

IGNORANCE.—Ignorance does much to retard the progress of religion in the world, and the growth of "Grace" in Christians. Ignorance begets a diffidence to truth...

THE BIBLE IN ITALY.—An address has been sent by some Protestants of Switzerland to the Directors of the American Bible Society, in which they request aid...

"The means employed by God, and to which must be attributed the origin, the depth, and the development of the awakening in Italy, was the same as that employed in the sixteenth century—the Word of God; and it gives us pleasure to tell you, that during the last six years, many thousands of Bibles and New Testaments have found their way into Italy, and have there borne precious fruit."

A CONVERT.—Rev. Stephen Spockhansky, late priest of the Roman Catholic Church of Patterson, N. J., has been led to inquire into the nature and claims of Protestantism, and to renounce the errors and heresies of his former church; it is believed that he has found "the pearl of great price;" but has been deposed by Archbishop Hughes, and is now at work to enlighten his Polish brethren of the Roman faith; he has addressed them through the columns of a newspaper, and has published a Tract of forty-eight pages, treating ably some of the prominent errors of Romanism.

BALLS AND DANCING SCHOOLS.—The tendency to balls, and dancing schools, like that of theatres, is to drunkenness, dissipation, and dissipation in its every form. Respectable people may attend such places, but that does not destroy the tendency; and how long their respectability will last, cannot be always told. Those who wish to live good moral, virtuous lives in this world, and not set religion aside, and a hope of heaven hereafter, should be warned of the danger from balls. "Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall."—The way of the "strange woman," of her whose way is "the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death," oftentimes leads through the ball room.—O. B. Cheney in the Morning Star.

CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES.—A livery-stable proprietor in Sacramento City, California, keeps five hostlers, three of whom, before they left the eastern states, were Broadway dry-goods clerks, and two were preachers.

MORE DISCOVERIES AT NINEVAH.—A new palace has been discovered in the ruins of Ninevah. Its beauty is said to excel any yet found in Assyria. A letter in the New York Tribune thus describes it:—"Huge monsters—compounds of the lion, man, and eagle—guard the entrances. The slabs are in fine preservation, representing the King and his officers at a lion hunt, a war scene and a victory, a state procession led by eunuchs, the King's chariot being drawn by men, with slings and spears and griffins; in fine, a picture of Assyrian manners and religion as they were three thousand years ago. The workmanship is most exquisite. The slabs are to adorn the walls of the British Museum."

FIGHTING FOR THE HOLY PLACES.—The latest news from Syria furnishes a sad commentary upon the state of religion among those who congregate around the places sacred in their historical associations to all Christians. The whole country is represented as in a state of anarchy, owing to the withdrawal of the troops for the war with Russia, and the Pashas are left without the means of enforcing their authority. The Greek and Latin clergy at Jerusalem have renewed their shameful contests about the Holy Places, while the Turkish officials had not the power to prevent them coming to blows.

General Intelligence.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The Steamer "Europa" arrived at New York on Saturday last with three days later news from England. No official announcement of the Russian Emperor's reply to the Western Powers had been received, and therefore Eastern affairs remained unchanged. It was however generally believed that the terms proposed were rejected. The private correspondence which had taken place between the Czar and the British Government in relation to Turkey was occupying public attention.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

In the year 1844, shortly after the Czar's visit to the Queen, undertaken, there can be little doubt now, for the purpose of exploring the ground, Count Nesselrode delivered a memorandum to her Majesty's Government, in which the Autocrat's views with respect to Turkey are laid down with tolerable distinctness. In this document it is hinted that the Turkish empire contains within itself "many elements of dissolution." This being the case, and inasmuch as unforeseen circumstances may hasten its fall, "a single fundamental idea seems to admit of a really practical application; it is that the danger which may result from a catastrophe in Tur-

key will be much diminished, if, in the result of its occurring, Russia and England have come to an understanding as to the course to be taken by them in common. That understanding will be the more beneficial, inasmuch as it will have the full assent of Austria." In other words, England is asked to join with Austria and Russia in a great political crime which has its exact counterpart in the infamous partition of Poland. In a subsequent portion of the letter the object is stated to be "to enter into previous concert, as to everything relating to the establishment of a new order of things intended to replace that which now exists, and in conjunction with each other to see that the change which may have occurred in the internal situation of that empire shall not injuriously affect either the security of their own States and the rights which treaties assure to them respectively, or the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe."

This was the object of the memorandum in 1844. In 1853 we are permitted to trace the plot as it verges towards the denouement. In a despatch from St. Petersburg, dated January 11th, Sir G. H. Seymour, who seems to have acted with consummate skill and determination throughout the whole of his mission, gives an account of an interview with the Czar. The Autocrat expresses his delight at the constitution of the new Ministry, hopes that it will be of long duration, and desires the Ambassador particularly to convey this assurance to the Earl of Aberdeen, with whom he had been acquainted for nearly forty years and for whom he entertained equal regard and esteem.—This was at the very time when the demonstrations which Russia was making towards the south were attracting the attention of the world, and the Czar calculated upon his professions of regard for the Prime Minister as a sort of blind during the carrying out of his project. Sir G. H. Seymour was not, however, to be tricked. Seeing that the Czar was about to leave the room with a mere casual allusion to Turkey, the Ambassador boldly but respectfully begged that "his Majesty would add a few words, calculated to calm the anxiety with regard to Turkey which passing events were so calculated to excite on the part of Her Majesty's Government." The Czar was taken aback at the request, and answered at first with a little hesitation, but as he proceeded, with more openness.—After insisting upon the necessity of union between England and Russia in the very probable event of Turkey "falling to pieces," he became suddenly confidential. "Listen!" he said; "we have a sick man on our hands—a man seriously ill; I tell you at once frankly, it will be a great misfortune if, one of these days, he slips out of our hands, especially if this happens before all the necessary arrangements are made. However, this is not the moment to speak to you on that subject." To this plain proposition for going shares in the nefarious scheme of murder and plunder, Sir G. H. Seymour replied, "Your Majesty says that the man is ill, that is very true, but your Majesty will graciously excuse me if I represent to you that it is the part of the generous and the strong man to treat the sick and the feeble man with gentleness."—Nicholas, knowing what he was about, took care to show no signs of displeasure at the English Ambassador's honest endeavour to inculcate a lesson of honesty and kindness, and the conversation dropped.

The decision of the British Government, contained in the despatch of Lord John Russell is honest and distinct. It shows argumentatively the iniquity of the project that had been brought under the notice of the Government. It points out also that the Czar understood very well, but had taken care to keep out of view, that the very fact of two of the great Powers making provisions for that partition of Turkey, contingent upon the dissolution of the empire, would hasten the dissolution itself. "An agreement thus made, and thus communicated to the other Powers" would not be long a secret; and while it would alarm and alienate all his enemies to increased violence and more obstinate conduct. This would be produced and strengthened that very anarchy which is now feared, and the foresight of the friends of the patient would prove the cause of his death.

We arrive now at the crowning feature in these remarkable transactions. It is clear that the Czar throughout the whole business could not understand the existence of any moral sense in a Government, which would cause it to reject with indignation a project of plunder. Wishing the Government of England to join with him in a piratical attempt, he has no idea that England can have any objection to the proposal, except that grounded upon the fear of not getting a due share of the booty. He, therefore, states his terms distinctly, and asks whether we can refuse now? A plainer invitation to rob and divide the spoils have never yet been made.—The Emperor went on to say that, in the event of the dissolution of our Ottoman empire, he thought it might be less difficult to arrive at a satisfactory territorial arrangement than was commonly believed. The Principalities are, he said, in fact, an independent state under my protection; this might so continue. Servia might receive the same from the Government. So, again, with Bulgaria. There seems to be no reason why this province should not form an independent state. As to Egypt, I quite understand the importance to England of that territory. I can then only say that if, in the event of a distribution of the Ottoman succession upon the fall of the empire, you should take possession of Egypt, I shall have no objection to offer. I would say the same thing of Candia; that island might suit you, and I do not know why it should not become an English possession.—As I did not wish that the Emperor should imagine that an English public servant was caught by this sort of overture, I simply answered that I had always understood that the English views upon Egypt did not go beyond the point of securing a safe and ready communication between British India and the mother-country.

Every honest man must see from this plain proposition of the Czar's that sooner or later war must have taken place. A sovereign so utterly devoid of all sense of decency as to make so barefaced a proposition as the above would have been restrained by no new agreements founded upon old treaties. Nothing but a curtailment of his power, or a disposition of his resources, will ever make an impression upon a despot who has not common honesty to restrain him. The fleets and armies of the united nations and Europe must be relied upon to teach the Czar that though he may never lose the will to do evil, he may lose the power.

CRITICAL POSITION OF AUSTRIA.—We consider every thing in relation to the condition of those nations connected with the Eastern affairs to be of great importance; not because it is a war question, affecting the political position of these governments; but as involving the great religious interest of millions of our fellow men and preparing the world for events of the most important character. The following article on the condition of Austria by the French correspondent to the New York Observer, we consider interesting at the present time.

The grave events which to-day agitate Europe, and threaten to kindle a formidable war in the East have fully disclosed the feebleness of the Austrian Empire. Viewing this empire externally, at a distance, we might believe it to be powerful, since it contains a population of more than 36 millions of people, inhabiting some of the most fertile districts of the old world; but if we carefully examine this vast colossus, and sound its internal condition our illusion quickly disappears. Notwithstanding the immense number of its subjects, the government of Vienna possesses but little strength. It is every where vulnerable, embarrassed and tottering; and threatens to fall whenever a violent commotion arises in the European continent. The chief cause of this sad condition is that Austria wants political unity. She has not assimilated and cannot assimilate to herself the people she has conquered. She cannot excite in them her own national spirit. She has in her midst antipathies of race, difference of language, diversity of customs and habits, which far from diminishing in the course of ages, seem to grow more deep and decided from generation to generation. The Austrian emperor, in order to remedy this evil, employed machavelian politics, and practised the celebrated maxim: "Divide and govern." They suppressed Southern insurrections with Northern soldiers, and insurrections in the North with Southern soldiers, thus making the different populations alternately oppress each other. These tactics sometimes succeed; but the victims in the end recognize themselves as the dupes of a perfidious proceeding, and unite in a feeling of hatred toward the oppressor.

Italy, for example, is subject, but not submissive; "she frets under her chains," in the language of the poet Alfieri, "and waits impatiently for the moment when she may rise and break them." Hungary has yielded to the Russian arms rather than to the Austrian, and bitterly remembers that the cabinet of Vienna crushed her with the hand of a stranger. The valiant Magyars, will avenge their former defeats at the first convenient opportunity. Bohemia herself still remembers her ancient nationality, and cherishes hereditary enmity against the Germans who, during the thirty year war, burned her cities and villages, demolished her chateaux, pillaged her churches, persecuted her faith, and laid waste her country. Austria is thus composed of the most heterogeneous elements; a badly organized body of which every member is disposed to separate from the others. How can an empire, so divided, occupy a high position in Europe? The finances of the Austrian government are also in a deplorable condition.

In the event of a new war, Austria will probably be reduced to the sad extremity of bankruptcy. I shall not dwell now upon the uncertainty and indecision of the cabinet of Vienna, in regard to the conflict between Russia and the Eastern powers; I have frequently spoken of it in former letters. Before the revolutions of 1848, when Prince Metternich was at the head of affairs, he jealously watched each step of the Muscovite czar, in the East, well knowing that the dignity and influence of Austria were deeply involved therein. Prince Metternich would never have united with the Emperor Nicholas in invading the provinces of the Danube. He never would have seconded the Russian pretensions to Constantinople; for the Austrian Empire, by its topographic position, is called upon, more than any power in Europe, to defend the integrity of Turkey, or at least prevent his Muscovites from gaining the ascendancy. But at the present, the firm proud policy of Metternich is not well carried out. The young Emperor, Francis-Joseph and his ministers no longer feel so entirely independent of the cabinet of St. Petersburg. They cannot forget that the Cossack bayonets were found necessary to secure the crown of the heir of Hapsburg; and they fear that, if they declared themselves against Russia, Nicholas, by his affinities with the Slavonian race will stir up Hungary and Bohemia to a revolt.

Isabella seems disposed to assume, in her turn, the heavy sword of a dictator; or rather, her counselors, not having sufficient authority or talent to govern according to parliamentary rules, have thought it would be more convenient for them to usurp a despotic power. The exiled generals have obeyed, and are turned toward their places of banishment. Other military chiefs have taken their place with an increase of salary; for money is always very useful in these acts of tyranny. Venal consciences submit only on condition of being recompensed. The magistrates, or other public functionaries of high rank have made no opposition. The priests have applauded, because despotism corresponds with their sentiments and views. The mass of the Spanish people look passive on all these intrigues and violations of right, showing at present no dissatisfaction, but they may perhaps in time be roused if some skillful adventurer succeeds in enflaming their passions. They do not however care enough about the laws to defend them. Marshal Narvaez, who is the principal military chief of the peninsula, has remained peaceably at home during this usurpation. Poor Spaniards, their paternal education has not fitted them to support the weight of liberty! They seem destined to decline more and more until they shall be entirely effaced from the list of nations.

—New York Obs.

DOMESTIC.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

We regret that we are not in receipt of our Fredericton Correspondence this week. The principle questions which have occupied the attention of the House have been the College Bill and the Liquor Law. The discussion on the latter has not yet come to hand. We shall endeavor to publish the views of members on this question when received as far as our limits will allow.

(By Telegraph to the News Room.)

FREDERICTON, April 8. College Bill debated 4 1-2 hours. Speeches by Johnson, English, Ryan, Cutler, Gilbert, Needham, Speaker, Hatheway, Harding, Street, Smith. 3 o'clock. Committee divided: for Street's amendment, Street, Partelow, Gray, Wilnot, Montgomery, Needham, Hatheway, Thomson, Boyd, Porter, Robinson, Taylor, McPherson, Jordan, Godard, Kerr, Barbarie, Reed, Williston, Gordon, Cutler, Rice, Gilbert. Nays—Speaker, Smith, Borsford, Harding, Johnson, Lewis, Landry, English, McPhelin, Stiles, McLeod, Connell, Ryan, Purdy. Bill stands—Governor to appoint 5 Commissioners, to report to House within 30 days after opening next Session.

FREDERICTON, April 10. House in Supply until 1 o'clock; and after that in committee on Scoullar's Liquor Bill. The speakers in favour of it—Scoullar, English and Needham. Against it—Street, Thomson and Johnson. Williston moved the old license law as an amendment, but the House determined to try the question on the first section. Wilnot in the chair.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Friday afternoon, Thomas Harding, Esq., an old and respectable citizen, fell down in Charlotte-street and immediately expired, while walking in the funeral train of the late Miss Pettigrew. Mr. H. was Alderman for Duke's Ward for the long period of forty years, and was Mayor of this city for the term of one year. He leaves a large family and an extensive circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.—New-Brunswick.

Very heavy and destructive freshets have recently occurred in the vicinity of Pictou, N. S.—Numerous bridges were carried away, mills injured or destroyed, and one person had 13 horned cattle, 50 sheep, and a horse drowned in his barn by the flood. Various other damage done.

We learn from a gentleman recently from England, that our Railway Contractors are making preparations to go on with our Railways with all speed, and that it is their intention to finish this summer the line between Shediac and the Bend, and that between St. John and Hampton. A number of Mr. Peto's foremen, we understand, came out in the "Middleton."—Courier.

At the late election for Mayor, in Portland, Maine, the votes were—Calhoun, 1,568; Neal Dow, 1,484. The successful competitor is said to be a Temperance man.—Free Press.

The New York Tribune reports the case of a man named Thornton Alexander who was killed by Rum in Winchester, Indiana, on the 28th March, leaving a widow and five young children in abject poverty and heart rending agony.

He was a man of more than ordinary ability, of generous impulses and flattering prospects in life until the web of the destroyer was woven about his heart. A little before he breathed his last, he said to the weeping circle around his bedside, "I am dying; whisky has done it: May those who have sold me the poison die as painful a death as mine. So he died, leaving his destitute family in anguish unutterable.

At 4 o'clock that same afternoon, a procession of forty or fifty of the noble Women of Winchester, with the agonized widow at their head, appeared in the streets of that town. They proceeded in marching order to the rum grocery of David Aker handed him a pledge that he would sell no more liquor there, and demanded his signature. He demurred; but they were resolute, and at length he put down his name, opened his doors, and told them to take out his remaining stock of liquor and destroy it. Four barrels of Whisky and six or eight kegs of what are called Brandy, Gin, Wine, &c., (all drugged, adulterated Whisky, of course,) were then rolled out and emptied into the street. The estimated value of the liquor (\$100) was then made up to him by subscription and the Temperance pioneers moved on.

The next halt was at Wm. Page's (another grocery) where they met with a stouter resistance. Page refused to sign, and shut his door in their faces. They chopped it down, knocked in his window rolled the barrels into the street and poured out the liquor. They then marched to James Ennis's, who signed the pledge; thence to Edward Retter's who did likewise; thence to Way & Kizer's who also signed; thence to H. P. Kizer's drug-store, where they met with equal success; then to Binager's, who utterly refused to stop selling. His daughter, however, who was one of the most active

of the pioneers, pushed into the house, brought out a keg of liquor, and stove in the head. The procession next visited Wilson's grocery; he took the pledge; thence Craig's drug-store, with equal success; and then adjourned to meet at half past two next day, to destroy the brewery—the only place in town where they had not established the principle of Prohibition. Binager gave in his adhesion during the evening, leaving Page alone in his glory as a would be reseller if he only had any to sell.

A post mortem examination of Alexander's body was made by the doctors that evening. They reported him "murdered by whisky"—the coats of his stomach having been entirely eaten up by it. Mrs. Alexander thereupon instituted proceedings against Page and Binager, for causing the death of her husband. So the case stood at the date of our last advices.

THURSDAY NOON.—We have just received a Telegraphic Despatch announcing the death of our friend and relative Mr. Richard Roach of Studholm. We are requested to attend the funeral on Saturday, and shall leave home to-morrow for that purpose.

Letters received at the Religious Intelligencer Office during the week ending the 13th inst. Wm. S. Nevers, wrote to you on the 7th. Thomas O'Donnell, rem.—Wm. N. Mallory.—A. McLean.—Elder R. French.—Elder C. Knowles.—Whedon Fowler, rem.—Rev. D. M. Graham.—M. D. Harris, rem.—A. McFee, rem.—M. Mills.

ST. JOHN MARKETS. April 12, 1854. BEEF, quarter, per lb. 4 1/2 to 5 1/2. BUTTER, in Firkins, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. EGGS, per dozen, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. FLOUR, Canada, in barrels, 40s. FISH, Cod, per Quintal, 16s. 3d to 20s. HAY, per ton, 5 1/2 to 6 1/2. MEAL, Corn, per barrel, 27s. 6d. MOLASSES, per gallon, by Hhd., 1s. 3d to 1s. 5d. POTATOES, per bushel, 5s. to 5s. 6d.

Marriages. At St. James' Church, on Thursday last, the 6th inst. by the Rev. John Armstrong, rector, Robert Morris Hazen, eldest son of Robert F. Hazen, Esquire of this City, to Mary Woodhouse, eldest daughter of Alexander Grant, Esquire, Controller of H. M. Customs at this Port. At Indian Town, on Tuesday morning, 4th inst., by the Rev. Wm. Harrison, Mr. Israel Merritt to Harriet, daughter of Joseph Horncaster, Esq., of Upton Hall, County of York, England. On the 6th inst. by the Rev. John Wallace, Mr. John W. Taylor of Brunswick Q. C. to Miss Susannah Cole of Johnson.

Deaths. At Long Beach on the 7th inst., James' youngest son of Mr. James Phips of that place in his 17th year. At Sussex, on the 9th inst., Mr. Isaac Cleveland, in the 90th year of his age. Mr. C. arrived in this Province when a boy, and when St. John contained only a few scattered huts. In early life he embraced the faith of Christ, which he maintained until his death. At Portland on the 9th inst., Louisa F. daughter of Mr. J. W. Rapert aged 4 years. Suddenly, on Friday evening THOMAS HARDING, Esq., aged 68 years. On Tuesday morning, after a short illness, Mary, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Pettigrew, Esq., in the 61st year of her age. On Wednesday evening, after a short illness, Mr. John Miles, in the 84th year of his age. On Thursday morning, Douglas White Raymond, in the 27th year of his age, third son of Mr. Thomas Raymond. On Thursday last, Mary Ann, relict of the late Thomas Leavitt, Esq., in the 53 year of her age. Suddenly, on Friday morning, Mr. Edward H. Smith, formerly of Windsor, N., in the 56th year of his age, leaving a wife and three children to mourn their loss. At Manchester, Dorchester, on Friday, March 27 after a short illness, Elizabeth Evans, wife of George Evans, and daughter of the late Andrew Weldon, Esq., of Dorchester. At Bear River, Nova-Scotia, on the 13th inst., Mr. Robert Taylor a native of Monmouth, Northumberland county, England. (Newcastle-upon-Tyne papers will please copy.) At Dorchester, on the 2d inst., Mary Emma, wife of Mr. William Hickman, an 5th daughter of the late Joseph Wells Esq., aged 25 years. Mrs. Hickman has left a large circle of friends to lament their loss.

NEW GOODS.—FRASER, ENNIS & CO. have received per "Middleton" "Admiral" and "Eastern City" a portion of their Spring Stock, comprising Plain, Checked and Spotted Poplins, Delaines and Cashmeres, Gray and White Cottons, Prints, Wares, Tickings, Satinets, Jeans; American Bonnets, Bonnet Shapes, and Parasols; Cotton, Hemp and Wool Carpentings, in new patterns; Table Oil Cloths, Hearth Rugs and Door Mats. Explored per Steamer "Sarah Sands" some due at Portland Bonnets, Parasols, Lace, Nets, Baggies, Tissues, Gases, Balzarines, Glacé and checked Silks, French and Coventry Bonnet Ribbons, Black and Colored Glacé and Marie Antique Capes and Mantles of the newest designs. A large and carefully selected supply of other seasonable goods to arrive per "John Barbo" "Blanche" and "Lion" all of which will be marked in plain figures and offered Wholesale and Retail at the lowest market prices. F. E. & Co. take this opportunity of thankfully acknowledging the liberal share of patronage they have lately received, and promise that no effort on their part shall be wanting in order to secure a continuance of the same. April 13. King Street, opposite St. John Hotel.

ANCHOR FOUND.—Found by the Subscriber in the Long Beach in Autumn last a Wood Boat's Anchor. The owner can have the same by describing it and paying expenses. JACOB LARKEY. April 14th 1854. (3w.) Long Beach.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.—For Liberia—a supply of Field, Garden, and Flower Seeds, warranted fresh and true in their sorts. April 6. S. L. TILLEY.

CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS.—5 bbls. Red Clover Seed; 100 bushels Timothy Seed.—S. L. TILLEY. April 6.

SPRING AND SUMMER FASHIONS, 1854.—C. D. EVERETT & SON, have been busily engaged for the last month in making up, and are now prepared to furnish the public with Hats and Caps, of all qualities and prices, of the Spring and Summer styles for 1854. We believe that the Spring style of Hats will be much admired. We have on hand, just made up, a very large and excellent assortment of Summer CAPS. Our prices are, as usual, low. Notwithstanding the large advance in prices of Goods generally throughout the community, we have not advanced one penny on any article of our manufacture. The remainder of our Winter Stock of Buffalo Robes, Fur Caps, &c. will be disposed of at extraordinary low prices. 12, North side King Street. C. D. EVERETT & SON. March 31.

NEW GOODS.—Stearns Ship "Arabia"—BEARD & VENNING have received per above vessel new Styles in STRAW BONNETS, rich Bonnet Ribbons, Splendid Variety of Light CAMBRICKS, DELAINES, &c. &c. March 31.

FARM FOR SALE.—The Subscriber offers for Sale the FARM in the Parish of Springfield, on which he has been residing for some time past. It contains over 23 acres, about 11 of which are cleared. The buildings are nearly new. It affords an opportunity for large improvements, and the terms of payment will be made easy. For particulars and terms, apply to W. H. White, Belisle, B. J. Underhill, St. John, or the Subscriber near the Millstream. March 29th 1854. JAMES CRAWFORD.