

DIOCESAN CHURCH SOCIETY.

THE Bishop of Fredericton requests the Clergy to preach the usual half-yearly Sermon in behalf of the CHURCH SOCIETY, on the Sunday following the Festival of the Epiphany, or as soon afterwards as may be convenient, that the Collections may be forwarded to the Treasurer at Fredericton in time for the Annual General Meeting, which will be held at Fredericton early in February.

Dec. 17, 1847.

J. FREDERICTON.

THE next Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Diocesan Church Society will be held at Saint John on Wednesday the 5th of January, 1848, in the Sunday School Room of Trinity Church, at 12 o'clock, noon.

E. J. W. ROBERTS, Sec'y Ex. Com.

Kingsclear Parsonage, Dec. 16, 1847.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

AS the period is approaching for the recommencement of the issues at the Infant School, contributions are solicited at the earliest period, to enable the necessary supplies for the Winter to be laid in.

"It should be understood that the operations of the Society are not intended to interfere with the exercise of private benevolence towards objects with whose cases parties may be well acquainted, and whom they may deem deserving of their more enlarged bounty, but rather to protect the community against the influx of persons belonging to other Parishes, and to guard against misdirected charity to the undeserving, whereby the means of relief to the deserving are diminished; and to give relief in that form which prevents the possibility of misapplication which is too frequently attendant on donations in money. For this purpose the Ticket system has been adopted—one place of issue selected—and a Register kept of all parties relieved,—thereby making Subscribers the dispensers of their own charity, preventing imposition by bringing all to one place for relief, and enabling a reference at any moment to each case, and the means of further investigation, if required.

"It is hoped that the benefits of such a system will be so apparent as to induce general support in a community which is much exposed to the influx of persons having no just claims upon it, while it affords the fullest security that no one will be sent away unrelieved, as far as their immediate necessities require."

The Register kept daily at the place of issue exhibits the name of the applicant relieved, the number of the applicant's family, the party recommending, and the amount of relief afforded, with such remarks as any particular case may call for; and is open for inspection.

Contributions of Clothing, Potatoes, Meal, &c., received at the Infant School; and of Money, by the Secretary Mrs. Kerr, the Rev. Mr. Ketchum, Mr. Wolhaupter, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Reade, and Miss Fayerweather, and at Beek's Book Store, where Tickets may be procured.

Fredericton, December, 1847.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

THE issues of the Ladies' Benevolent Society will commence on Saturday the 18th instant, at the Infant School, and will be continued daily, (Fridays excepted,) at 3½ o'clock.

December, 1847.

DISSOLUTION.

NOTICE is hereby given, That the Co-Partnership heretofore existing between the Subscribers, carrying on business in Restigouche, as Merchants, under the style and firm of PETER and DONALD STEWART and COMPANY, was dissolved by mutual consent on the first day of April last; all persons indebted to the said Firm will make payment to Messrs. Peter and Donald Stewart; and all persons having claims against the said Firm, will render the same to the same persons, who, by the terms of the dissolution, are to receive and pay all the debts of the said Firm.—Dated this 30th day of August, A. D. 1847.

PETER STEWART,
DONALD STEWART,
WILL. LOCH.

3m.

SPAIN.—The principal incident in the Spanish news is the opening of the Cortes, on the 15th instant, by Queen Isabella in person. In total disregard of the official programme, which named the hour of one, the Queen did not leave the Palace till half past two o'clock. In her carriage sat King Francisco; before them, in another carriage, went Queen Christina, blazing with splendour of costume. The Queen having ascended the throne,—the King Consort occupying a chair on her left hand, and General Narvaez standing on her right,—the Minister of Grace and Justice handed a copy of the speech to be read. It rejoices in the favourable progress of the negotiations with Rome; in the wealth and prosperity of the Provinces beyond the seas; and promises improvements or reform of "such branches of the general administration as require it."—Among other bills mentioned in the speech as about to be submitted, is one for "determining" the rights of the press.

The speech having been read, Narvaez loudly proclaimed the session for 1848 to be lawfully opened; and the Queen returned to the Palace. She is described as appearing depressed and melancholy, and her passage to and from the Senate was unmarked by a single cheer. Queen Christina was greeted with cries of execration.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The Imperial Parliament was opened on Tuesday the 23d November, by Commission, for the dispatch of business, with the usual formalities. The personal absence of the Queen materially diminished the splendour of the ceremonial: the ladies in the House of Lords were in morning costume; the diplomatic gentlemen were not in uniform: this diminished the brilliancy the interior of the House exhibits when Her Majesty is present in person." Nevertheless, the numbers and the varied colours of the ladies' dresses imparted a certain amount of gaiety. The Lords Commissioners were the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Clanricarde, the Earl of Auckland, Lord Campbell, and Earl Spencer.

The Speaker and the Commons having appeared at the Bar, the following Speech was read by the Marquis of Lansdowne:—

"My Lords, and Gentlemen,

"Her Majesty has ordered us to declare to you the causes which have induced her to call Parliament together at the present time.

"Her Majesty has seen with great concern the distress which has for some time prevailed among the commercial classes. The embarrassments of trade were at one period aggravated by so general a feeling of distrust and of alarm, that Her Majesty, for the purpose of restoring confidence, authorized her Ministers to recommend to the Directors of the Bank of England a course of proceeding suited to such an emergency. This course might have led to an infringement of the law.

"Her Majesty has great satisfaction in being able to inform you that the law has not been infringed; that the alarm has subsided; and that the pressure on the banking and commercial interests has been mitigated.

"The abundant harvest with which this country has been blessed has alleviated the evils which always accompany a want of employment in the manufacturing districts.

"Her Majesty has, however, to lament the recurrence of severe distress in Ireland, owing to the scarcity of the usual food of the people.

"Her Majesty trusts that this distress will be materially relieved by the exertions which have been made to carry into effect the law of last session for the support of the destitute poor. Her Majesty has learnt with satisfaction that landed proprietors have taken advantage of the means placed at their disposal by the liberality of Parliament for the improvement of land.

"Her Majesty laments that in some counties of Ireland atrocious crimes have been committed, and a spirit of insubordination has manifested itself leading to an organized resistance to legal rights.

"The Lord-Lieutenant has employed with vigour and energy the means which the law places at his disposal to detect offenders and to prevent the repetition of offences. Her Majesty feels it, however, to be her duty to her peaceable and well disposed subjects to ask the assistance of Parliament in taking further precautions against the perpetration of crime in certain counties and districts of Ireland.

"Her Majesty views with the deepest anxiety and interest the present condition of Ireland; and she recommends to the consideration of Parliament measures which, with due regard to rights of property, may advance the social condition of the people, and tend to the permanent improvement of that part of the United Kingdom.

"Her Majesty has seen with great concern the breaking out of civil war in Switzerland.

"Her Majesty is in communication with her allies on this subject, and has expressed her readiness to use, in concert with them, her friendly influence, for the purpose of restoring to the Swiss Confederation the blessings of peace.

"Her Majesty looks with confidence to the maintenance of the general peace of Europe.

"Her Majesty has concluded with the Republic of the Equador a treaty for the suppression of the slave trade. Her Majesty has given directions that this treaty should be laid before you.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"Her Majesty has given directions that the Estimates for the next year should be prepared for the purpose of being laid before you. They will be framed with a careful regard to the exigencies of the public service.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"Her Majesty recommends to the consideration of Parliament the laws which regulate the navigation of the United Kingdom, with a view to ascertain whether any changes can be adopted which, without danger to our maritime strength, may promote the commercial and colonial interests of the empire.

"Her Majesty has thought proper to appoint a commission to report on the best means of improving the health of the metropolis, and Her Majesty recommends to your earnest attention such measures as will be laid before you relating to the public health.

"Her Majesty has deeply sympathized with the sufferings which afflict the labouring classes in the manufacturing districts of Great Britain, and in many parts of Ireland; and Her Majesty has observed with admiration the patience with which these sufferings have been generally borne.

"The distress which has prevailed among the commercial classes has affected many important branches of the Revenue. But Her Majesty trusts that the time is not distant when, under the blessing of Divine Providence, the commerce and industry of the United Kingdom will have resumed their wonted activity."