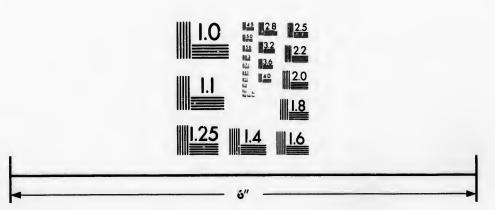


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LETTERS TO "THE GUARDIAN,"

(A CHURCH OF ENGLAND PAPER PUBLISHED IN LORDON,)

BY THE

REVS. J. E. HOLE, AND J. M. NEALE

ON THE SUBJECT OF

"NORTH AND SOUTH,"

WITH REPLIES BY

THE REV.

OF THE DIOCESE OF - C. W.,

RECENTLY A PRESBYTER OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

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"NORTH AND SOUTH:"

SIR.

Following in the wake of Dr. Neale, permit me also, by the expression of my entire sympathy with the cause of the North, to relieve the impression in your correspondent's mind, that the English Clergy are so unanimously on the side of the South.

For myself I can truly say that having from the outset watched every phase of this great struggle with the closest interest, I have never seen eause to waver in my entire conviction of the justice of the cause of the North; nor does Dr. Neale's letter in the least exaggerate the scale of rejoicing that (in common I doubt not, with many others) I have experienced at the recent success of the Federal arms.

It were well, I think, if many who now go

with the stream of popular opinion (because it is the popular opinion), and who derive their impressions from the prints that seek only to reflect the public feeling, were to read first some of the standard works that have lately issued from the press on this subject. After a perusal of Russell's Diary, -Trollops and Dicey's Letters, Mrs. Kemble's Resdience in a Georgian Plantation—authors, all of whom have been eye-witnesses, and on this account, and as being of known integrity and standing in their profession, may be considered reliable,—it is probable that their opinious might undergo a considerable change.

I J. E. HOLE.

Washford Pyne Rectory, Aug. 13, 1863.

"NORTH AND SOUTH."

To the Editor of the Guardian.

' SIN

In the Supplement of your issue of Aug. 18, I observe a short letter from the Rev. J. E. Hole, "Washford Pyne Rectory" of date Aug. 13, 1863, on the subject of "North and South,"

Mr. Hole has thought proper to express thus publicly his sympathies with the North, and therefore I hope you will permit a brother-clergyman, from this side of the Atlantic, to express the pain, and surprise, which Mr. Hole's letter caused me.

That a Clergyman of the Church of England should feel himself called upon to give public expression of his sympathies with a Government which, by its mode of carrying on the war of attempted extermination it is now engaged in, has excited, and is still exciting the horror and deteration of all good men who know the facts of the case,—this to me, is a thing of grief and mortification.

I was for upwards of two years, a witness and a victim, of the atrocious tyranny and oppression practiced by the Northern Government; and I have, more than once, had my heart made sick within me, by the cry for blood and slaughter issuing from Northern pulpits. But I little thought to hear a similar note atruck by a priest of that church (the church of my youth, and of my country) of which I am now, by the go d providence of God, arecognized, though unworthy minister. I little thought to hear any Englishman, any lover of right and justice, hold up for public approval "The justice of the cause of the North."

I should like to ask the Rev. gentleman, to whose letter I refer, whether he thinks he would be quite so enthusiastic about the "justice of the cause" be admires, were he, as I have have been, exposed to its tender administration? Would it call forth his public note of approbation, for instance, were he required to vacate "Washford Pyne Rectory" on the satisfactory call of a " military necessity"? And yet this is some of the weets of " the justice of the cause" which I have tasted. I, a freeborn British subject, have had the honor of receiving a visit from the Northern Military Governor of Alexan-Aria in Virginia, who then and there, in the

presence of my wife, and with that courtesy which, I dare say, the rector of "Washford Pyne" thinks necessarily allied to "the just cause," told me that she and I, and our five little children must turn out (into the streets if needs be) that the parsonage might be occupied as "a military necessity," I rather think that such a demand upon "Washford Pyne Rectory" would slightly modify the extacles of its worthy occupant over "the just cause."

Further, I have had my door besieged by a band of rufflan sold'ers who, in spite of my remonstrances, and with many threats, persisted in neiling up a vile co ton rag of about the value of three pence sterling, intended to display "the stars and stripes"; and, upon my representing the wrong and insuit to the aforesaid military governor, his reply was, that "no one should be asbaned of that glunious emblem." Would the rector of "Washford Pyne" appreciate a like adornment to the fore-front of his handsome Gwelling?

Further, I have been served with a printed notice to "Appear forthwith at the office of the Provost Marshal, and make satisfactory proof of my loyalty to the Government of the United States" (take that is, the oath of allegiance) "or falling to make such proof within forty-eight hours after receiving this notice you will be sent outside our lines" ! Upon this call of "the just cause" I " appeared," and presented by credentials as a British subject. But, the reply of the respectable and enlightened official whom "the just cause" has located at "Head Quarters Provest Marshal General Defences South of the Potomac" was, that he cared not wbether I was a British subj ot or not; unless I professed myself "an unconditional Union man" (a stereotyped phrase in great vogue among those who maintain "the just cause") I could not be suffered to remain. And I grieve to be obliged to add that, against this low tyranny, I had little or no protection. Upon my applying at the British Legation at Washington, I was told in effect that I was come I tely in the power of "the just cause," and that no security could be given me, nor any steps taken in my case, until I should be sent to

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Fort Warren, or Fort LaFayette, or some other delectable receptacte for "rebels" against the mild sway of "Northern justice." In point of fact, it was a most signal Providence which opened a door for me in Canada, or I, and my little helpless family might have been driven away from our home, and exposed to absolute privation and want. This would nevitably have been the result of our being ent within the Southern lines, where (thanks o the "just cause") every article of food and slothing would be utterly beyond the means of one whose sole support was derived from he congregation from which he was thus breatened to be violently sever-d. Would he rector of " Washford Pyne" like to furnish uch an Illustration of "Northern justice" ia us own proper person?

Further, I have long been deprived of my looks and furniture-not many, nor much, out my all. They have been shut up in the city of ____, Virginia, where, at the breaking out of the war, and for twelve months after, I resided as incumbent of ---- church, (in what I dare say the rector of " Washford Pyne" would call a culpable if not immoral) connexion with that 'reb I' body, the Protes ant Episcopal Church in the Confederate States of America. Now "the just cause" will permit nothing to be removed from thence by any one except such as have taken the oath of allegiance; and since, if I know myself, I would not take that outh to save my life, in ich tess my books, these latter may be safely regarded as in jeoparly. It might be thought that a British subject could claim his goods and chattels; but, my experience of the protection afford d to her Majes y's liege subjects by her deputies within the jurislice in of "Northern justice" gives me little heart to apply. Now I could almost wish that the admiration of the rector of " Washford Pyn "for "the just cause" were subjected to some such test us this. How would us like to have his easy chairs, and his springy lounges, and his downy beds, and his much prized folios, and his valued quartos, and his newest octaves, and duodecines-not to talk of the efforts of his private genlus -- shut up withle the bristling lines of Y takee bayonets? I finey it would be an experimentum crucis which would "put a new song la his mouth."

I have dwelt thus long on my personal experience, as I conceive it to be a kind of argumentum ad hominsm which the r gur of "Washford Pyne" cannot fall to appreciate.

But my experience is not only personal.

From the date of the burning of the navy yard at Nortolk, on the nonsteenth of April, 1861, to within six weeks of the present date, was a close observer of the conduct of the war in Virginia. May I not therefore claim to be a better judge of "The justice of the

cause of the North" than Mr. Hole can possibly be? He sees and hears at second hand, more than three thousand miles away, seated in his comfortable rectory, I was on the spot, and ecce signum?

If iovading, pillaging, burning, and destroying the homes and properties of non combatants, old men, women, and children—If this be the legitimate province of a "just cause" then do the Northern hordes of cutthroate and ruffices stand acquitted and approved. But, at the same time, may not poor Virginia hold up her hands to high heaven, and protest against such justice?

If attempting to force a government which, in the estimation of eight millions of human beings, is the most odlous and detestable the world has ever known—if this be conceded to "The justice of the cause of the North," then in the name of all that is fair, liberal, honorable and righteous, I ask Mr. Hole to defiue his idea of "a just cause." Has he forgotten that the North 'rn Government Itself stands (or used to stand, u till Abraham Lincoln, and his minious, established their low, and crushing tyranny) upon the will of the governed? Dies he not know that it was upon this very ground that their heastful claim was lounded of being " the best govern-ment on earth? And does he not perceive the glaring inconsistency of attempting to force a government of this kind upon a people who sparn it with contempt as d abhortance? Nay, does he not perceive the atrocity of endeavouring to compass their ends by tire, and sword, and carninge? Shame, upon the justice-loving Englishmen who tolks of "the justice of the cause" that carries war, and devastation, havor and rain to the hearths and firesides of those whose only request is to be "Let alone" !!

Mr. Hole lutimates his wish to show that the English clergy are not "so universally on the side of the Scuth." He is an exception. Let us hope that he stands stone, or nearly alone, in his sympa hies; and that the bulk of Englishmen, church and laity, have not outlived their keen senss of right, of justice, and of humanity.

But, to return to matters of observation. I have known of helpless women and children being depelved of the very necessaries of lite—actually left without a breaklist—by the pillaging and plundering hirdes who maintain, in the tient, "The justice of the cause of the North." And I have known that, from this oppression, there was little or no tedress, even by append to the highest officers. The highest officers themselves very, very frequently, act the example. There was a denoral Blenker, for example, so notorious for his thefts and robberies that "blenkering"

became a cant phrase to express the act of

plliaging and plundering.

And if the rector of "Washford Pyne" ever happened to read the official documents of those bragging, boasting, infamous Generals Pope and Milroy, he must have seen that the strongest stimulus was furnished to every rufflan in an army composed of rufflans, to maltreat, and abuse the helpless. Fortunately, for the poor sufferers exposed to such wretch s, a second "Bull Run" put to flight the discomfitted hosts of Pope, and himself at the head of the retreat; making good, for once at least, his boastful assertion that his "Headquarters were in the saddle"; and by an ignominious flight from Winchester, the brutal and inhuman Milroy freed Virginia from his hated presence.

But Mr. Hole will probably object that such abuses are inseperable from war. Not as. Let him read the proclamations of Oliver Cromwell, for instance (a man whom English churc'imen have small cause to admire, or to expect any good from), and he will see that the punishment of death was threatened (and those who know the character of the man cannot doubt that it was inflicted) agrinst any of his soldiers who should molest or injure private individuals. And this too, in an age which we are accustomed to regard as somewhat hebind the civilization of the nineteenth century, and especially the civilization to which "The greatest nation on earth" claims

to have attained.

I bave known of an old man of eighty and nine years being dragged from his home, and hurried along in an army waggen for some fifty or sixty mles, until at last worn out Meture gave way to failgue and exposure, and the old man lay down and died.

I have known of another aged, and most respectable physician of eighty and four years, having his house invaded by a guard of demoralised soldiers, plaued there by authority without even a charge against him. And I have known that aged and inoffensive gentleman to be subjected, by those soldiers, to the indignity of witnessing the reception of abandoned women on his premises.

Even as I write, a letter has come to me, from a former parisuloner, announcing the death of his mother - a lady whom I loved as a near relation-and here is his account :-"I do not think the apparent disease was sufficient to kill her. But -- the constant state of excitement in which we have been living for more than a year, not knowing what arbitrary order to leave our homes and property, and go pennils among strangers, might be pro nulgated from day to day. All these things combined were too much for her and" - she died !

Let the rec or of " Washford Pyne" thank

his Heavenly Father that his wife, or sister, or mother may go to bed without the fear that the morrow's light may bring an order for them to turn out of their homes; and without any hope of rest save in the grave where "They hear not the voice of the oppressor."

Doubtless Mr. Hole would be glad to hear something about the morality of the reverend officials of that North with which he sympathizes. An a preface to this subject, let me refer him to scores of serm us preached in Episcopal pulpits at the North, and regarded as choice evidences of patriotism, in which spirit of wince against the South, redolent of the fume, or hell, is openly and unblushingly announced.

. I might point him to worthics of the cloth who have proclaimed in the ears of their admiring andience that ' The sin of the rebellion has no parallel save in the sin of the fallen angels." I might remind him of those woo have profaned the house of God, and uttered the most horrid blaspaemies in His name-telling their deluded hearers that "to die in the cause of the Union would be a sure and certain passport to heaven" I might remind him how those reverend worthies call it their gury to

"Cry havoc and let siip the dogs of war." To hound on their brutal and ruffian packs in their work of blood; and to promise them, in the name of God, that the more Southern homes they lay waste-the more smoking ruins they leave in their track-the more widow's moans, and the more orphan's cries they occasion - the more rebel blood they shed -the trighter will be their crown of endless.

glory

But let me mention instances of Northern charical morality which came under my personal knowledge and observation. I have known an army chaplain to borrow a robe belooging to the vestry room of Christ Church, Alexandria, -"for a few hours," as he said, and never to return it. I have known another chaplain (in this case however, I think the reverend man was not an Eplecopalian) to file his trunks from the shelves of a private library, the owner, of course, being a "rebel." I have known still another, ("Horrisco referens"!) upon whose head Episcopal hands were laid, to be openly accused of drunkenness in the public streets. and of consorting with harloss, and to be unable to repel the charge, but at the same time, to retain his post secure against discipilne civil, military, or ecclesiastical.

Such is my personal knowledge of the morality of the North-that North for "the justice of the cause" of which, an English beneficed elergyman "following in the wake of" another, thinks proper to stand up. And, as God is my wriness, twelve month's resiCance in year's re me with thing lik

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Cance in the Confederacy, following twelve year's residence in Virginia, have furnished me with ne evidence of this kind, nor of anything like it.

Some profanity, it is true, I heard of, and winnessed, among the soldiers. But, immorality among the officers, in my experience, was rare, among the chaplains, unknown. Those of the officers whom I kn. w were gentlemen; those of the chaplains, hard-working, God-fearing, earnest men, zealous, and untiring in the cause of their Master.

o Now is it not somewhat strange that "the just cause" affords no happier illustrations—or at least is very fertile of such as I have mentioned, while (what I must suppose Mr. Hole regards as) the rebellious and infamous South may claim a first rank among the recognized nations of the earth, not only for able Statesmen, and Generals—speaking from a mere worldly point of view—but also for men who professedly act with the fear of the Almighty Gobole or their eyes, and with a constant appeal to His Justice?

The rector of "Washford Pyne" will understand that his short letter is not regarded by me as of sufficient importance to call for this long reply, were it not that I wish to avail myself of this mode of appealing to the houor and good feeling of English churchmen, in behalf of a greatly oppressed and much suffering people. Glad in heart am I to infer, from Mr. Hele's letter, that, although the English Clergy may not be "unanimously on the side of the South," yet they are so nearly so as to call for his individual protest. I only pray, from my e ul, that that protest may prove of small avail in gaining converts to his "just cause." And I pray further for his own speedy conversion to the side of the noble South: which conversion I would insure, for a small am unt, were he to be subjected, even for a brief space, to the irresponsible atrocities of the p ople he admires, under the auspices of a Pope, a Milroy, a Burnside, or

Finally, I would recommend the rector of "Washford Pyne" to read and study with care, that admirable letter of Mr Beresford-Hope in the same number of The Guardian in which his sees the light. There is the view of a master-mind which looks at things undistorted by any such medium of fanaticism as that which seems to act on the visual organs of Mr. Hole, and Mr. Neale, and those exceptional others, whosoever they may be, who s'and forth such valiant champions for "The justice of the cause of the North."

Ye freemen of England, call that cause, "lust of power," "grasping ambition, or mercenary cupldity of unscrupulous poli-

ticians," "oppression," "tyranny," despotism of "execrable vulgarity," but in the name of Heaven, profane not a revered and sacred word, by calling it "justice."

Canada West, Sept. 8th, 1863.

To the Editor of "The Guardian."

Your issue of Sept. 2nd, 1863, contains a letter from the Rev. J. M. Neale, of "Sack-ville College," in answer to that of Mr. Beresford-Hope on "The Church in the Confederate States."

With the argument of Mr. Neale, I have now nothing to do. I consider Mr. Hope much more competent to treat of such matters than either Mr. Neale, or your humble servant. If he thinks the captious objections of Mr. Neale worth noticing, he will do so effectually, and to him I leave it.

But, there is one passage of Mr. Neale's letter which I cannot permit to pass without comment. It is that in which he quotes from some Col. Estvan "in solder of forune," and, as such of course, worthy of all credit.

This Col. Estvan a seris that the Churches in Richmond were withheld from being used as hospitals for Confederate soldiers, and that the Clergymen of what Mr. Neale facetiously calls Mr. Hope's "beloved Southern Church," were shamefully and brutally negligent of the wants and comforts of the wounded and dying men.

Now this I prenounce to be intensely and utterly false. And I call upon you, in common justice, to permit me to correct the misstatement.

I am intimately acquedated with the city of Richmond, and with every Episcopal Clergyman therein. I was in the city only a short six weeks before the disastrons retreat of the Federals from the Chickshomlay; and I am ready to pledge my most solemn oath that, to my personal knowledge, the clergy of the city, and thing doins at their head, were a slowly, and unit ugly engaged in visiting the hospitals of the city, of which there were many. I know also that two clergymen were appointed by the Episcopal Church, whose sole business it was no go from hospital to hospital, day and night, as occasion demanded to minister to the wants and comforts of the sufferers.

Further, I have heard, from sources which trave no room for doubt, that, when the time required it, tever suitable church in the city was vacased for hospital purposes. I particularly heard of St. Paul's (the church in which the Prince of Wales worshipped during his visit to Richmond) being given up.

What purpose this Col. Estvan could have had in making his cruel misstatement, it is hard to conceive. It may be that his merits did not meet their proper reward among the Confederates, and that a little pique and disappointment may have caused him to dip his pen in gall.

But in common bonor, justice, and principle, Mr. Neale should have been slow to credit, and slower to reproduce, from "a soldier of fortune," so base a caluruny and slander How would he like a similar charge to be publicly brought against himself, as to the parformance of his ministerial functions? A suit for libel would most probably he his ready answer. But he hesitates not to (wrongfully, as it turns out) accuse and malign his brethren who have no present redress.

As to the conclusion of Mr. Neale's letters I cannot express the horror it excited in my bosom. According to him, there are "English priests who long heartily, who expect fully, and (I hope) who pray earnestly for the success of the North."

Great God! "English priests" in a frame of mind to behold with satisfaction, and to "pray earnestly for" the success of rapine, plllage, and slaughter! To contemplate, yea to "long heartily" for, the annihilation of millions of tender women, and little children! To "expect fully" to witness the devastation of hundreds of thousands of homes and firesides!! All this, does "the success of the North" imply: and at no less price can it be had.

Canada West, Sept. 28th, 1863.

CAMADA WEST, Oct. 15th, 1863. The following letter has been, this day, received, and will speak for itself:—

> TRAFALGAR LAWN, Barnstaple, Devon, Sept. 26:

MY DEAR SIR,

I have read, with feelings of great delight, an admirable letter of yours in *The Guardian* newspaper, commencing "North and South," in which you have given the rector of Washford Pyne (my nephew) s trenendous lubbing dows, which I am heartily glad of, and which he will not easily forget.

I have had many battles with him on the same subject—he rashly advocates a cause, the merits of which he knows nothing about. I know not one single officer within the Army or Navy of England who does not strongly wish success to the Contederates. And the Clergy of the Establishment almost universally lean the same way. And you may make use of my name as an Almiral of the Navy, in assuring you of this fact.

But, my dear sir, have the Confedera'es a chance of succeeding in separating the two countries—North and South? I sincerely hope so. I admire the abilities, and determined bravery of the Southero armica. It is quite marvellous that they have stood their ground so well as they have done, under such overwhelming disadvantages. It is the iron clads and the gunboats that do all the mischief to the Southerners, who are shut out almost altogether from Europe, in consequence of the Ports of America being blockaded so strictly against them. The Federal Government do not care how many men on their side are killed, as they can get others to supply their places from Europe, and principally from Ireland.

Had Lord — as much courage us Lord has, the Americans would not crow as

they do.

Pray let us have more of your stringent l tters in the papers—but why not send the m to The Times? Pray excuse my troubling you.

My dear sir,

Very truly yours, LEWIS HOLE,

Admiral

The Rev. &c., &c.



