

than as the ministers of a gospel whose leading doctrine is 'peace on earth, good-will among men.' That the Legislature is aware of the state of public feeling with regard to the impolicy of the tithe, is evident from the attempts which have, of late years, been made in Parliament, more particularly by the right reverend head of the English Church, to ameliorate the tithe system in this country. None of these attempts has as yet succeeded, because the ill-absorbing question of political has left the legislator no time to consider that of ecclesiastical reform. The time will, however, speedily arrive, when the subject of church reform will come under the consideration of Parliament, and when the tithe system, the English as well as the Irish, must undergo revision and amelioration, preparatory, perhaps, to its ultimate extinction as the main source of clerical income.

Such are the considerations to which the contrast instituted between the incomes of the clergy of England and of America may give birth in the mind of a churchman. The dissenters, will, however, be disposed to quote the passages as a practical proof of the truth of the theory which dissenters generally promulgate on the subject of clerical remuneration. The dissenter, when he denounces what he considers the unchristian alliance between the church and the state, is met with this objection, amongst other objections, to its dissolution,—that, were people not compelled by law to support the clergy, the teachers of religion would not receive an income, not merely adequate to support the dignity of their highly responsible station, but no adequate to their bear subsistence. The dissenter, in answer to this objection, has pointed to the easy and comfortable circumstances in which the bulk of the dissenting teachers in the united Kingdom live, on the funds provided for them by the zeal and liberality of their respective flocks. From this striking fact he has argued, that, were the clergy of the establishment in like manner dependent on their flocks for their secular reward, though there would be few, if any, ministers in the receipt of princely incomes, ninety-nine in every hundred would fare better, in their worldly circumstances, than they do now, notwithstanding they are ministers of the richest church in Christendom. The Quarterly Review, in the passage above quoted, has given a striking corroboration of the truth of this theory of the dissenters. He has shown, by the evidence of figures, that, in the United States of America, where there is not the slightest connexion between the church and the state, or, rather, between religion and politics,—nay, among a nation of republicans, whose zeal for religion is not supposed to be so strong as in an ancient monarchical state like England, the teachers of religion receive, throughout the Union, on an average, an income greater by one-sixth than the average income of the English clergy! Is not this a most convincing proof, that the piety of the people, if left to its own natural action, will 'provide things meet,' and in abundance too, for the support of their teachers and for the dignity of religion? But the example of America was not wanted to convince us of this fact. The example of the churches in Liverpool, where, though they are under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction and the spiritual discipline of the establishment, the ministers possess no legal income, is of itself sufficient to establish the case of the dissenters. For is it not notorious, that the ministers of such churches are better paid, on the whole, than those who receive their revenues from the legal ecclesiastical funds?

The truth is, that the free-will offerings of the faithful are always more productive than funds raised on the whole community for the support of a dominant sect. In the one case, the payment is voluntary, and therefore liberal; in the other, it is compulsory, is made grudgingly, and leaves irritation and a sense of extortion or of imposition behind. It is true, that, were congregations to pay their own pastors, they would exercise the right to choose them. This might be inconvenient to many persons who now look to the Christian ministry as a profession. But men of zeal and ability, above all, men of piety, would reap the advantage of the change, whilst the cause of 'pure religion and undefiled' would flourish and prevail.

#### FROM BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE, FOR FEBRUARY.

The reforming Administration have been now above a year in power, and the following financial return exhibits the progressive fall in the Revenue, from the political agitation which they have introduced into the country.

The first table exhibits the progressive decline in the revenue during the four quarters of the last year of the Wellington Administration; a year during the two last quarters of which the reduction in the beer duty, which produced £3,000,000 sterling, came into operation.

#### WELLINGTON ADMINISTRATION.

|                              | Decrease. |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Year ending 5th April, 1830, | £864,000  |
| 5th July,                    | 690,000   |
| 10th October,                | 943,000   |
| 5th January, 1832,           | 640,000   |

The next table exhibits the progressive decline of the Revenue during the four quarters of the Grey Administration; in the latter quarters of which their reduction of taxation, estimated in all £2,600,000 came into operation.

#### GREY ADMINISTRATION.

| Year ending 5th April, 1831, | £1,134,000 |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 5th July,                    | 1,656,000  |
| 10th October,                | 3,072,000  |
| 5th January, 1832,           | 3,984,000  |

Thus, while the year ending with the concluding quarter of the Tory Administration, though embracing a remission of £3,000,000 of revenue, exhibits only a deficiency of £640,000; the first complete year of Whig

government, though embracing only a reduction of taxation to the amount of 2,600,000, exhibits a deficiency of almost four millions. In other words, supposing the reduction of taxation by the two governments had been equal, the loss of revenues arising from the Whig measures was nearly three millions and a half.

The Duke of Wellington left Earl Grey a real sinking fund of £2,900,000 a year. Where is that fund now? Gone to the vault of all the Capulets. The succeeding Administration pared so closely, that in their anxiety for popularity, they left no surplus revenue to the country; in other words they annihilated the *real sinking fund* which their predecessors left them. And now what is the result of their government? A deficiency of four millions! The wisdom of the Duke of Wellington's Administration so compensated, by the rise of other branches of the revenue, the reduction of the beer duty, that a remission of £3,000,000 produced only a deficiency in the concluding year of his administration of 640,000. The folly of Earl Grey's administration so aggravated, by the fall in all other departments, the remission of £2,600,000 of taxes on coals, candles and calicoes, that it augmented the deficiency to four millions in the first year of his government.

If the details of this enormous deficit be looked into they are still more instructive. Every department exhibits a deficiency except the Post Office, the rise in which arose from the suspension of franking and general bustle consequent upon the general election. The following are the items:

|                | 1831.       | 1832        |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Customs,       | £16,343,000 | £15,336,000 |
| Excise,        | 16,895,000  | 14,330,000  |
| Stamps,        | 6,605,000   | 6,500,900   |
| Post Office,   | 1,358,000   | 1,391,000   |
| Taxes,         | 5,012,000   | 4,864,000   |
| Miscellaneous, | 601,000     | 409,000     |
|                | £46,815,000 | £42,330,000 |
|                | Increase.   | Decrease.   |
| Customs,       |             | £1,007,000  |
| Excise,        |             | 2,564,000   |
| Stamps,        |             | 104,000     |
| Post Office,   | £32,000     |             |
| Taxes,         |             | 149,000     |
| Miscellaneous, |             | 191,000     |
|                | £32,000     | £4,015,000  |

It was formerly reckoned that a general election, by the expenditure it occasioned, raised the revenue a million sterling. What must have been the conduct of the Administration, which, in spite of that advantage, caused it to decline four! The Excise fell off £2,500,000, a clear proof how much the insanity of democratic ambition is beginning to press on the comforts and consumption of the poor.

#### FROM THE LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW.

EMIGRATION.—\* "We are indeed told that the emigration which is already spontaneously taking place, though not reaching to that extent, produces great inconveniences at the places where the new-comers\* disembark. No doubt it does. But because the ports of Quebec and Montreal are molested by crowds of penniless and famishing wanderers, landed from speculating passage vessels, (no better mode of conveyance being provided for them,) and destitute of the means of finding their way up to the more distant parts of the colony, where they would meet with instant employment, is there any reason for presuming that similar results would follow from the landing of even ten times the present number, under the care and direction of public agents, who would take charge of and distribute them up the country wherever labourers were most wanted, or employ them on the government roads, canals, and clearings, until such opportunity presented itself?

There exists, indeed, a simple test, by which it may be seen at any time whether the emigration into a colony is really going too far or not—in the current rates of wages. Until these are reduced by the competition of emigrants to something like the wages of the mother country, we may be sure that the process which has for its object to bring the demand and

supply of labour in the two countries to a level, is not proceeding too fast. At this moment, when the wages of a common day-labourer average, in all the colonies we have enumerated, 4s. 6d. a day, and those of a mechanic 9s.—which, reckoned in provisions, according to their prices there and here, is equivalent to three times that sum in England, or about ten times the real wages of the mechanics and labourers of this country, and more than twenty times the wages of Ireland,—it is preposterous to talk of the imminence of those colonies by any number of emigrants we can contemplate pouring into them.

\* That these assumptions are by much too moderate is proved by the fact, for which we have the best authority, that during the last summer upwards of fifty thousand emigrants landed at Quebec and Montreal alone, and have been wholly absorbed (that is, taken into employment through the country) without perceptibly diminishing the eager demand for labourers in both Upper and Lower Canada, or reducing the high current rate of wages.

#### SPIRIT OF THE PROVINCIAL JOURNALS.

CANADIAN COURANT.—The proceedings of Mr MacKenzie and his political friends in Upper Canada have aroused the inhabitants of that Province: meetings have been held, or are to be convoked in numerous places throughout the Province, to express their disapprobation of the conduct of this demagogue. He formerly announced his intentions of proceeding to England on a grievance mission early in this month, and his friends have made great exertions to get up petitions, addresses, &c. and to procure money to defray his expenses, but sufficient means have not yet been obtained, nor does it appear likely they will be obtained. If we may judge from what we can observe at this distance, Mr MacKenzie's popularity is on the wane; a fate that generally awaits those that depend on the fickle praises of the multitude.

QUEBEC GAZETTE.—The weather set in mild on the 23d inst. Yesterday the thermometer stood at about 60 of Fahrenheit. There is yet fully five feet of snow on the ground on a level, and some apprehensions are entertained of floods on its sudden melting. Last fall was remarkably rainy, and the ground consequently, filled with moisture, and all the reservoirs of water running over. The whole of the snow will therefore have to be carried off this year by the rivers. If, however no heavy rains should fall, the rise of the waters, although greater than usual, will not produce much mischief. In the United States almost all the damage which has been effected, from the Mississippi to Lake Champaigne, has been occasioned by heavy rains, which produced here a rise of the rivers of only about two feet, the rain having been absorbed by the snow or run off under it by degrees.

HALIFAX NOVASCOTIAN.—On Monday last, with closed doors, our worthy Representatives, by a large majority, as we understand, voted themselves a fortnight's extra pay, in consequence of the extraordinary length of the Session. Now, we do not by any means, question their right to do so—they are the guardians of the public purse—the wise dispensers of the public treasure; and far be it from our purpose to insinuate that they could have found forty more deserving objects on which to expend so small a sum as £560. They have done what they consider their duty in making a judicious appropriation—we merely perform ours by putting the act upon record. It will certainly be satisfactory to the Province at large, to mark the disinterested patriotism of those, who thus seek, by carrying a portion of it in their pockets to distant parts of the country, to force the Province paper into circulation; and no doubt a ray of gladness will shoot athwart the blank countenance of many an unfortunate petitioner, at the reflection, that although there was no money in the Treasury to answer his miserable claim, still, the representative who fought his battles has been rewarded for his arduous exertions. As we have no invisible correspondent (such as we find by our recent files, regularly furnishes the London papers with the substance of the proceedings of Parliament when the doors are closed)—to acquaint us with the reasons furnished by the supporters of this measure, we can only guess at such as it is very probable were urged upon the occasion. Perhaps it may have been stated—

1st.—That, as in a former session, must pains had been taken to cast imputations upon the motives of Members in the Council, it was incumbent upon the House—by a fine stroke of policy like this, to throw the other end of the building into a disagreeable contrast—

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