

navigable up to Fredericton, the capital, ninety miles distant, through a beautiful, and in many parts fertile country.

Fredericton is built chiefly of wood; the population is about seven thousand, and they are very prosperous. There are several other improving towns in different parts of the Province. Here also mineral productions are in considerable quantity, coal and iron abundant, and some copper has been found; there are also numerous mineral springs of great value; but all these natural advantages are as yet turned to but little account. The climate is much the same as that of Nova-Scotia, but less foggy.

The population of New Brunswick is about a hundred and sixty thousand; they are tall and stalwart, hardy woodsmen and bold fishers loyal and faithful to the mother country. Their Colonial Government is like that of the other North American colonies, and like them their Parliament has its violent internal political struggles. Within twenty years the revenue has trebled; the roads and other internal communications, and the education of the people, are now attracting due attention and receiving great improvement.

Communications.

CHURCH MATTERS.

At a meeting held at Johnston's Hotel, Chatham, on the 5th day of September, 1846, of the Members of the Church of England, to take into consideration the Communication of the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, dated the 24th of July last, addressed to Henry Cunard, Esq., and the members of the Vestry at Miramichi, and which had previously appeared in the Saint John newspapers;

Wm. Letson, Esq., was called to the Chair; and Mr Edward Williston requested to act as Secretary.

The Secretary having read the said communication,

On motion of John T. Williston, Esq., seconded by Mr George Letson,

Resolved, That Messrs. Henry Cunard, William Salter, and Edward Williston, be a committee to prepare an Address in answer to the Lord Bishop's communication.

The committee then submitted an address prepared by them, which was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

On motion of the Hon. Joseph Cunard, seconded by Mr Daniel Baldwin,

Resolved, That the Address be signed by the members of the Church now present, and by such others belonging to the Church, attending St. Paul's Church, and St. Mary's Chapel, respectively, as coincide with the said address; and when signed, be forwarded by the Secretary to the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, and a copy published in the Miramichi Gleaner.

Wm. Letson, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the Chair, and Wm. Salter, Esq., having been called thereto, it was resolved, that the thanks of the meeting be given to William Letson, Esq., for his correctness in presiding over the meeting; and the meeting then separated.

E. Williston,
Secretary to the meeting.

MIRAMICHI, 5th September, 1846.

May it please Your Lordship,

We have before us your Lordship's communication under date 24th July last; (and which had previously appeared in the St. John papers) and in reply to your Lordship, we intend nothing more than what is respectful, altho' in many points we may be compelled to differ from your Lordship.

Your Lordship charges us with a want of decorum in not asking your permission before publishing your letters. We can assure your Lordship that a desire of publicity as between us and your Lordship was far from our wish, and the step was taken with pain on your Lordship's account: but after all our firm and conscientious remonstrances not only to the Rector but to your Lordship, to stop the current of innovation finding its way within our Church, had proved unavailing, and your Lordship had closed all correspondence on the subjects referred to, without deigning to give us that satisfaction which we might reasonably have expected, and which in justice to the Church, we conscientiously believe ought to have been vouchsafed, we could not allow the matter thus abruptly terminated by your Lordship, to rest, and consequently resolved that the whole proceedings should be published, "in order that the Church in England and America might judge between us and our opponents." And moreover we could not imagine the proceedings could possibly be considered of a private nature, emanating as they did from the Corporation of St. Paul's, and from meetings of the members of the Church, numbering over 85 persons, and publicly convened.

Your Lordship's admission that you had ordered from Burns £50 worth of books for the Church Society of New Brunswick, is a very important fact in this controversy, and goes to show that Books published by the Tractarian Publisher have been ordered for this colony, and actually circulated among the people;

while our Society's acknowledged publishers, Messrs Rivington, are passed by and neglected, and is in itself a circumstance calculated to excite suspicion, and did create alarm in our minds from the time they were placed in our Library; and on perusing the works, and viewing their tendency, our worst fears have been realized. The discrepancy in the amount of books purchased, does not by any means alter the principle involved, and we leave that between your Lordship and the Rector.

We are led to believe that it would have been out of your Lordship's power to have read over the books procured by your Lordship, on the eve of your departure from England. Had your Lordship, however, under the circumstances, applied to Messrs Rivington to furnish the books, they would have come to this country, stamped with authority; but to go out of the usual course in the selection of books for the Church Society of New Brunswick, has, in our humble judgment, identified your Lordship with the responsibility of their selection, and of their correctness. That in the books censured by us, the writers in several instances have actually quoted from the Oxford Tracts in corroboration of their peculiar views, which clearly shews that your Lordship's injunctions "to exclude from the list any works which entered into the controversy respecting the Tracts," had been disregarded, and is an additional reason why the established mode should not have been departed from.

We must confess that we have not read all the works imported by your Lordship, but in those we have read, have traced abundant matter to convince us that they are the efforts of the Tractarian party.

We rejoice to learn that your Lordship has signified your intention in future of procuring books from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. Had this course been adopted on the "eve of your departure from England," we should have been spared the unpleasantness of denouncing the works alluded to in our previous communication, the Laity of the Province would have been relieved from a number of highly objectionable books circulated among them, and your Lordship would have been spared the unpleasant task of pronouncing that nothing is "unscriptural" in the "Village Tales," and the "Forest of Arden," two of the number imported, leaving the "Tales of the Town" unauthenticated, corroborative of at least its doubtful character; as from the number in circulation not only through the Church Society, but by Mr Hudson, your Lordship could have easily procured a copy, and pronounced a judgment upon that work likewise; and if the principles advanced in the work had been found correct, we are constrained to say that your Lordship would have justified them.

We regret to be obliged to dissent from your Lordship in the avowal that there is nothing unscriptural in the "Tales of the Village," and the "Forest of Arden;" and in justice to ourselves in having so dissented from your Lordship's judgment, we shall now furnish a few extracts from the former; the latter is now beyond our reach, having been taken from the Library. We give herewith a few extracts from the "Tales of the Town," a work circulated not only through the Church Society, but by Mr Hudson.

We perfectly concur with your Lordship that our "notions of justice and your Lordship's, are, it must be confessed, wholly different."

We are at a loss to imagine how your Lordship could have come to the conclusion that we desired your Lordship "to go about the streets to pick up evidence against the accused," and "that a court of Triers should be established in every parish, and your Lordship cited to bear witness against a clergyman already condemned by anticipation." We most respectfully submit that our previous communication would not bear such a construction. We were under the impression that we had furnished sufficient testimony (particularly as the evidence of the Sermon was with your Lordship solely); but had your Lordship expressed an opinion to the contrary, we were prepared to give your Lordship all the information necessary to corroborate what we had previously asserted.

As regards the Sermon, we did not demand a copy of it, but respectfully requested it; neither did we ask your Lordship to take the evidence of Mr Wright, the late Churchwarden, (who, by the bye, did not hear it preached) or any one else, as to its being scriptural, but to call for the sermon yourself, and condemn or justify it; and up to the present moment your Lordship has not done so, which we contend to be a tacit admission of its impropriety, as your Lordship, in justice to Mr Hudson, whom your Lordship eulogizes, and for whom you express such respect, would have justified the sermon before this period, had it been correct.

We believe the Bible, and the Bible alone, to be the standard of our Faith, and should indeed regret were your Lordship "afraid or ashamed" of the Holy Scriptures; but we would hold ourselves unworthy of the name we bear were we to exalt the Prayer Book above the Bible, or hold it in comparison; but we do give it that place in our affections it is entitled to, and no more. Your Lordship will pardon us for correcting an inaccuracy in that part of your communication wherein you say, "My reason for mentioning the Prayer Book as the test of Mr Hudson's doctrines, was that you had yourselves denounced his sermon as contrary to the doctrines of the Church." If your Lordship will turn to the resolutions passed at a meeting of the Laity on the 26th February last, you will perceive that we denounced the doctrines propounded in Mr Hudson's sermon as "uncharitable, unscriptural, and totally at variance with the principles of the Church of

England." Your Lordship will perceive that our condemnation of the sermon rested upon the scriptures, and your Lordship's analogy drawn from the position taken by us does not apply.

We must confess that we are enemies to superstitions, equally with your Lordship. "Exploded superstitions," so long as they remain as things that have been, we are equally fearless of them; but we denounced their revival, and called upon your Lordship to prevent their revival in the church; so long as they remain obsolete they cannot "chain large masses of the human race," but their revival may have the power "to charm the most subtle intellects." We mean by "Tractarian heresies," the novelties in doctrine and discipline which a certain party in the Church have been for some time past, and still are endeavoring to bring within her pale, and which novelties are fully developed and set forth in the "Tracts for the Times," and supported, inculcated, and maintained in the Books and Tracts circulated by Mr Hudson here, and imported for the Church Society by your Lordship, and now in circulation throughout the Province. They may be "vague expressions" in your Lordship's opinion, but from the results that have attended their enforcement and propagation in the mother country, we deemed it our imperative duty to bring their first development in this country before your Lordship, in order that their effects might be counteracted, and ultimately eradicated.

From the time we first addressed your Lordship on these subjects, we have not interfered with our Rector. We have, however, deplored the undue influence exercised over him by Mr Hudson, and in consequence were willing to forbear; but we cannot allow that part of your Lordship's letter to go unanswered, wherein you say "for twenty five years he has served you with a fidelity, a piety, and discretion which every one would do well to imitate; yet of your late treatment of Mr Bacon I could say much, but for your own sakes I forbear." Your Lordship must be aware, that from an acquaintance of twenty five years, we are certainly as capable of judging on these points, as your Lordship, with so limited an acquaintance; and we regret that your Lordship forbore on our account of "saying much of our late treatment of Mr Bacon," as we have acted with candour towards the Rector, and are not aware of having committed any act against him that would call forth the forbearance of your Lordship.

Your Lordship insinuates that we have branded your Lordship as a party-man. We humbly appeal to your Lordship, and are desirous that all of our readers should decide if we had not sufficient reason to come to the conclusion that Mr Hudson's acts were either not inquired into by your Lordship, or that enquired into, they were approved of. That was our natural conclusion, and that will be the conclusion of every unprejudiced man who reads the whole correspondence and proceedings; but we must deeply deplore the existence of that "intolerant spirit" in the church, which, while it is content that Tractarian heresy should usurp the place of English Protestantism, makes no allowance for those who would act on their conscientious convictions, in taking Scripture for their guide, and supporting the Church of Protestant Reformed England, and refusing to submit to an assumption of arbitrary powers. As yet we are not aware of "that intolerant spirit in our Church which is content to see every part of our Prayer Book violated." But we have for some time deplored the intolerant spirit in some of the clergymen of our church, who have, with a pertinacity amounting to obstinacy, revived and enforced parts of the Prayer Book that have, by common consent, become obsolete for centuries; and have thereby offended the conscientious opinions of the congregations, to the serious injury of the church.

Placed over the church in this fine province, with extended and liberal views, your Lordship can be the means of extending the Gospel and the interests of the church to the remotest corner, and make her the means, under God, of diffusing light and life all around. On the other hand, should party views be adopted, and Tractarian heresies allowed to germinate, her usefulness will become circumscribed, and her practices and principles intolerant. We rejoice to learn that your Lordship has extended christian charity towards Roman Catholics and Protestant Dissenters, without which even the bonds of social life would become weakened, and ultimately dissevered.

We have now answered your Lordship with frankness and plainness; and in conclusion, we shall not cease to oppose every innovation in doctrine and discipline, or the spread of improper books in this part of your Lordship's diocese, and to bring them before your Lordship as occasion and circumstances may require.

We are, your Lordship's obedient servants,
H. Cunard, Church Warden, }
William Salter, } Com.
E. Williston, one of the Vestry, }
Wm. Letson, Church Warden,
George Letson, }
Daniel Baldwin, }
Wm. Douglas, } Vestrymen.
J. E. Germaine, }
T. B. Maltby, }
R'd. Travers, }
Robt. Coulson, }

And seventy seven others.

PLOUGHING MATCH.—Our Agricultural readers will bear in mind that the Ploughing Match is postponed from the FIRST to the EIGHTH of October.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 1846.

* * This Number brings to a close the Seventeenth volume of the Gleaner, and we embrace the opportunity to return our acknowledgments to our numerous subscribers for the support we have received through this long period of time.

We have furnished our Agents in the neighbouring counties with our accounts, and have sent the same to subscribers in distant parts of this county, and shall feel obliged if they will make an early remittance. We purpose in the course of a week or two, to call on friends nearer home, when we trust they will be prepared to respond to our claims.

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.—We copy the following piece of intelligence from the St. John Courier. The gentleman alluded to, passed through this place on his way to take passage in the next steamer for Britain. Several miners in the employ of the company of which Mr Ord is a party, have been boring for coal, with every prospect of success. We wish the company prosperity, and hope, with our contemporary, that it will be the means of bringing capital into the country, which is the only thing wanted to develop its numerous resources:—

"We have much pleasure in stating that J. C. Ord, Esquire, a gentleman of large landed estate in the North of England, has made application to the Executive of this Province for the purchase of forty thousand acres of land in the county of Gloucester, not far from Bathurst, which he proposes to settle with the surplus tenantry from his English estates. The proposal has been accepted, and orders of survey have been issued by the Crown Land department.

Mr Ord arrived in New Brunswick by the steamer of the 19th August, and leaves again for England by the steamer of the 3rd October, from Halifax. We hear that Mr Ord is highly pleased with the fertility of the soil, and beauty of the country in Gloucester, which also possesses many advantages with respect to mining and the fisheries. The crops of wheat in that county are generally good, but this year they are excellent, and some has already been threshed weighing 68 lbs the bushel.

We trust that this project may be successful, and that it may be the means of introducing a large amount of British capital and skill into our province, to develop its numerous resources, and advance its general prosperity."

THE SEASON.—The weather during the week, has been cold, rainy, and boisterous. A number of vessels have arrived during the last few days, several of which received more or less damage. They report that the weather has been exceedingly tempestuous; and that on Saturday, the 19th instant, (the day on which we experienced the heavy squall) it blew a perfect hurricane. Several captains express their fears that the vessels on this coast have suffered severely.

Very severe weather has been experienced in the United States, and one paper reports the melancholy effects have been seen in the dead forms of human bodies, fragments of wrecks, and large quantities of goods which cover the water from Squam Beach to Cape Hatteras.

FREIGHT BY THE ATLANTIC STEAMERS.—The United States Custom House Returns show the extraordinary fact that the amount of duties paid upon goods imported into Boston, in the Cunard steamers, last year, exceeded one million of dollars; equivalent to one twenty-fifth of the entire duties collected in the United States. The whole amount of duties paid at Boston, upon goods imported in these steamers during the first year of their running was less than two thousand dollars.

COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.—Wm. End, Esq., is up for this county. We also learn that Joseph Read, Esq., will offer. Several other gentlemen are named, but we do not wish to state them without being better informed.