

At the close, the old man was sobbing. Other sobs, too, were heard, in the adjoining room. I opened the door, and made a sign. Simultaneously mother and son came forward, and threw themselves at the old man's side.

"Here he is, Father. Here is Martin, our child, our son!" articulated Mrs. Lockwood, disengaging the father's hand from his cane, and pressing it upon the bowed head of the returned prodigal. The old man wept aloud. It was some time before any one spoke. Then Mr. Lockwood faltered forth,—

"Martin—my only son—my child, I forgive you. O, may God bless you, and make you His." And he embraced him, while his tears showered down like rain, upon the young man's penitent head.

And that evening the three walked home together; the young man, with his father leaning on his right arm, and his mother on his left; and they walk so still, through the valley of life; he a devoted son, all his wild youthful strength subdued to manly uprightness and tender, filial affection; they, a patient, aged pair, moving calmly and unshrinkingly towards that final goal, those gates of death, through which we all must pass.—*W. & R.*

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 12, 1860.

Ecclesiastical Precedence in Canada.

The question of ecclesiastical precedence, raised in New Brunswick recently, had a practical demonstration given to it in the Prince's levee in Montreal. Instead of the Addresses from the different religious bodies being all received without being read and the replies being forwarded afterwards to the presenters, as in Halifax, the Church of England Bishop was allowed to read his address before the Prince, and a reply was given. This, it appears from the sequel, formed an inconvenient precedent. The Synod of the Church of Scotland in Canada, at its last meeting, adopted an address to the Prince, and instructed certain of its members to present it. In compliance with the command, the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, of Montreal, Moderator of the Synod; Rev. Mr. Snodgrass, Clerk of the Synod; Rev. Mr. McMurchy, Moderator last year, and between twenty and thirty others, ministers and elders, attended at the levee in Montreal. Dr. Mathieson, after being presented to the Prince, was about to read the address, when the Governor General interferred and informed the reverend gentleman that though the address might be handed in, it could not be read, nor could any reply be given. Dr. Mathieson paused and then ventured to urge that though the Church of Scotland was not established in Canada, it was established at home, and that, therefore, he had a right to address the Prince. The refusal being still persisted in, Dr. Mathieson calmly turned to Mr. Snodgrass, the Clerk of the Synod, and told him to keep the address, that it should not be presented under such circumstances. The members of the deputation were then personally presented to the Prince and withdrew.

Or, as the *Witness* correspondent has it, "he," Dr. Mathieson, "resolved that he had just as good a right to read the address of his Synod as Bishop Fulford had that of the Church of England. Accordingly, when presented, he pulled out the address, and was commencing to read it, when the Governor-General stepped forward, and told him that no reply could be given to it. Dr. Mathieson replied, 'Well, then, I will not present the address,' and walked away with it."

Of course this circumstance has caused quite a sensation, and will doubtless be matter for not a little indignation on the part of Presbyterians. The fact that the Clergy of the Churches of England and of Rome are the only ecclesiastics recognized by the State in the British Colonies, will probably be reconsidered, and we trust that all precedence will be abolished. The reason urged by Dr. Mathieson why he had a right to read his address, that "the church of Scotland was established, at home," we deem very unsatisfactory. The Anti-State-Church principle is too firmly rooted in British America to allow of any church maintaining any position of precedence without receiving injury to itself.

Here, in Nova Scotia, we have no State Church, neither have we any Dissenters, the assertion of the *Chronicle* to the contrary, notwithstanding. In Canada there seems to be the same antipathy to any dominant sect. Although Romanism has had a sort of supremacy, yet it is now no longer a part of the State. The *Toronto Globe*, in reference to this affair, asks, "Is the Church of Rome established in this Province? Is the Church of

England? We should like to see," the same paper remarks, "a vestige of proof of the existence of such a state of things in the statute book or elsewhere. If it could be found, it would speedily be obliterated. In the Preamble of an Act of Parliament prepared and passed by the present ministry the separation of Church and State is solemnly declared."

THE BALLS given in honor of the Prince's visit appear in every place to have been the most unsatisfactory part of the arrangements. Dissatisfaction and jealousies were created in Halifax by several things in connection with this affair. The handsomest structure in the City—the Province Building—was rendered a huge deformity by the frightful wings built against it for the Ball. Money was expended on this entertainment for the gratification of a few favored ones which of course will be a charge on the pockets of the people. At Charlottetown and Quebec similar difficulties arose. At each place, too, a large portion of the population—good christian people—have strong conscientious objections to balls and dancing parties—even when attended by royalty itself. These not only absented themselves, but as far as they could, without discourtesy to His Royal Highness and suite, entered their protest against them. No other feature in the celebrations probably has left so many heartburnings and unpleasant reflections as the public ball.

The Ball at Montreal also, upon which such lavish expenditure had been made, and for which the preparations were so extravagant, seems to have been a great failure, and what was intended to produce so much sensation proves to have been the one great drawback among the festivities of the occasion. To meet the deficiency of funds occasioned by the extravagance of the Grand Ball, a people's ball was got up on the following evening at a dollar a head.

If we may take the representations of the *New York Herald* on the subject, this appears to have afforded but little pleasure to any. It will probably be a source of trouble and vexation for many days to come. A few paragraphs from that paper will shew the impression it made upon its correspondent.

"The people's ball last evening began at eight o'clock. It was given in the building erected for the grand ball. The tickets were placed at one dollar each, and no restrictions were made in regard to dress. The services of the Prince secured, and, in fact, the whole affair was but a show of the Prince to an indiscriminate audience at a dollar a head. The thing was too transparent, however, and the people stayed away rather than patronize such an exhibition.

The ball was got up to help pay the expenses of the former fetes, and the people present included all ranks and classes. A few of the aristocracy were present in full dress, and were followed by about 3000 of the lower classes in sacks, talmas, shawls, frock coats and all sorts of styles, and of all hues and shapes. The ladies were of the best and worst classes, and were indiscriminately admitted, but kept apart on the floor. Some wore hats, some were dressed in ball and some in street costumes. Only the lower classes, and but few of these, danced.

The Prince and suite were present, all in full dress, except St. Germain, who wore a red vest. He arrived at half-past nine, and stayed about an hour. In a very short time they saw the position of things, and sat in the royal box in the gallery as stiffly as statues, while the crowd, as if appreciating the show, gathered below, and inspected the party with the utmost freedom.

All the suite seemed dull and embarrassed, while the Prince sat blushing deeply and perfectly silent. Even the building seemed to share in the general feeling and looked shabby, while the lights were turned on only half blaze. The Prince remained a short time, and, being unable to endure it longer, retired, a few faint cheers following him.

The people paid no sort of respect to him while he was present, but called out "music," hissed and clapped as if they were in the pit of a third rate theatre. The supper was thin but good.

Altogether it was a catchpenny affair, equally disgraceful to those who originated it and those who persuaded the Prince to go to such an exhibition.

The conclusion which may be fairly drawn from these facts is, that on such public occasions, if a gathering which excludes any part of the community is necessary, it should be done by subscription, so that those who choose to participate may have the honor of sustaining it as well as the pleasure of mingling with their friends in carrying it through.

Troubles in Canada.

Several difficulties have arisen in connection with the progress of the Prince in Canada. In consequence of some difference of opinion as to the position the Masons were to occupy at the laying of the foundation stone of the new Parliament Building at Ottawa, they became dissatisfied, and altogether left the ground.

The Orangemen at Kingston were determined to appear as a body in the procession, on the Prince's landing at that place, but were informed that the Prince would not appear in any procession where party colors were worn or party tunes played. Still they resolved to adhere to their determination. The Roman Catholics at a public meeting passed strong resolutions condemning their course, and at the same time expressed their desire for harmonious action. A Committee was at length appointed, of three Orangemen, three Catholics, and three of the General Committee. That Committee decided "that a place be assigned the Orange Society." The Orangemen at Toronto have come to the same determination.

On His Royal Highness's arrival at Kingston, the Mayor of the City went on board the steamer and informed the royal party that a procession of half a mile long, consisting of Orangemen with dresses and badges, was waiting the landing of the Prince. The Duke of Newcastle deferred the landing, however, till 9 o'clock the following morning, to see if the party display could not be done away with, and further said that if the Corporation chose to present their address on the boat, the Prince would be happy to receive it. A stormy debate took place in the evening at a meeting of the City Council. They ultimately resolved to present their addresses on the market and battery as originally intended. Great excitement existed, and serious consequences were feared.

The following telegram was received by the *New York Associated Press* on Wednesday last:

KINGSTON, CANADA, Sept. 5.—The Orangemen paraded to-day. They formed on the wharf as if to receive the Prince. One of their officers was mounted, and with a drawn sword, shouting "no surrender." The Prince refused to land, and left for Belleville, where an Orange arch has been erected. The Orangemen of this city will probably charter a steamer and follow the Prince. The officials of three counties presented an address to the Prince on board the steamer.

TORONTO, Sept. 5.—The Orangemen meet to-night to decide on what course to pursue.—The community is greatly excited, and the common salutation is "no surrender."

This state of things is cause of deep regret. It was hoped that all partizan political feeling would be hushed during the royal visit. This, it appears, is not to be realized. The determination of the Prince to absent himself from these demonstrations, will probably prevent their repetition.

News Summary.

Our last English mail which arrived on Thursday by the *R. M. S. Canada*, brings London dates up to the 25th August.

Parliament was to be prorogued about the end of the month, leaving many of the most important measures brought forward in the beginning of the session unaccomplished. The enormous sum of 72 millions sterling has been voted in supply. Some millions of it for the coast defences. It is thought by many that there has been a reckless disregard of economy in this vast expenditure.

The weather still continued most unfavorable to the getting in of the crops, and unless a speedy change took place, the most gloomy anticipations were formed as to the supply of food for the vast population of the United Kingdom.

Further advices from Syria bring intelligence of additional massacres of the christian population in various places by the fanatical Mohamedans. These excesses will no doubt be followed by a heavy retribution from the European Powers, as the Turkish Government seems wholly inadequate to the task of keeping their infatuated subjects under control.

As is observed by our English Correspondent, "The Sicilian Revolutions still holds the first rank in political affairs." Our latest accounts confirm the fact that Garibaldi and his heroic followers had effected a landing on the mainland, and was being joined by large numbers of the insurgents, and it was reported that he had attacked and taken Reggio, a considerable military post of the Neapolitan troops. Great agitation prevailed in the metropolis, and from all appearances there is every reason to feel confident that a very short period would terminate the reign of the tyrannical Bourbons in Italy. That Garibaldi would proclaim Italian liberty in Naples within a very brief time seemed to admit of little doubt. Should such be the case, and that kingdom be added to the already greatly enlarged state of Sardinia, it will give Victor Emanuel a population of some 20 millions, and unless France and Austria should interfere, the Papal territories, with a population of some 5 or 6 millions men, (as we believe) will soon swell the amount and place regenerated Italy among the first-rate Powers of Europe, enjoying liberal laws and institutions and with bright prospects of a

prosperous and happy future. That such a consummation may shortly follow will be the earnest hope and prayer of all who rightly appreciate the value of human liberty, or feel for the welfare of their fellow-men.

Latest Intelligence.

By the *Prince Albert* which reached Newfoundland on the 5th, we learn that,—

The *Great Eastern* arrived at Milford Haven, at 6, p. m., on Sunday, 26th.

In the House of Commons on the 25th, Lord Palmerston acknowledged the services rendered to the Christians in Syria by Abd-el-Kader.

St. Martin's Music Hall in London had been destroyed by fire.

Mr. Lindsay, member of Parliament, had been authorized to proceed to Washington, to lay before the American Government the views of the British Government relative to the navigation laws, the rights of belligerents, &c., and to enter into negotiations for opening the coasting trade of the United States to British vessels. He would sail on the 8th of September.

TWO DAYS LATER.

The Steamer *City of Washington* passed Cape Race on Friday with dates from Liverpool to the 30th ult.

Parliament was prorogued on the 20th. The speech was read by the Lord Chancellor. It says—"Relations with Foreign Powers are friendly."—thinks that if the Italians are left to settle their own affairs the tranquility of other States will remain undisturbed. Her Majesty laments the atrocities in Syria, and concurs with other powers in assisting the Sultan to re-establish order in that country. Regrets the failure of negotiations with China. Expresses much pleasure at the warm reception of the Prince of Wales in the Colonies he had visited.

A large number of Calabrians joined Garibaldi. The Royalists have been again defeated in Calabria, with six battalions of reinforcements. It was reported that the King had quitted Naples on the 23rd and gone on board the frigate *Stromboli*, and that the Piedmontese occupied the forts.

The Pope is said to have expressed his readiness to agree to an Italian confederation.

Nothing further of importance from Syria.

The weather is favorable for crops.

General Intelligence.

Domestic and Foreign.

Five or six deaths are recorded as having taken place in connection with the Prince's visit to this continent: a soldier on George's Island, a young lady after the ball in P. E. I., a midshipman and two men firing the salute at Montreal, and one crushed to death in the streets of that city.

TRIAL OF FIRE ENGINES.—The highest point reached by any of the engines on the trial at Montreal, was not greater than has been thrown by some of those in Halifax.

It is now positively announced that the Prince of Wales will embark at Portland when leaving America. The Mayor of that city has received a letter from Lord Lyons, stating that His Royal Highness will embark from that port for England on the evening of October 20th.

The dwelling of the Rev. Mr. Bullock, Fort Massey, was entered on Friday night last by some burglars;—they were alarmed by a servant who slept in the basement, and escaped before they had time to pilfer anything.

A despatch was received in Halifax, on Friday last, announcing the sudden death, by scarlet fever, of one of the children of Admiral Sir A. Milne, in Canada.

A soldier of the 62nd Regt. committed suicide a few days since, at the Wellington Barracks, by cutting his throat with a razor. It is stated that he was in prison at the time, under punishment for striking a non-commissioned officer.

THE CROPS of which in the counties of Cumberland, N. S. and Westmoreland, N. B. are far superior to what they been for many years past.

SIDEWALKS.—An experiment has been made by Messrs John McCulloch and Frost by laying brick for the sidewalk in front of their new stores. There is great room for improvement in the matter of sidewalks. We doubt not this material will supersede all others in Halifax as it has in many other cities.

WANTED—A SAILORS' HOME.—Several respectable masters of vessels have spoken to us of the great want in this city of a Sailors' Home; that is, a respectable boarding house or hotel for the accommodation of sailors who visit this port. At present they are very badly situated, being unable unless with much difficulty to find lodgings that combine respectability, cleanliness and comfort. Drinking dens where they can be drugged by poisonous liquor and robbed in to the bargain are frequent enough, as many a plucked sailor can testify. What we want is a respectable institution, under the care of some good, sober, old mariner who understands the requirements of sea-faring men. In Boston, New York, and in fact in all ports of importance you invariably see such lodging houses. Halifax certainly should not be behind other commercial cities in this respect. Our merchants and others, interested in the mercantile service might very profitably turn their attention to this matter. Indeed the establishment of a "Sailors' Home," we can easily imagine, would be a good investment for some of their capital. Every Sunday particular attention is paid to the spiritual wants of seamen, and we hope to their profit. Why not take a little trouble to provide for their bodily wants?—*Reporter.*