

militia it used to be said could be adapted to a lesser stature by an immersion, *quantum suff.*, in a tub of water. But what could be done with a political garment which was at the same time too little and too big? It could only be returned to the maker. That is what Governor Grey did in this instance. He suspended the new constitution, and sent it back with a particular account of its short-comings and extravagances.

We make no reflections. The mischance we are relating might have happened to any Colonial Secretary, to any colony, and any Governor for these fifty, ay, for these three hundred years. Whether we shall ever govern our colonies better than on the wholesale cut-and-dried plan, we know not. But that is our present line. We make blunders and mend them. By dint of hard cobbling we manage to keep things just tolerably straight. The cobble in the present instance is as follows, and for a modest piece of cobbling, pretending to be nothing more, we don't think it very much amiss. The "constitution" is to be suspended for five years, which means of course the same as the adjournment of a question to this day six months. It is useless to think of making another constitution without a more deliberate measurement of the party for whom it is ordered; and a second failure would be disgraceful indeed. So Governor Grey, who seems to be a remarkably sensible and trustworthy man, is to be furnished with full powers of mending. In fact, the constitution is put into his hands, or rather is hung up in his shop. Young New Zealand will rejoice in the contemplation of the garment in which its limbs will ultimately be arrayed. This pattern of universal suffrage of a nation of ready writers, of learned corporations and a doctrinaire legislature, is to be suspended like the golden fleece before a hosiery's shop. One day our aspiring antipodes will assume the lion's skin, with what propriety time alone can show. Meanwhile Governor Grey is to be at work with his official goose and shears, from month to month trying on the unlucky garment. He is to appoint *ad interim* qualifications, of a more vulgar and sublimary character, founded on *E. s. d.* as well as reading, writing, and arithmetic. He is also to give certificates of character, not for domestic service, but for political suffrage. When he has pieced and pruned for five years, or fifty, as the case may happen to be, there will then we presume be a good examination of the colony as to its moral and literary attainments. The moral scrutiny will apply to the British, the literary to the natives. Should the colony, now *in statu pupillari*, be found up to the mark, its degree will be granted. It will proceed *B.A.*, and be invested, not in the hood and gown, but in the full dignity of free institutions.—*Times*.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE COURT OF ROME.

The following is a copy of the Lord President's bill (just introduced into the House of Lords) entitled "An Act for enabling her Majesty to establish Diplomatic Relations with the Court of Rome."

"Whereas by an act passed in the first year of the reign of their late Majesties King William and Queen Mary, (1 W. and M., sess. 2, c.) intitled 'An Act declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and settling the Succession of the Crown,' it was, amongst other things, enacted, that all and every person and persons, who was, were, or should be reconciled to, or should hold communion with the See or Church of Rome, or should profess the Popish religion, or marry a Papist, should be excluded, and be forever incapable to inherit, possess, or enjoy the crown and government of this realm and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, or any part of the same, or to have, use, or exercise, any regal power, authority or jurisdiction within the same, and in all and every such case the people of these realms should be and were thereby absolved of their allegiance, and that the said crown and government should from time to time descend to and be enjoyed by such person and persons, being Protestants, as should have inherited the same, in case the said person or persons so reconciled or holding communion, or professing, or marrying, aforesaid were naturally dead; and whereas by another act passed in the session of Parliament holden in the twelfth and thirteenth years of the reign of his late Majesty William III. (12 and 13 Wm. III., c. 2) intitled 'An act for the further limitation of the crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject,' it was, amongst other things, enacted that all and every person who should or might take or inherit the crown by virtue of the limitation of that act, and was, and were, or should be reconciled to or hold communion with the see or church of Rome, or should profess the Popish religion or should marry a Papist, should be subject to such incapacities as in such case or cases were by the said act of the first year of King William and Queen Mary provided, enacted, and established. And whereas it is expedient that her Majesty should be enabled to establish diplomatic relations with the court of Rome; be it, therefore, declared and enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same—

"That, notwithstanding anything contained in the said recited acts of either of them, or in any other act or acts now in force, it shall and is hereby declared to be lawful for her Majesty, her heirs and successors, from time to time, whensoever it shall seem fit to her or them, to appoint and accredit to and employ at the court of Rome any ambassador, envoy extraordinary, minister plenipotentiary, or other diplomatic agent or agents whatsoever, and from time to time, at her or their pleasure, to revoke and determine any such appointment and employment, and also from time to time to receive at the court of London any ambassador, envoy extraordinary, minister plenipotentiary, or other diplomatic agent or agents whatsoever of and accredited by the Sovereign Pontiff; and that all ambassadors, envoys extraordinary, ministers plenipotentiary, and other diplomatic agents so respectively appointed, accredited, employed, and received as aforesaid, shall respectively have and enjoy such and the same rights, privileges, and immunities, as are now by law, usage, or otherwise, had and enjoyed by any other ambassador, envoy extraordinary, minister plenipotentiary, or other diplomatic agent or agents accredited by her Majesty to any foreign power, or by any foreign power to the court of London."

WORSE THAN CHOLERA.

It may sound strange in many ears to be told that we have amongst us diseases more destructive than the cholera—but sanitary returns and the bills of mortality leave no doubt as to the fact. Fever of a malignant character has become permanently endemic in most of our great towns and cities. Cholera is a transient visitor—appearing only at intervals to carry off hundreds of thousands; fever—arising solely from imperfect sanitary regulations—is our constant guest.

There are certain quarters in London, and in large provincial towns from which it is never absent—localities in which the destruction of human life assumes something like the regularity and certainty of law. One half of the children born in Manchester, die before they attain their fifth year. The number of deaths in Liverpool during the nine months from January to September, 1847, amounted to 13,546! The Mortality in towns as

compared with country, ranges from 10 to 50 per cent higher. These endemic and local diseases commit their ravages almost entirely among the artisan classes. Of all town-born children, 385 in the 1,000 die in infancy; and constant dwellers in our crowded cities are said, on high medical authority to become extinct at the third generation. The mean duration of the artisan's life in the metropolis is twenty-two years—that of the higher classes forty-four. There are certain districts in London in which the average of the artisan is only sixteen years—and in some parts of Manchester and Liverpool it is still lower. We are not about to attribute the whole of this fatal amount of difference to sins of sanitary neglect. No sanitary arrangements could prevent the mortality from ranging within the natural limits; but much might and must be done to approximate the mortality of one place to that of others in which it is more favourable. Causes that are known to be removable should at least be removed. Experience has accumulated a large body of facts, and tested a host of suggestions, concerning causes which promote or deteriorate the public health. These should be reduced to practice with the least possible delay. When we state that the results of sanitary investigation establish facts like these—that in Lancashire alone the sum total of deaths arising from causes that are preventable is 10,000 a-year—that the inhabitants of London throw away an average eight years of life, and those of Liverpool nineteen years, from similar causes—that in a square mile of the lowest town-localities the rate of mortality is 1 in 37, while in the same area of country it is 1 in 52—that for 1 death in 56 at Hackney there is 1 in 19 in St. Olave's—that the unnecessary cases of fever and sickness throughout the county average annually 1,680,000—that, 27,000 women are widowed, 100,000 children orphaned; and 60,000 funerals unnecessarily necessitated, every year, entirely in consequence of social evils, which admit of efficient remedies—when we add the amount of pauperism, immorality, loss of productive energy and crime which these facts must entail on the general community—indicate as strong a case for the instant and earnest organisation of a popular movement as it seems possible to conceive. Yet these facts have been long known. It may have a more startling effect on the popular ear to repeat—the cholera is coming!—*Athenæum*.

THE ARMY ESTIMATES FOR 1848-49.—The estimates of the effective and the non-effective army services from April 1, 1848, to March 31, 1849, were issued yesterday from the office of the Parliamentary printer. The gross total amount to be provided by the House of Commons for the "effective" service for the ensuing financial year, is estimated at £4,201,178, and the amount for the "non-effective" service, at £2,117,508, making together a grand total amount of £6,318,686, exhibiting an increase, as compared with the charge for the year 1847-48, of £43,612. Of the amount required for the "effective" service, the sum of £3,836,880 will be appropriated to the land forces throughout the world, £168,237 to the staff-officers, £96,591 to public departments, £19,161 to the Royal Military Asylum and Hibernian School, and £80,308 to the volunteer corps. The effective force of the regular army, as it is to be organized for the ensuing year, may thus be analyzed, viz. 6700, (exclusive of 3567 for the East Indies, the expense of which is defrayed by the Company,) 4862 officers, 8308 non-commissioned officers, trumpeters, and drummers, and 100,677 rank and file, making a grand total (all ranks) of 113,878 men. Of the £2,117,508 required for the non-effective service, the sum of £15,507 will be appropriated to rewards for military service—£76,000 to the army pay of general officers—£57,000 to the full pay of retired officers—£406,000 to half pay and military allowances—£47,386 to foreign half pay—£129,531 to widows—£98,000 to compassionate allowances, bounty warrants, and pensions for wounds; £26,744 to the in-pensioners of the Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals; £1,223,810 to out pensions; and £37,500 to superannuation allowances. The sum of 80,308 required for the charge of the volunteer corps is thus subdivided:—viz., £4818 for the pay and forage allowance of 28 adjutants, viz., 1 at 10s., 24 at 8s., and 3 at 5s. 2d. per diem each: £13 10s. for the clothing of 9 serjeant-majors, at 30s. each per annum; and £39,800 for the contingent and clothing allowance of 13,600 men, at £3 each per annum, making a total for ordinary pay and clothing allowance of £44,631, to which the sum of £35,677 is added as the probable expense of the corps when assembled for exercise or for permanent duty, or when employed in aid of the civil power, and expense of inspecting field officers for 1848-49; also allowances to clerks of lieutenantancy, under the provisions of the Yeomanry Act, founded upon the actual expenditure of 1847. The increase of the regular military force this year, as compared with last, amounts to 5449 men, and the extra expense to £43,612. It should be understood by our uninitiated readers, that the votes of men and money for the regular army and the Royal Navy are annually taken in what is called "a committee of supply," whereas any organization of a national militia force will have to be provided for by a special act of Parliament. The old Militia Act of the reign of George III., is still nominally in force, but has hitherto always been suspended from year to year by an annual Act of Parliament.

THE CHOLERA CURED BY ETHER.—The *Courrier des Etats-Unis* quotes the following from the *Gazette des Hôpitaux*:—"M. Bruno Taron, surgeon-major of the Ottoman army, and formerly inspector of health in Bulgaria, Syria, &c., was a physician at Marseilles at the time of the second period of the prevalence of the cholera in that city, in 1837. In the midst of his care of his patients and his service at the hospital he was one day himself seized with the epidemic and had no doubt of the symptoms. The following is M. Taron's description of his situation:—"It was midnight, I had been in bed an hour when suddenly a general chill seized me. This chill was soon accompanied by vomiting and other symptoms of the cholera, including the cold sweats. An hour after, these were followed by violent cramps in the extremities. These are certainly symptoms of cholera. Mr. Taron was alone, his family having fled from the scourge, and he had no servant. He found himself without help in the middle of the night, overpowered by the disease, and by the terrible certainty of a near approaching death, and without any remedy, he says, but a large bottle of sulphuric ether which happened to be in his chamber. 'Having no other resource, I seized this large bottle,' says M. Taron, 'and I inhaled it freely. Immediately my respiration, which had been oppressed, became more free, and I felt a sensation of relief and general comfort. Afterwards the perspiration, which had been cold and wearisome, became warm and gentle. The functions of my senses were soon suspended, and I slept profoundly. All these happy ameliorations took place promptly under the influence of the inhalation of sulphuric ether. I slept without pain or disturbance for six hours, after which I awoke feeling all over me great weakness. I had unconsciously been in a perspiration through the night. This day and the following I had some blackish alvine evacuations. My strength returned by degrees. I was completely cured.' M. Taron finished his letter by confessing that not knowing at the time the power which is exercised by ether over the nervous centres, he did not attribute to this agent the honour of

his sudden cure, but that he referred it entirely to one of those fancies, those caprices of nature for which it is impossible to account. It is a pity, adds the *Gazette des Hôpitaux*, that the observation of our brother should be isolated and unique, but it is important, as being the first point from which experiment may start. Heaven grant that we may not have an opportunity among ourselves for experiments of the kind. The *Gazette du Midi* says, that a physician of Marseilles, a friend of the editor, has confirmed by his testimony the observations of M. Taron. Experiments of this kind have been made with success in the countries of the East, where the disease had made its first ravages. Academies of medicine will doubtless gather positive information on this subject, and order new trials, with all conditions which may render them decisive for science.

EMIGRATION FROM BRADFORD.—The sub-committee appointed to investigate the cases of poor persons wishing to emigrate, have received a great number of applications—many more than it is possible for them to assist. And it will become a question for their serious consideration, whether some decisive steps should not be taken to obtain the necessary pecuniary assistance by means of a rate. At the public meeting held last month, it was broadly insinuated that the poor were not themselves disposed to emigrate. Experience gives this statement a flat contradiction. The editor of the *Bradford Observer* says:—"Many persons, having large families, and, with only one or two exceptions, woolcombers, have applied to us for advice. They uniformly express great anxiety to be assisted out, being fully satisfied that their chance of bettering themselves here is utterly hopeless, while they are sanguine of doing so in the United States or the colonies. To the objection that an emigrant's life is one of hardship and suffering, there was but one reply, 'We can't be worse off, master, than we are now.' If such is the hapless condition of the poor, what is that of the rate-payer? Last year, in the township of Bradford two rates were laid, amounting to 3s. 6d., the last being laid in October. Already a new rate, number one for the year 1848, has been laid; and how many more will be wanted before the close of the year it would take a wise man to say. Heavy rates like these have hitherto been unknown in Bradford, and they certainly are not very agreeable now they are known. It is, therefore, we repeat, a very serious question, demanding a prompt and reasonable answer, whether the towns had not better seek to diminish this frightful weight of pauperism in its early stage, before it has become concrete and immovable."—*Doncaster Gazette*.

MORTALITY IN EDINBURGH.—The mortality of Edinburgh appears to have reached its climax. In December the deaths were 1,030, in December, 1845, 404; in December, 1846, 579. The *Statist* observes, that "during the last month the mortality from epidemic and contagious diseases amounted to 513; of these, typhus fever cut off 314 persons, being the greatest number of deaths from fever during any month of the past year. By far the largest number of these deaths occurred during the first 18 days of December. Since that period fever has been on the decline both in frequency and fatality. The fever cases declined from the first appearance of influenza, but the fatality became nearly doubled: hence the excessive mortality from this cause during the first half of December. During the month 104 deaths were recorded under influenza.

THE EDINBURGH STATUE OF WELLINGTON.—The clay model is finished, and has been formally examined by the committee, who have expressed, in the warmest terms, their approval of Mr. Steel's design, and have passed an official minute to that effect. The preparations for the bronze castings are now being rapidly proceeded with. The casting operations are to be carried on in Edinburgh, and all the arrangements are as perfect and complete as possible. There seems no reasonable doubt that the statue will be finished by the time now fixed on—June 1849, or even earlier.

IRELAND.—At a meeting of the Irish confederation, Mr. T. F. Meagher said, "Is an insurrection probable? If probable, is it practicable? Prove to me that it is, and I, for one, will vote for it this very night. (Tremendous cheers.) You know well, my friends, that I am not one of those tame moralists who say that liberty is not worth a drop of blood. (Hear, hear, hear.) Men who subscribe to such a maxim are fit for out-door relief, and for nothing better. (Loud cheers and laughter.) Against this miserable maxim, the noblest virtue that has served and sanctified humanity appears in judgment. From the blue waters of the bay of Salamis—from the valley over which the sun stood still and lit the Israelite to victory—from the cathedral in which the sword of Poland has been sheathed in the shroud of Kosciusko—from the convent of St. Isidore, where the fiery hand that rent the ensign of St. George upon the plains of Ulster has crumbled into dust—from the sands of the desert, where the wild genius of the Algerine so long had scared the eagle of the Pyrenees—from the ducal palace in this kingdom, where the memory of the gallant and seditious Geraldine enhances, more than royal favour, the nobility of his race—from the solitary grave which, within this mute city, a dying request has left without an epitaph—oh! from every spot where heroism has had its sacrifice or its triumph, a voice breaks in upon the cringing crowds that cheer this wretched maxim, crying out—'Away with it, away with it.' (Tremendous cheers.) Would to God, sir, that we could take every barrack in the island this night, and with our blood purchase the independence of the country."—(Renewed and rapturous cheering.)

UTRECHT CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE.—The old year closed under distressing circumstances in our city. Divine service had been concluded at the church at seven o'clock in the evening, but as a light was still perceived within the building at one o'clock some alarm was excited. On opening the church door, the whole body of the church was in a mass of flames. The conflagration proceeded with such rapidity that all hope of extinguishing it was at an end. There was scarcely time to save some books and furniture of the church. The fire engines were on the spot, and every exertion was made to save the noble edifice, but without effect. The church and tower became a prey to the flames, and nothing remains but the walls. Happily for the crowd who were assembled, the tower fell inwards, and the clock, weighing 500lb., was buried under the ruins. The church was built in 1652, and was repaired only a few years since. The cause of the fire has not yet been ascertained, but it is thought that in putting out the fire in the stove due care was not taken to extinguish it completely.—*Dutch Papers*, Jan. 5.

MR. ROWLAND HILL AND THE POST-OFFICE.—It is understood that the unrestricted control of the money order department of the post-office throughout the kingdom has been placed in the hands of Mr. Rowland Hill by the Postmaster-General, with a view to its improvement and extension. No step could have been adopted in connexion with this branch of the Government service more calculated to afford satisfaction to the public, while at the same time it furnishes a good precedent, and in England a most rare one, in allowing freedom of action to a reformer, master of his subject, instead of permitting his plans to be marred by official pedants, and then complaining of delays or of imperfections.—*Times*.

NEW ERA IN STEAM NAVIGATION.—In the *Washington Union*, of January 5, is a long report from a board of professional engineers and others, appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to test an important improvement in the construction of naval steam engines, the invention of Captain Ericsson. There appears to be an apparatus called an evaporator, and another a condenser, conveniently arranged amidst the machinery so as to occupy very little space. By this, the steam after performing its work, is converted into water and forced back into the boiler—again and again taking the same routine. The whole is said to be complete and perfect, and the following results attained:—1. A steamer may go to sea and complete her voyage without ever having one particle of salt water in her boiler, if she will begin it with fresh water. 2. She need not carry any tanks of fresh water, but can make it from the sea at will; thus saving the space for fuel. 3. Besides the supply for the boiler and culinary purposes, enough fresh water can be made to allow each sailor a bath every day, the supply may be so ample. 4. The fires need never be extinguished to relieve the boilers of salt or mud, as neither salt nor mud will ever get in; thus saving fuel. 5. The boiler will require little or no watching; being once arranged, the machinery will do the rest, and keep up the exact supply of pure water. 6. A boiler at sea, especially in the Gulf of Mexico, will last two or three times as long as at present, as no impurities will be admitted there, any more than on the lakes. 7. Nearly one-fifth of the fuel will be saved, as the heat will act on the plates and flues, free of incrustations from salt or mud, and the water from the condenser, while very hot, will be pumped into the boiler. 8. A low pressure engine will answer on the Mississippi and Missouri, as well as on streams of clear water, as the muddy water will be evaporated, the vapour recondensed, and forced into the boilers as clear as crystal. 9. The awful bursting of boilers, so often occurring on the western waters, may be arrested in toto, as the saving of fuel, and the equal adaptation of the low pressure engine will induce its substitution in lieu of the powder magazines, as the engines now in use may be called. 10. The oil used around the piston of the cylinder, and the rust on the boiler, may impart a little of their taste at first to the steam and water; but a very simple filter will make it as pure as when distilled in the chemist's laboratory.

Original Correspondence.

THE WHIGS FOR EVER!

MR. ATLAS—What a sensation has been created in our usually quiet metropolis by the arrival of the ship *Canton*. She has brought out such disastrous news as to wither the hopes and blast the expectations of the colonial Tractarians. Surely, you will reply, the decision in the long-pending Bank case cannot peculiarly affect the semi-Popish body-guard. My answer is, that although it may in some measure affect the financial receipts and expenditure of a certain heterodox association, under the especial patronage of a Pembroke Wrangler, still an important decision in a much more serious case has reached the colony by the said vessel. The noble Lord of her Majesty's Treasury has committed such a terrible blunder—such a rash act as can only be pardoned by the priestly absolution of Dr. Pusey himself. What an unenviable position for the Prime Minister of England! He has actually been guilty of promoting to the vacant archiepiscopal see of Canterbury, Dr. John Bird Sumner, (*venerabile nomen*), late Bishop of Chester—the most humble-minded, truly apostolic (not by succession, but in doctrine), evangelical, and consequently orthodox member of the whole episcopal bench. Poor fellows! What a death-blow to all chance of preferment for their fellow-disciples at Oxford. They had doubtless been fondly calculating that either C. J. London or Henry Exeter would have been comfortably installed at Lambeth Palace, to eke out certain favours, in the shape of certain good livings to their Tractarian brethren across the Atlantic. But Divine Providence has ordained otherwise, and all true-hearted sons of the Protestant Church have the heartfelt gratification of witnessing that eminently distinguished Prelate, who has been ever notorious for advocating all enlightened and liberal measures both in church and state, advanced to the highest ecclesiastical station in the country.

Bishop Sumner and his excellent brother the Bishop of Winchester, have been most determined in their opposition to the extravagant views of the Oxford clique. In their charges to the clergy of their respective dioceses, they have ever exposed the dangerous errors of semi-Popery, and consistently maintained the Scriptural principles of the Anglican Church. They have supported the Church Missionary and Bible Societies, and have often been seen on a platform (one can hardly believe it in N. S. Wales) with their fellow Dissenting Christians. Lord John Russell has certainly shewn himself fully alive to the vital interests of our Establishment, by the elevation of Dr. Hampden to the See of Hereford—Dr. Musgrave to the Archbishopric of York—and, to crown all, Dr. Sumner to the Archbishopric of Canterbury. They are all men of similar sentiments, and have exhibited by their life and conduct, the meek and lowly spirit of their Lord and Master Jesus Christ. A very able work, called "Tractarianism tested by Holy Scripture and the Church of England," written by that celebrated Exeter Hall orator, the Rev. Hugh Stowell, is dedicated by permission to his highly respected and much beloved Diocesan, the late Bishop of Chester. Thanks be to God for this express interposition in behalf of the Anglican Church during these perilous times. Let us all shout and sing for joy. Hurrah for the Whigs! Long live my Lord John, and the anti-Tractarian Primate!

A CHURCHMAN OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

TO THE LORD BISHOP OF SYDNEY.

My Lord of Sydney, where is he—
With the voluntaries at the offertory.

MY LORD—When I last addressed you on the subject of your sermon on the sacraments, I little thought that your Lordship's views on the supremacy of St. Peter were so identical with the Church of Rome, that you could have possibly supported the opinions as quoted by Mr. Sconce (in his letter in justification of himself) namely: "that the Church is founded on the person of Peter—that Peter exercised a peculiar primacy over the whole Church," &c., &c.; but it is indeed too plain, my Lord, from your recent writings, and among them your letter on the offertory, that your mind is in what geologists term a transition state; whether you will harden as many Bishops have, into Arianism, or you will be fused into Popery, time only (and that probably a very short period) can

decide—one thing is certain, that we must regard you as a divine with very great suspicion.

This extraordinary diversity of opinion is strongly set forth in your Lordship's letter on the offertory: in 1838 and the previous years, we find your addresses in the Reports of the Diocesan Committee, laudatory of the system of subscriptions in support of the clergy, building churches, &c.; but lo and behold, in 1848 we find your Lordship denouncing this method of "raising money" as "worldly and politic"—that "putting names on a subscription list, or money on a plate, introduces a resemblance between going out of a church into a theatre," and in order to make these observations more cogent you contrast with these play house like collections, "our predecessors' more devout and becoming mode of raising contributions for sacred and devout purposes by the offerings or devotions of the people;" the vagueness of the simile between plate collections and play house tickets, deserves no notice; but there is, my Lord, something splanatic and censorious in the remark—something in this though perhaps not intended by your Lordship, censurable of those societies at home and those numerous individuals here, who have for so many years together enrolled their names upon the subscription lists of our church societies, and liberally placed their donations upon the plate at an annual meeting, the motive, my Lord, for this liberality, is inscrutable to us, and surely merits some thing better from your Lordship's pen than, "raising money as if it were some worldly or political object," some theatrical contribution.

In 1838, we find you declaring that there is "honor conferred upon individuals and whole families" through the liberality of their subscriptions (possibly collected in ladies' reticules, or on plates), and stating "that this is a manifestation of the zeal for the maintenance of the true faith of the Gospel, with which we trust the Almighty is well pleased;" while in the 6th resolution of the Diocesan Report for the same year 1838, it is declared under your Lordship's sanction, "that this meeting cannot refrain from the expression of the lively feelings of gratitude entertained by them, &c., &c., for the very liberal subscriptions entered into in England, and placed at the disposal of the Lord Bishop of the diocese in aid of their spiritual wants," while in that year no less a sum than near £2000 was "raised" in this colony by subscriptions, donations, and plate collections, in Sydney, Newcastle, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, Windsor, &c., for ecclesiastical purposes, out of which, £50 was voted toward increasing the salaries of eight clergymen recently arrived, making a sum of £400 in the aggregate profanely "raised" for the holy purpose of supporting the ministry.

Then, my Lord, in those palmy days of an overflowing treasury, we never heard of any compunctions of conscience as to "raising money" by subscription lists—we heard nothing of the more pure and holy motives of our predecessors at the offertory, nay, your Lordship presiding at the Church Missionary Society (though branded by many high churchmen as schismatical) presiding at the Diocesan Committees, Parochial Associations, &c., never seemed to doubt as the money flowed in that it was unsanctified and an unholy thing, nor in the cathedral fund whereby other churches are as the apostle says robbed, or the Lay Association the offspring of Tractarian arrogance, do we find your Lordship's tenderness of conscience lead you to the rejection of the "money so raised." Nor, my Lord, to carry your principle to a very legitimate extreme, now that you confess your "criminality in forsaking the ways of the Reformers of our Church," do we find your Lordship disavowing government aid toward the stipends of yourself and your clergy, or the assistance rendered toward building churches from the same source, although you must be cognizant that this money is seldom raised on a plate but out of the drunkard's cup at the publican's tap, from the licensed theatre, the pains and penalties of illicit distillation, the epicures table, the murderous affray, and from many such other sources of vice and profligacy.

Surely, my Lord, if you were consistent with your present principles you must view with horror this unconsecrated pelf, these unhallowed fruits of the people's vices, now especially that "the voluntary system of the Church of England by means of the offertory has succeeded and will continue to succeed," more especially, my Lord, as you declare that "unless the act of giving be made devotional or dependent upon religious impressions directly present to the mind," the elements of success "must be wanting."

How, my Lord these several religious societies and associations of our Church have one after the other become abortive of good? how the elements of decay have entered into them so that any trace of them is scarce left more than a mere name, and how every thing in your Lordship's diocese connected with the Church, whether it be Parochial schools, Grammar Schools, Diocesan and Parochial Committees, Book Societies, and two or three imbecile attempts at Church Publications, have all more or less failed, or represent unto us little else than a paralysed body dragging out a miserable existence, is a question indeed of great moment, and this especially, my Lord, when we see other religious bodies without government assistance and relying exclusively upon voluntary aid, making progress; while we, the most numerous, the most influential, the most wealthy portion of the community are every day becoming less united, more torpid, less self-supporting, is indeed a subject for deep reflection.

You, my Lord, charge the laity with apathy, and insinuate that we are wanting "in that devotional principle which is the element of sure success;" while we, my Lord, blame you for absolutism. We regard you as our metropolitan, but not as our Pope. There is, my Lord, a condescension which wins the heart and opens the purse—there is an openness of conduct which at once begets confidence—there is a wisdom in leading opinion and directing it right—these are qualities essential to success in the leader of any body; in these qualities, my Lord, you are wanting, and therefore wanting in some of the first requisites to govern—a dogged waywardness and an absolutism of control will never suit the freedom of the Protestant mind—some few crouching ministers, possessing no force of character—some lay members who have no originality of thought, men born to be the bondsmen of higher powers, may yield submission, may pay homage, but the deference of the thinking is changed into pity and into contempt.

Not only, my Lord, have divisions taken place within us

defying any unity of effort, but when we look without we see the slumbering wrath of other Protestant denominations kindling against our Church, and this is occasioned by the oft repeated provocations they have received from your Lordship and a peculiar class of the clergy and laity who adopt the exclusive spirit of being the only Church of true apostolical descent.

And is this a time, my Lord, to force upon us the disputed question of the offertory—is this a fitting season to encourage against the will of the people the paltry question of the surplice, surely, my Lord, you have cast discretion overboard, you have forgotten the charity of the Apostles, who would not offend their weak brethren even by eating meat—you have forgotten that while you denounce schism you are provoking it, that you have driven several families without the pale of our Church.

On this question of the offertory, why go back to the twilight days of Edward VI., why not at once go back to Henry 8th's primer and the six articles; but true to the Newmanite school, your Lordship looks back into the recesses of antiquity for support, shunning the clearer light of our revised service; you state that no alterations, save such as you specify, have taken place in these rubrics, which, my Lord, is an assertion contrary to historical fact (see *Wheatly on Common Prayer*.) But taking the present rubric as our guide, I maintain first, that collections are not always made when the offertory sentences are read, else why that peculiar rubric: "If there be no alms or oblations, then shall the words (of accept our alms and oblations) be left unsaid." And why that rubric of leaving "one or more of these sentences to the convenience or discretion of the clergyman," or why that concluding rubric, "that when there be no sacrament then shall be said (not done or collected) all that is appointed."

In some old churches the collections for the poor are made during the singing of the Psalms, although the offertory sentences conclude the service. But, secondly, I contend, "as the way for providing for the clergy is by tithes," (Hooker,) the offertory collections are intended for the poor; and this I gather from the rubric, which says, "the money given at the offertory shall be disposed of to such pious and charitable purposes as the ministers and churchwardens shall think fit," &c. Now, I ask, is it possible to suppose that the ministers and churchwardens shall have this description of control over the salaries of the clergy, or that the minister shall have this kind of control over his own salary. While further, on your Lordship's shewing that the offertory without the communion has been long abandoned in England, we have the law of custom in our favour. "It is not easy (saith Bishop Burnett) to revive again antiquated rules, even though there may be good reasons for it (even raising money), when they fall under that tacit abrogation which arises out of long and general disuse of them." As for the gift of reconciliation on the altar, I apprehend, my Lord, that without any communion, this Jewish observance would be very applicable to Mr. Sconce and your Lordship, for verily one or other of you is a grievous offender against the law of charity. If, however, you maintain your High Church principles and Tractarian teaching, this reconciliation cannot be far off. "In saying this," says Mr. Sconce, "I shall have true Protestants on my side, for they are right in calling High Churchmen semi-Papists, and in declaring that Oxford theology leads to Rome." Thus, my Lord, building upon the same foundation of the person of St. Peter, you and this misguided visionary may yet embrace with the kiss of peace before the high altar of St. Mary's.

Alh, how many now deeply sigh,
For days long since gone by!
When in harmony we dwelt,
In prayer together knelt,
Nor thought it then a crime
To join with friends of ev'ry clime;
While Hill, with sweetest voice,
And Marsden, Wilberforce's choice,
And Cartwright, of zealous fame,
And Cowper, still the same,
Led on the youthful band
To Zion's heavenly land.
But what strange sights now we see,
Crosses, Priests, and Offertory.

SHANDY.

MR. ATLAS—If your Parramatta correspondent would read over the Church Act attentively, he would see that it does not rest with the Bishop to appoint Churchwardens, but with the Pewholders, &c., this being a case where the Churchwardens have gone out from want of qualification, &c. And as the Act does not restrict the calling of a vestry meeting to the Clergyman, let the Trustees, Pewholders, &c., do it; and should the Clergyman refuse, Clergymen violating a Canon are subject to an ecclesiastical enquiry, on presentation to the Diocesan.

SHANDY.

MR. ATLAS—Have the Government a priority of claim in an Insolvent Estate over the other Creditors?

My reason for asking is, that Mr. Commissioner Beckham, has seized and placed in the Public Pound at Burrowa, in the County of King, (not in the Pound appointed, outside the Limits of Location,) 135 head of horned cattle—to be sold in the usual way, for arrears of assessment to the tune of £13, due, as alleged, from the Insolvent Estate of Mr. Robert McKay Campbell, of Wingello; and I am informed the sum now to be levied for by the sale of these cattle is £23—no small swelling of the original sum of arrears of assessment. I am also informed from credible authority, that 14 head of horses have been ordered to be collected and placed also in Pound, and that the horses are not to be gathered by the two policemen attached to Mr. Commissioner Beckham's Establishment, but that £3 is to be given for collecting them by other parties, for why, forsooth, because these two paid constables, mounted on Government horses, think it a hard case they should not receive a bonus for their trouble. It is to be recollected that besides the £23 levied for, there are now the Pound-keepers fees to be added.

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Burrowa, 12th June, 1848.