

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Glance at the Present Position of Popery.

Mr. Editor,—

While I write, many Christians throughout the Protestant world are uniting in prayer to Almighty God for the downfall of Papal Antichrist and the universal spread of the Gospel...

But perhaps some of your clerical readers may still be urging the same objections to this Union for Prayer to which we have often listened with pain while pressing the duty of Protestants in respect of Popery.

It is not, however, of mere numerical calculations that our strength in a union of this nature is to be estimated. Praying people in general have been but few comparatively in every age.

We cannot, however, but think that the countenance given by our nation of late years to Popery forms an important element in our national delinquencies for which the God of battles is at present frowning upon us.

In the present aspect of the papal world we see especially a loud call for the General Union for Prayer.

Spain also, like Piedmont, has grown weary of feeling so many thousands of idle emissaries of the Pope, and has commenced in right earnest to suppress the monasteries.

Even Ferdinand of Naples does not seem to be behind amongst the nations of Europe in the display of hostility towards the See of Rome.

We have this, Mr. Editor, hastily glanced at a few facts in regard to Popery which call loudly for united and fervent prayer on the part of the people of God throughout the Protestant world.

In other countries, however, Popery is upon the decline, and this affords an encouraging stimulus to prayer for its utter downfall.

bound by their religion to religious intolerance, and to a foreign monarchial power? Are you willing to vote, and assist as much as lies in your power to suppress convents, as inconsistent with the free republican institutions of this country?

But if we turn to the Continent of Europe, we cannot fail to perceive ominous indications which call loudly for united prayer from the Protestant world.

It is especially the case in regard to the Sardinian States. Up till 1848, the Pope, through his ecclesiastics, was the real ruler of Piedmont.

But the Sardinian States are struggling to take this second step—to recover one fourth of their soil which has been torn from them by the Papal See.

Spain also, like Piedmont, has grown weary of feeling so many thousands of idle emissaries of the Pope, and has commenced in right earnest to suppress the monasteries.

Austria, too, shows similar indications of decline in her entire allegiance to the Pope.

In France, also, we find the same opposition to this new dogma of Rome, though not so open as that of Austria.

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God be often there as in one place and with one mind, and our God will come to accomplish His own purposes, in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Sin, and in the extension of Messiah's Kingdom over the whole world.

Yours, &c.,

The Harvey Case.

Mr. Editor,—

In my last, as published in the Witness of Saturday, I notice more than the usual quantity of typographical eccentricity.

I accept the honours, which my opponent heaps on me kindly, as they are given. As a "bishop" it has been my duty to "consecrate" some of his proceedings—and as a "priest" I have endeavoured to give to the name "no uncertain sound" respecting them.

It is a pity too that Mr. Sutherland, and not it is the "Village of Polly" to consult its "bishop" when he finds an opportunity to "poison" upon his neighbours.

Mr. Smith's letter may still be "a speck for itself." This gentleman however must pardon me, (and blame Mr. Sutherland,) if I reproduce two or three of his more remarkable sentences.

"I have been informed that Mr. Thompson has accepted of a call to a place called Economy, when I heard of this I thought it was my duty to let you know lest they should keep you in suspense.

Mr. Barnes, Harvey has begun to speak out for itself. Will you allow me (it need not be necessary) very respectfully to say to you "Hear Harvey, on both sides fully, freely, impartially."

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1st. A year ago, the only congregation in Harvey, was the congregation that called Mr. Thompson.

2nd. With this congregation, Free Church, brethren did "tamper" most unwarrantably.

3rd. The means by which the seceding house was conveyed to the Free Church were clearly dishonest and "unlawful."

4th. Yet the Free Church brethren ordained Mr. Smith, in that same house, as the minister of a minority; (the majority protesting) which minority but a few weeks previously declared themselves of the Establishment.

5th. And lastly, Mr. Editor I would not have it forgotten that we of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia did not bring "the Harvey Case" before the public, "until the more friendly means of private remonstrance had been tried and failed."

I remain, Mr. Editor, very truly yours, EBENEZER ROSS.

March 6th, 1855.

The Presbyterian Witness

Halifax, N. S., March 17, 1855.

We are obliged to omit our leading article for our present issue to make room for the important news received by the Steamer Africa, and also for a very valuable communication, from an esteemed correspondent, which was unavoidably deferred from our last.

Young Men's Christian Association.

The Rev. E. Maturin delivered the eighth lecture before this Association on Tuesday evening last; subject—"The External History of the Bible."

the verge of eloquence, the plainness of his style and the importance of the facts with which he dealt, secured the attention of the audience to a very pleasing degree.

A Token for Good.

A Foreign Missionary Society has been of late formed in Canada. Its constituency at present belong to seven different denominations of Christians.

The sole object is to spread the knowledge of Christ among the heathen and other unenlightened nations.

As the union of Christians of various denominations in carrying on this great work is a most desirable object, so to prevent, if possible, any cause of future dissension, it is declared to be a fundamental principle of the Canadian Foreign Missionary Society, that its design is not to send any particular form of church order and government (about which there may be differences of opinion among serious persons), but the glorious gospel of the blessed God, to the heathen; and that it shall be left (as it ought to be left) to the minds of the persons whom God may call to the fellowship of His Son, from among them, to assume to themselves such form of Evangelical Church Government as to them shall appear most agreeable to the Word of God.

We commend this Society to the prayers of our readers.

One of the greatest causes of scepticism and irreligion is the instability of those who make a very fair profession of religion, and who, at the bidding of mercenary interests, from vanity, or from a morbid love of notoriety, make a shipwreck of their faith.

This remark is true to this very day. How can we account for the many perversions to Popery which we have to chronicle from time to time, but by the fact that the perversers are either simpletons or practical Atheists? They may indeed, like Robert Isaac Wilberforce, have given promise of better things in their youth; but these promises are but precocious gleams, precursors of an early dawn.

Rev. A. Forrester begs to acknowledge the receipt of 13s. from Sabbath School Missionary Box, and £2 11s. 6d. from Female Missionary Association of the united congregations of Pictou, Rogers' Hill, and Carriboo River; both which sums he has paid over to the Treasurer of the MacMac Missionary Association, as directed.

Provincial Legislature.

Nothing of special interest has taken place in the Legislature during the week. On Monday the House were engaged for some time in discussing the Hon. Mr. Johnston's amendment to the Prohibitory Liquor Law, to strike out Cider from the operation of the Act, which was negatived on division, 25 to 23.

On Wednesday, in the Legislative Council, Hon. Mr. McCully brought to the notice of the members the death of the Hon. Mr. McDougall, and paid a high compliment to his memory, which was joined in by Hon. Mr. B. Almon, and several other members of that body.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Arrival of the Steamer AFRICA.

The R. M. Steamship "Africa" arrived on Thursday a little after one o'clock, bringing London and Liverpool dates of the 3d March.

Death of the Emperor of Russia.

Lord John Russell had telegraphed from Berlin that the Emperor was on the point of death from Apoplexy. This was followed by another message, announcing that the Emperor had expired at one o'clock on Friday morning, March 2nd.

The Earl of Clarendon, in announcing the news of the Emperor's death to the House of Lords, said—"The intelligence was based on a message from the British Minister at Berlin, and that there was no reason to doubt its authenticity.

A Token for Good.

The following is from the European Times of date March 3rd: This event was announced to Parliament last night by the Minister of the Crown as having taken place, and the sensation which it produced in both branches of the Legislature was not greater than that which it will cause throughout Europe and the world.

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Parliament and the Ministry.

On the re-assembling of Parliament a Ministerial statement was made in either House of the contemplated changes in the administration of the war.

The loss of a Chancellor of the Exchequer with the talents and administrative experience of Mr. Gladstone, is not inconsiderable; but there is reason to hope that the Cabinet will gain both in consistency and strength by the retirement of its Peelite members.

Sanatory precautions of an efficient description are to be instantly taken against the effects of the pestiferous effluvia which may be expected to be generated in the camp by the return of warm weather, military experience having shown that spring is the season most subject to camp fevers.

In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston also described the measures adopted by Ministers for giving efficiency to the army administration; and followed up his statement by asking the House to await the results of the efforts to be made by the new Government, before appointing the Committee of Inquiry in terms of Mr. Roebuck's motion.

House after his indisposition, was questioned by Mr. A. Duncanson as to the charges brought against him by Sir Charles Napier in his speech at the Mansion House.

The printed estimate show the enormously increased expenditure upon the army and navy on the war establishment. Before the breaking out of war, the annual cost to the country of the united services was about £15,000,000, allocated in the proportion of £6,000,000 to the army, £8,000,000 to the navy, and £3,000,000 to the Ordnance.

Retirement of the Peellites from the Ministry.—Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Sidney Herbert have retired from the Cabinet. The cause assigned for this unexpected movement is the inquiry into the management of the war by a select Committee of the House of Commons, to which Lord Palmerston consents, on condition of Mr. Roebuck submitting to a modification of the Committee, but to which the other Ministers are irreconcilably opposed in point of principle and practice.

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