

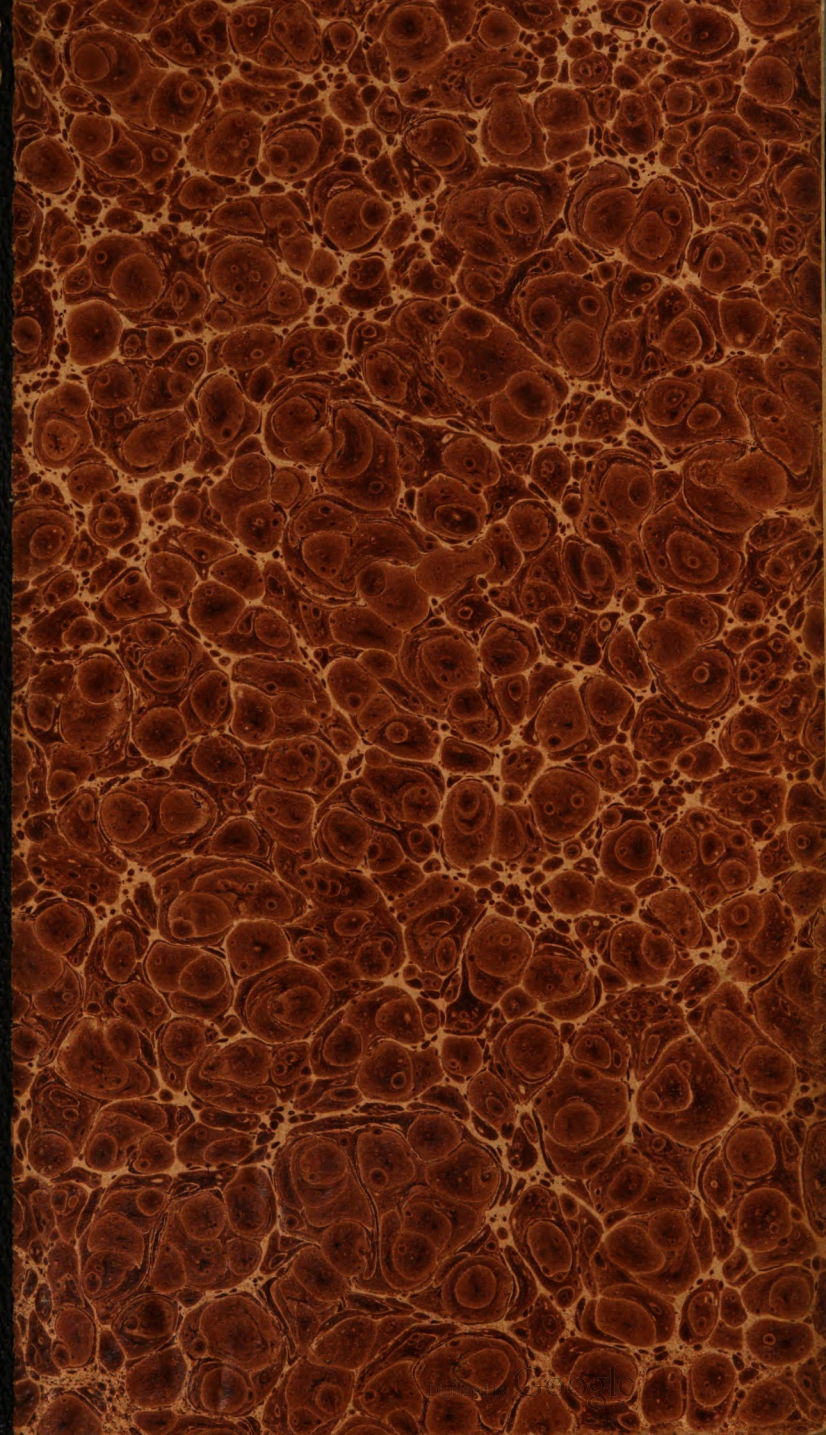
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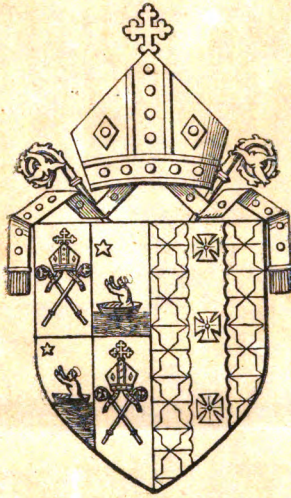
Collegiate Church and College,

ISLE OF CUMBRAE.

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SPECIAL  
MEETING OF THE CHAPTER,

JULY 30 AND 31, 1874.



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ISLE OF CUMBRAE:  
PRINTED AT THE GARRISON PRESS.

1874.



THE  
COLLEGIATE CHURCH AND COLLEGE,  
*ISLE OF CUMBRAE.*

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BY desire of the Visitor, the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles (Dr. GEORGE R. MACKARNES), a special Chapter of this Collegiate Church was summoned for Thursday, July 30th. There were present, besides the Bishop and the Provost (Dr. CAZENOVE), the following Canons:— The Revs. J. P. KEIGWIN, Sacrist; J. A. EWING, Rector of Westmill, Herts; H. BROWN, of Sherrington, Bucks, late Assistant Tutor; J. HORNE, Missionary Canon; and of the Honorary Canons, the Revs. G. C. WHITE, Vicar of St. Barnabas', Pimlico; G. WILLIAMS, Vicar of Ringwood, Hants; Hon. H. DOUGLAS, Rector of Hanbury, Worcestershire; H. H. RICHARDSON, Chaplain to the Earl of Glasgow (Founder of the Collegiate Church and College); and WALTER BELL, Incumbent of Lochgilphead, Argyllshire. The Rev. H. MEYNELL, Chaplain to the Bishop of Argyll, and Vice-Provost of the College of St. John of Lichfield, also took his seat as an Honorary Canon, having been just appointed. Of the other Members of the Chapter, Canon BECKETT is at present in South Africa; and Archdeacon FREEMAN, Canon BRIGHT, and Canon WYNTER sent letters of apology for being unable to attend. The Chapter was duly opened

with prayer in the Chapter-House at 10.30 a.m., the chair being occupied by the Provost, who had the Visitor and the Founder on either side.

The Bishop then submitted to the Chapter his suggestions for increasing the efficiency of the College, "as an integral portion of the working power of the Diocese," in accordance with the Resolution of the Diocesan Synod of August 3, 1853.

His LORDSHIP said—

"MY LORD, MR. PROVOST, AND REV. BRETHERN OF THE CHAPTER,—I greatly prefer on such an important occasion to commit to writing, and to read, with your permission, the few remarks I have to make, rather than to trust myself to speak without notes the thoughts that arise in my mind.

That it is an important occasion none of us here present I am sure will question.

A quarter of a century ago, a Layman of this Diocese conceived the idea of founding a College in the Island of Cumbrae, the chief objects of which were to celebrate the public worship of Almighty GOD, and to aid the Bishop and Clergy of this Diocese in carrying on the Church's work. A more noble project can scarcely be imagined.

A quarter of a century has passed away—and we are now assembled within the beautiful, and (I may say) stately walls of that College. Its Founder, I thank GOD, is still here—filling a more exalted position than he then did, but animated with the same spirit of devotion for the Church, and with the same belief in her divine mission as then. The College has gone on all these years, carrying forward with varying success its even and uninterrupted course of work. I see around me men who have been associated with that work from some of its earliest days, still at their posts, and it may be said, what have we now to do at this Chapter meeting, except

to settle some few matters of routine, and to report on the financial prospects of the College?

A glance at the paper of *Agenda* will show that this cannot be so.

I am reminded by the first and foremost subject, which as your Bishop and Visitor, I have the honour to bring forward—that at a Synod of this Diocese held only four years after the foundation of the College its Constitution was carefully considered, and by that Synod formally ratified and confirmed. The objects were approved, (what Diocesan Synod could do otherwise than approve?), and the regulations for its management and government received the authoritative sanction of the Bishop and clergy, by whom it was *unanimously* resolved that the thanks of the Synod should be given to its noble Founder—and *further*, (to this I beg to call your special attention) that the Synod “having adopted on the above basis this Church and College, as an *integral portion of the working power of the Diocese*, prays that Almighty GOD may sanction and bless the same, and render it conducive to the best interests of His Holy Religion.”

I take it that at this important epoch of the history of this College—the conclusion of the first quarter of a century of its corporate life—the thought that must be uppermost in the minds of all here present is—how far has the pious object of the founder been attained, and how far have the prayers of the Synod of 1853 been answered, that “as an integral portion of the working power of the Diocese,” the best interests of CHRIST’S holy religion should be promoted throughout the Diocese.

Now it would ill become me as a new member of your body, and but recently called to the highest place in your councils—to review the past too narrowly, still less to make any disparaging remarks, even if it were possible, with regard to the labours of those who have gone before me.

I know that good work has been done, and is being



done here. I look at that beautiful Chapel with its perpetual services, and constant Eucharists, which for so many years must have fed the spiritual life of many devout souls, which must have elevated the standard of ritual, and held up a shining testimony to the existence of this ancient branch of the Catholic Church, amidst the depressing influences of surrounding Puritanism—and I feel that Cumbrae has done a grand work. I see the excellent village school, if I may transplant the English word, connected with St. Andrew's Church, and I know that work must have been done there. I have met in various parts of the world men who have read at Cumbrae during the Long Vacation, and who, aided by the deep learning of the Provost, and moulded by the religious spirit of the place, have confessed to me the advantages they have derived. There has been the school of the choristers too, a most valuable element in the system, needing perhaps some improvement, but still valuable in its actual results. All these facts, and there are others, which I might mention, would make me reel with scorn the assertion, which I have heard in England, and elsewhere—that Cumbrae College has failed in its object. It has not done so—*it has done good work*—but I want it to do more. I cannot disguise from myself, that, as an “integral portion of the working power of the Diocese,” it has *not* accomplished all that its Founder anticipated, or that the Church in Scotland expects from it.

I came into this Diocese, as you all know, in the spring of this year—not indeed a stranger to the country, or its inhabitants—but little acquainted with the actual condition of the Church—the status of its Clergy, the strength and weakness of its position, its resources and means of supply. All this I have had to learn for myself by observation and enquiry. I do not say that I have mastered the subject—far from it—but I have already learned much. I have learned, I think, at least this,

that there is a great work for Cumbræ to do—that Cumbræ is not doing all it might, and that if the decay of the Church in the Western Highlands is to be arrested, and its fading embers fanned into a flame, it must be by means of Cumbræ, or some such religious house.

For what do I find? A number of poor Incumbencies, congregations almost struggling for existence, the Clergy inadequately paid, in the large towns and places of resort streams of English tourists pouring in during the summer months, and for want of accommodation in our Churches, or of extra Clergy to meet the demand at such times, going to schismatical places of worship, provided by men calling themselves, I regret to say, English *Churchmen*—in the Upper Highlands a Gaelic speaking population dwindling away, so far as the Church is concerned, for want of clerical supervision and adequate pastoral care—one or two of our Churches, which were open 30 years ago, abandoned—the children of the old non-juring Episcopalians lapsing into Presbyterianism. How is all this to be arrested, and the tide turned?

When I thought the matter over, without any reference to Cumbræ, I said to myself, “There should be a Missionary College with a certain number of Missionary Priests, ready to go forth at the request of the Diocesan to do the Church’s work under his direction. This is the only way in which these wants can be supplied. You cannot place a Clergyman down in some solitary glen, or lonely island, to hunt up the few Episcopalians still scattered about—cut off from all intercourse with his own class from January to December—with small stipend,—few books perhaps—his very position may have the worst effect upon his character—but let the same Priest have a home at such a College, to which at stated intervals he can return—going from place to place for two or three months at a time at the Bishop’s request, and with the Bishop’s licence—then seeking moral and intellectual refreshment for a month or so at the headquarters of his

Missionary College—to be nerved for fresh work in the same, or other outlying districts of this geographically vast Diocese, and something, it seemed to me may yet be done, under GOD'S blessing, to draw together the scattered units of the Episcopalian community, and give some chance of cohesion to the *disjecta membra* of our once vigorous body.

Well, then, I looked around, and saw Cumbrae ready to hand. I examined its statutes and the Founder's own statement of its objects. Everything confirmed me in the belief that it was intended to be such a College as I wanted for my work. I read that its *chief* object, after the one grand purpose of promoting the glory of GOD by daily prayer and frequent celebration of Holy Communion, was "to place at the disposal of the Bishop a certain number of Clergy, who, under his direction, shall minister to such members of the Church as cannot afford a resident pastor, and would otherwise be precluded from many spiritual privileges." Here was the very solution of my difficulty, but unfortunately here I found the organization was incomplete (not altogether, I will say parenthetically, for one of our body has been filling a gap in the Diocesan Clergy in the most kind and efficient manner (Rev. Canon Horne), for which I here formally tender my most grateful acknowledgment), still it was not so to speak in the regular order of things, and I considered myself exceptionally fortunate to have secured his services. Other wants cropped up—the island of Mull had a church, but no pastor. Skye is still left without any Clergyman of our communion. In the northern part of Argyllshire, where the Church pulse still beats somewhat more vigorously than in other parts of the diocese—a supernumerary Priest is greatly needed. I could not get help from Cumbrae for these and other wants, and I had nowhere else to turn. I will not weary you with my difficulties. Some here present know the facts of the case as well, and better than I do. I have

only said enough to show that there is some reason for putting at the head of the paper, which I hold in my hands, the announcement that the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles will submit to the Chapter his suggestions for increasing the efficiency of the College "as an integral portion of the working power of the Diocese, in accordance with the Resolution of the Diocesan Synod of August 3, 1853."

I wish then to say that I desire no radical changes—I desire to do away with nothing that is now working well. I wish to be as conservative as possible of all that time has proved to be advantageous in the College system—but I do most earnestly hope and pray that the *first* pious intention of the Founder, so beautifully expressed in the Preamble of his Constitution may be more faithfully carried out, *viz.*, that the Endowment provided for the Provost and Canons of this College may "aid the Bishop of the Diocese in feeding the flock committed to his care."

For this purpose Cumbrae must become what it was intended to be—a Missionary College.

That must be its primary aim.

It may do much in the Educational department. I hope and trust it will. In so far as it trains young men for the Ministry of the Church it is of course strictly carrying out the first principles of a Missionary College. The education of choristers may work to the same end, and I for one fully recognize the value of the Long Vacation Students, and believe that under certain limitations their encouragement may be a great help to our proper work, but first and foremost I suggest that there shall be at least four Missionary Clergy, including the Provost, and that one at least of them shall always be a Gaelic-speaking *Priest*, one who can go about, preaching, and ministering the Sacraments among those Gaelic-speaking congregations, in whom your late Bishop took such a warm and loving interest.

I will not now enter into details which must be considered carefully, but I suggest that these should be paid partly out of Endowment, partly out of the offertories of places to which they are sent, partly out of a fund which I hope may be raised by the liberality of Scottish and English Churchmen.

The Provost, himself to take part in Missionary work, must of course be resident for a very considerable portion of the year—in fact, in permanent residence, subject only to those periods of vacation which all working men require. And here I must say (in passing) that the announcement, which was yesterday received by some with surprise, by all with regret, of the intended resignation of our able and esteemed Provost, is the most powerful confirmation of the truth of what I have just said. His heart seems to turn towards the work which he has undertaken in the East of Scotland and elsewhere, and he feels that he could not adequately discharge the duties which would devolve upon him in both spheres of ministry. My small acquaintance with this place enables me to say that when he leaves he will carry with him the esteem of the whole community, and that it will be very difficult to replace a man of such versatility of genius, and such kindness of temper, and courtesy to his coadjutors.

I am not presuming in these remarks to dictate any course of proceeding to the Chapter. I am merely throwing out my own suggestions for their consideration, and it will be at once evident, that the scheme B, which Lord Glasgow in his carefully considered paper of suggestions (in the hands of you all) has put second in order, is in its general outline the one which I should wish, so far as I can, to press upon the Founder and Chapter.

I earnestly entreat you to look at it in this light.

I am speaking simply as your Bishop. I have reason to believe that your late much respected Bishop was, in

the first instance, induced to give that cordial support which he did give, and to accept the office of Provost, under the full belief that this College would have been a more distinctly Missionary College than it has proved itself to be. If in the later years of his Episcopate, though *never* I am sure wanting in the most genuine courtesy and kindness to its members, he may have manifested less interest than of old in the College itself, may it not have been that he was somewhat disappointed in this respect?

Again, if in some other quarters there has been mistrust of the College, and considerable apathy and coldness in recognizing its claims to general sympathy, may it not have been that in this eminently practical age, and amongst this eminently practical people, it was considered to have in this respect failed to do what it proposed. Would you not conciliate much more esteem and gain co-operation if the Missionary Clergy of this College were found working for the Church in various—even the most remote parts of the Diocese.

I desire to recall you to your "first love,"—to a more strict fulfilment of what I believe to have been the original intention of the noble Founder.

We are living in dangerous days. Our dear sister Church in England is passing through a crisis of no ordinary magnitude. It is more than ever incumbent upon us to be up and doing, not to slumber at our posts, but in our smaller sphere of action to set up a standard of duty and practice, which may even strengthen the hands of our English brethren in their hour of difficulty.

Every wave that beats upon the rocky shore reminds us of St. Columba and his missionary labours. Do not let us be satisfied with picturesque and sentimental eulogies of his laborious life; but let us be sure that, guided by the same blessed Spirit which led him onward in his work, we under all the altered circumstances of our age and civilization, may still aim at the same ob-

jects at which he aimed ; yes, and accomplish results of a similar kind to those which have made his name such a landmark in the history of Scotland's Church.

I have said enough (perhaps more than enough), to indicate the course which I individually should like to see taken. I will not weary you with more preliminary observation. Details and difficulties will have to be faced by us in the debates which must now ensue. I pray GOD to bless our deliberations to the good of the Church, and the glory of His Holy name."

The thanks of the Chapter were given to the Bishop for his address, and the Founder also expressed his deep sense of gratitude for the recognition and encouragement thus afforded.

The FOUNDER then laid before the Chapter a Statement of the Land and House Property in Cumbrae, and also Insurance Policies, which he is now about to hand over to a body of Trustees for the benefit of this Church and College. The estimated value of these securities (not comprising any valuation of the Collegiate Church and College Buildings), amounts to £20,603, and the Donor is not without hope that additions to it may accrue from himself, from members of his family, and in time from other Churchmen. He likewise submitted to the Chapter Three Schemes for the working of the Institution, based upon the existing Constitution and Statement of Objects laid before the Diocesan Synod of 1853. One of these Schemes, the Second, found universal favour, receiving not merely the independent approval of all present, but likewise that of Archdeacon FREEMAN and of Canon BRIGHT, who, being unable to attend, sent written opinions.

The Scheme now adopted, of which Scheme "B" formed the basis, with certain alterations in matters of detail, allocates the Annual Expenditure of the College

somewhat as follows (assuming (1) an Income equivalent to that represented by the capital of the Endowment, and (2) certain Supplemental Allowances as at present arranged):—

1. Provost and Reader in Theology (with House or Rooms),	£300	0	0
2. Canon KEIGWIN—			
As Incumbent of St. Andrew's, . . . . .	£75	0	0
As Sacrist and Chapter Clerk, . . . . .	15	0	0
As Canon, . . . . .	10	0	0
		100	0
3. Rev. H. H. RICHARDSON, Honorary Canon—			
For Occasional Services, . . . . .		15	0
4. Canon HORNE, Missionary—			
As Canon, . . . . .	£10	0	0
For Expenses, . . . . .	25	0	0
		35	0
5. Missionary Canon or Priest, . . . . .		150	0
6. Do. do. . . . .		150	0
7. Two Exhibitioners, at £50 each (one of whom will probably assist in the Education of the Choristers), . . . . .		100	0
8. Organist and Six Choristers (as no House is yet provided the Organist has out of this Sum to pay Rent), . . . . .		265	0
9. EXTRA—			
Allowance for House, Servants, &c., &c., . . . . .		150	0
** Repairs, Renewal of Furniture, &c., to be separately provided for.			

By this Scheme the Bishop will in future have, in addition to the present staff of resident Clergy, at least two Canons or Priests, who, together with Canon HORNE, will be able to minister to the needs of the scattered members of the Church in Skye, Mull, the Lews, and other distant parts of the Diocese where no resident Clergyman is at present located.

It was fully understood that, *at least*, two Exhibitioners, one of whom to be destined for the Gaelic districts, should continue to be maintained and educated as heretofore, in connection with the College. The reception of Students from the Universities, reading at the College for longer or shorter periods, is to depend upon arrangements made with the future Provost.



The grateful thanks of the Chapter were duly given to the Founder for these fresh proofs of his zeal and munificence.

The BISHOP intimated that although he had not as yet been present at all the Services, he felt that he could have no hesitation in sanctioning the customs which had been so many years in use under the agreement subsisting between the late Bishop and the Chapter.

Other matters connected with the conduct of the Services and the education of the Choristers were discussed at great length during the day, and also at the adjourned Meeting held the following morning.

Canon WILLIAMS intimated that as the College would soon be a corporate body, in possession of land, &c., he should wish to present to the Chapter an appropriate Seal, and Lord GLASGOW undertook to have a design prepared and submitted for approval.

Canon WILLIAMS then moved—

“That the Chapter cannot receive the intelligence of the approaching resignation of Provost CAZENOVE without recording their sense of the great loss which the College will sustain, as well of the great ability and the uniform kindness and courtesy with which he has discharged the duties of his office; and their great satisfaction that, as a Canon, he will still continue his connection with the College.”

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The FOUNDER stated that the Bishop of the Diocese in conjunction with himself, was most fully sensible of the great importance of establishing a more intimate relation between the Collegiate Church of Cumbrae and the Clergy of the Diocese. The Church and College

would soon cease to be personal property, and would be formally conveyed to Trustees for the benefit of the Church and of the Diocese, and he hoped that some arrangement would then be made for certain of the Diocesan Clergy being invited to accept Prebendal Stalls, or enrolled with the existing Honorary Canons.

The BISHOP in a few words expressed his entire concurrence with what had been said, and also his sincere thanks to the Chapter for the cordial way in which they had accepted his views as to the future working of the College.

After the customary votes of thanks, the BISHOP, by the PROVOST'S request, pronounced the Benediction, and the Chapter was formally closed.

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The Rev. HENRY MEYNELL, Chaplain to the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, and nominated by him to an Honorary Canonry, was duly installed in the Collegiate Church during Evensong, on 30th July.

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