristic of his office, to be "given to hospitality"—throughout the visitation, accommodating some of the Clergy, and having them daily at his table. Nor have the other Clergy and lay members in the City been forgetful of the like duty, for which the thanks of the Convention were regularly offered.

On Friday at 3 o'clock the Alumni of King's College assembled according to notice, for the purpose of electing a Governor of that Institution in place of Judge Parker, when the Rev. Dr. Gray of St. John, N. B. was duly elected.

This day is set apart for a special meeting of the D. C. Society, at 2 p. m.

THE whole community has been shocked by another of those dreadful disasters, which have been so frequent during the last year. The sad fate of the Arctic steamer will be read by every one with feelings of deepest sympathy for the numerous relatives and friends of the 400 souls who it is feared have perished in that awful way. This severe dispensation should remind us not to boast ourselves on the triumphant display of human skill and ingenuity which these noble steamers present;—but to remember Him who enables man to do all these things, and who can so easily bring them to nought. A full account of the catastrophe will be found in another column.

THE 72nd Regiment embarked on Thursday, on board the *Alpa*, new screw steamer, for Liverpool, and sailed yesterday morning. Among the passengers were Mrs. Booth,—Lady of D. A. C. G. Booth,—and family.