

us their very beginnings, and the deepest impulses of their life and immortality. They watch us every moment, in the family, before the hearth, and at the table; and when we are meaning them no good or evil, when we are conscious of exerting no influence over them, they are drawing from us impressions and moulds of habit, which, if wrong, no heavenly discipline can ever remove; or, if right, no bad associations utterly dissipate. Now it may be doubted, I think, whether, in all the active influence of our lives, we do as much to shape the destiny of our fellow men, as we do in this single article of unconscious influence over children.—Dr. Bushnell.

Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 29, 1859.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

General Observations on the Country, &c. The Conference—Meeting of friends—The Sabbath Business Meeting—Discussion on the necessity of an educated Ministry—Report—Churches—Contemplated union with Free-will Baptists—Missionary Meeting—Late J. Kinsman—Return, &c.

YARMOUTH, N. S., Sept. 24th 1859.

Bro. McLeod.—We spent one day at Plymouth after the date of our first letter. The religious interest kept increasing. Bro. Downey preached on Thursday evening, when we enjoyed a season of comfort. We felt it was good to be there. On Friday morning we left for Barrington, fully impressed that with proper labour the Church at Plymouth would be much revived, and sinners declared to God. On our way we passed through Tuskerville, which is rather an enterprising but small country village, thence through Argyle, Pubnico, Wood's Harbour, and Shag Harbour reaching Barrington on Saturday morning. About Tuskerville and Argyle the agricultural appearance of the country are considerably better than they are down toward, and about Barrington. Parts of the country through which we rode are barren, and about Wood's Harbour, Shag Harbour and Barrington, it is exceedingly rocky, indeed the most so of any country we ever saw. There farming is done almost entirely without the use of the plough. In places the only stone to be seen is granite, and these from large rocks down to small stones are in abundance, covering quite a portion of the surface of the ground. The soil is good, and yields abundantly.

But to one who has been accustomed to looking to the land as the source of support and wealth of country places, that part of Nova Scotia at first appearance looks rather gloomy, but the wealthy appearance of the people, their fine houses, good furniture, style of living &c., convinced us that they have recourse to a source of wealth beside farming. Fishing and shipping are their principal employments, so that the sea, rather than the land is the source of their support and possessions. Very many of the young men follow the sea, while numbers of the older ones have interests in vessels. Some are entire seamen, others partially so, and while many thus connected with shipping do not personally live on the ocean, many others spend much of their time on the great deep. In a great many instances we have been asked the question, "are you not acquainted with my husband, or son, or brother, or father?" saying that he is "Captain, mate, master, or so on of such and such ship or vessel, and often sail, out of St. John. It is very common to hear the widow remark "my dear husband was lost at sea," and for the mother to tell of her poor boy who has become "food for fishes." Reference is frequently made to the loved ones departed, by saying, "they are gone, and we are denied the privilege of even weeping over their graves."

We are particularly pleased with the looks of the school houses, and places of worship through the country. There are promising indications of an increasing educational interest among the people. Old fashioned small houses are being superseded by good commodious buildings, efficient teachers, and praiseworthy efforts are being made for the education of the rising generation. Houses for worship are principally large and well finished inside and out. The F. C. Baptist Meeting-houses are better finished, and taken better care of here than in our own province.

On Saturday at 1 o'clock, P. M. pursuant to appointment the General Conference was opened at Barrington, when a large gathering of brethren, sisters and friends were present. We were gladly received and welcomed by the friends there, and very much enjoyed meeting with many whose acquaintance was made a year ago. Among the number we were glad to meet were Bro. Noble and wife, who came from Cornwallis through Liverpool county to attend the yearly meeting. Elder Knowles opened the Conference by giving out a hymn, after which thanksgiving and prayer were offered to Almighty God for his preserving care and mercies during the year. Many spoke during the meeting, and although there was not as much life and blessing enjoyed as we have frequently seen in the opening meeting of yearly conferences, yet many hearts were comforted, and Christian friends who had not enjoyed each others society for a long time felt it was good to be there.—Bro. Brown, Porter, and another whose name we have forgotten, Free-will Baptist Ministers, were present, also Bro. Duncan a Methodist Minister. Some of the Ministers of the Conference were absent during the whole session. We met again in the evening for public worship, when Elder Noble preached to a very attentive congregation, from Rom. 16th ch. 1st v. On the Sabbath Elder C. J. Oram preached at 11 o'clock A. M. in the Methodist Chapel at the "Head." Elder Bennison at Shag Harbour in the morning. In the house where the Conference was held, we preached at 11 o'clock, A. M., from Heb. 6th 18th v. Bro. Downey at 3 o'clock, P. M. from Zech. 6th chap. 13th v., and in the evening Bro. Noble, from 1 Cor. 3rd. ch. 21, 22, 23 v. The house was crowded to its utmost capacity all day. And we trust that the labours of that they will not be lost. With feelings of thankfulness and praise to His Holy Name, we sang "The Lord helped us." The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered.

tored by Elder Knowles, at the close of the afternoon service, to a very large number of communicants.

At 8 o'clock on Monday morning we met in Conference for the transaction of business. Bro. Joseph Durgeel was unanimously chosen Chairman. Bro. N. Churchill Assistant Chairman; Elder Bennison Secretary; and Bro. Whitney, Assistant. Different matters were introduced and disposed of in order; but that which occupied the most of the forenoon was an educated Ministry. A good deal of zeal and interest were manifested by many of the brethren on this highly important question. While some spoke with cautiousness, expressing their fears that the Ministry if educated would be exposed to become lifeless and formal, relying upon requirements, not on the anointing of God; others declared that the Churches were demanding it, and that the time had come when preachers must have a liberal education at least, in order to get a hearing. We of course, with our New Brunswick brethren, were among the number who hold and advanced the views, that there is nothing in, or connected with education, that necessarily makes a man proud, or that is the least detrimental to his spirituality. It was contended that from the advancing state of the education of the people, they are calling for it in the Ministry, and that people's hearts cannot be reached by a Ministry who cannot get a hearing. We became deeply interested in this subject, and was highly pleased with hearing the favourable expressions of so many of the ministry and laity present. While some were very anxious—and some of the young preachers declared that they felt such a need of more learning, that they had come to this Conference intending to ask council of their brethren on this subject—none spoke at all opposing, and but a few expressing fears. The property of young men whom God had called to preach the Gospel, leaving the vineyard of the Lord, and attending school, was questioned by a number, but was pretty generally considered to be a matter of conscientiousness between the individual and God, and that if he felt it to be his duty to prepare himself for the work it was a matter best known to himself, and hence should meet the approbation of others. The Committee appointed to dispose of this subject submitted a report which was unanimously accepted, which is in substance that the Conference highly approve of education, especially an educated Ministry, believing that a sanctified education is a powerful auxiliary in effectually preaching the Gospel, and that this Conference recommend all its Ministers, especially the young men, to study to store their minds with useful knowledge; but in the absence of an educational institution, cannot now point out any one course to be adopted, leaving the means to be employed as a matter of conscience with the individuals themselves.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Reporting Meeting was opened in usual form. The Churches were not all, but pretty generally reported, and mostly by letter. The Churches, speaking in general terms, have not been blessed with great accessions during the past year, but additions have been made to a number of them. Some are enjoying regular preaching and pastoral care, while others are suffering for the want of labour. The Macedonian cry was heard from many of them, "Come over and help us." A goodly number of Sabbath Schools were reported as being in efficient working order. In this meeting, the delegates from New Brunswick, were called up on to give an account of the state and prosperity of our Conference, which we did as correctly as we knew. Business meetings were continued until Wednesday evening, and public devotional services in the afternoons and evenings of each day.

Another matter of importance brought before the Conference was the question of union between the F. C. Baptists, and the F. W. Baptists in this Province. A Committee was appointed to meet, and consult with the Committee previously appointed by the F. W. Baptists, relative to the propriety of union between the two denominations, and if they could, to form some scheme which they would recommend, by which such a consolidation might be effected. We spent several hours in consultation, both Committees being fully of opinion that an union is desirable, and would conduce much to the prosperity of the Free people. The subject was freely and mutually discussed, and in a Christian like manner. The Committees exchanged propositions, but neither was then prepared to accept such proposals, or could see their way clear to make the concessions required by the other. It is yet hoped that they will become one in organization as well as in faith. Committees are appointed through whom further negotiations may be made. Two of the Ministering brethren were appointed as delegates to attend the F. W. Baptist Quarterly Meeting to be held at Wood's Harbour, in November. We firmly believe that it is wrong for these people, whose sentiments are the same, to exist as two denominations, and have separate interests to build up in the same localities. As they are situated they must necessarily interfere with each other. We do not know the number of their churches, or meeting houses, but learned that there are about 100 communicants, principally in Barrington, and on Cape Sable Island.

The Home Missionary cause was advocated with much interest. A Society had been previously organized, by which good had been done, but it was considered essential to the desired prosperity of the denomination, that one more efficient, eliciting more generally the sympathies and cooperation of the churches should be established. On Wednesday evening a public Missionary meeting was held, with a view of making further efforts toward carrying out the proposed plans in connection with the Society. We preached the missionary sermon on the occasion, and was followed with warm, pointed and practical remarks from Elders Noble, Downey, J. C. Oram, and a few other brethren. The constitution of the Society provides that each person who pays 2s. 6d., shall be a member and eligible to office. A subscription list was opened, when for about one half hour it was almost a steady stream coming from the gallery and all parts of the house to subscribe their several amounts, many of which were paid at once, making quite a fund to commence with. It was

a missionary meeting in reality, and one that will not soon be forgotten in Barrington. While some were signing, others were speaking. Several who had put down the amount they thought they could give, doubled them before the meeting closed. We do not recollect ever seeing a whole congregation so thoroughly warmed up on the subject of missions before. A good start has been made, and we really hope all who left the next day for their homes will carry the fire with them to the various churches to which they belong. In consequence of being out in committees we were not all the time in the business meetings, and are unable to speak of all that was attended to. The ordinary routine of the Session was gone through with, all as far as we know, with good feelings, and in a manner conducive to the prosperity of the denomination. A number of young brethren were licensed to preach. Elders Bennison and Sullivan are the delegates appointed to attend our next General Conference in New Brunswick. The next yearly meeting is to be held with the Church at Session Hill, Yarmouth Co., about three miles from town.

Frequent reference was made during the meetings to the lamented brother Kinsman. The denomination has sustained a great loss by his death.

The F. W. Baptist very kindly gave us the use of the Bethel owned by them, which we occupied a part of the time for our business meetings, and one evening for preaching.

On Thursday afternoon we left for Yarmouth, tarrying all night at Pubnico, where we held an evening meeting, and preached Christ to the people. Last evening we were at meeting on Session Hill. Brother Downey preached. It was a good season. We have been in Town the most part of this day. It has rained almost constantly the whole day. Our arrangements for the Sabbath are made, of which we shall speak in our next letter. Not having time to write of other matters that we may hereafter speak of, we now close, in order to mail this in time to cross for a Digby by Monday's boat.

Yours, &c.,

G. A. H.

The Redeemer's Kingdom.

Whatever may be the state of religion in our own land, we cannot but rejoice at the progress of the Redeemer's kingdom in other places. Religious papers from Great Britain come to us laden with revival intelligence. The work in Ireland and Scotland increases, and many praying souls are earnestly crying to God that England also may share largely in the wonderful grace. Neither will they pray in vain. Mr. Drummond, publisher of "The British Messenger," issues weekly a revival supplement, in which is published the most reliable details of the work, obtained from ministers and others engaged in it, and who send accounts to Mr. D. The September number of the "Messenger" has several paragraphs exclusively devoted to revival intelligence. The Editor says, "The days for which we have been labouring, praying, and waiting, are come at last. The Holy Ghost is come! Satan is seen falling as lightning from heaven! Thousands are passing from death to life! Myriads are awakening to a discovery of their lost condition! The ministers and saints of God are being baptized afresh with the Holy Ghost; and are reaping down a mighty harvest of souls! The world is conformed, the church is revived, and Jesus is glorified." Such is the testimony of one in every respect competent to judge, and whose evidence should be received.

But a most remarkable feature in this work is the prominence given to it by the secular press, and the favour with which many of the leading journals of the United Kingdom regard it. But it would be strange indeed, if this extraordinary work did not meet with violent opponents. The "Northern Whig," from an article in which the Roman Catholic organ, in this city, some time since treated its readers, and the "London Lancet" are not the only papers that oppose this work. Some professed ministers are also found to rail. We observe that one of our Woodstock contemporaries published an extract from a sermon by a Belfast clergyman, calculated to give a very unfavorable impression, in relation to the result of this great revival. The "Manchester Guardian" also, a very respectable English Journal, but a bitter opponent it appears to the work of the Holy Spirit, recently came out in an editorial of a similar character to the "Northern Whig." A lady however, of Manchester, who had just returned from a three weeks visit to Ireland, and had availed herself of opportunities to witness the character of the work, replied very effectively through its own columns. Both the article and letter have been furnished us by a gentleman of this city, to whom they were forwarded by the husband of the lady, and we shall next week have much pleasure in laying her letter before our readers, in honor of her Christian courage and valour in coming forward to repel so foul an attack of the enemies of the cross upon the work of God.

The disposition which seems to be felt in some quarters to disparage this revival, on account of the "physical manifestations" which accompany it in several places, induces us to lay before our readers, the testimony of disinterested and competent judges. We see no scriptural argument why God should not "bear witness" to the faithful preaching of the Gospel now "with signs and wonders, and divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost," as well as in the Apostolic days. We do most firmly believe that the absence of much of that great power which marked the apostolic preaching is, in consequence of the lack of faith in the church, rather than the intentional withholding thereof on the part of God. When the church returns to the apostolic faith she will have apostolic success. We hail the indication of this return with unmingled joy and satisfaction in the extraordinary revivals in America, Great Britain, Sweden, and elsewhere.

Want of space this week compels us to defer the copious extracts which we intended to make detailing the progress of the revival in various towns in Ireland and Scotland. A few brief notices are all we can find room for this week.

THE WORK IN ULSTER.

Dr. FODOR said at the great meeting held in the Botanic Gardens, Belfast, that such is the

wonderful change that has been exhibited in Ulster, that, in one single Presbytery, conversions have been computed at no less than 1000 persons, and that in one single congregation, sixty young men have been brought in a few weeks to God; and that, in another congregation, out of 200 families, 207 now regularly attend family worship. Now I tell you, you are pledged—we are before the world, and we must shew to the world that this is not a mere evanescent movement. I believe that there now is a greater demand for Gospel truth than ever has been in our day—that there has been a greater demand for Bibles than we have heretofore known—that our colporteurs never had their labours so called upon. It is our duty to keep this work going on; to endeavour especially to supply Bibles with Psalms to your brethren. During the course of this movement, members of one family have felt for the conversion of others of the same family—how sisters have sat up all night praying for the conversion of a brother.

Dr. DENHAM of Derry said, before the Free Church Commission, that in his own congregation, within the last month he believed that more of his people had been savingly converted than in the whole of his twenty years' ministry. One merchant, who was a member of his church, told him that he knew of at least fifty young men of intelligence and good standing in the congregation who were students of God's word, and to all human appearances savingly converted. As to the absence of crime, a most important statement had been made upon this subject the other day by a Roman Catholic Judge at the Derry Assizes, who could not be supposed to be favorable to this revival movement. Dr. Denham read the Judge's statement, to the effect that, out of a population of 200,000 there were only nominally nine cases for trial, and reality only seven, and that of these seven only five were tried. On making inquiry at the officers of the jail, he learned that only four of these persons were convicted; and that, although somewhere about two-thirds of the population of 200,000 were Presbyterians, there was not one single Presbyterian charged with crime or put upon his trial.

MORAL INFLUENCE OF THE REVIVAL.

A person from Glasgow not caring much for religion, who spent his holidays in the north of Ireland with some like-minded companions, found the revival very much interfered one Lord's day with their sinful pleasures. They visited a salt mine, but found that no person had been allowed to get down on the Lord's day since the commencement of the revival. They next turned towards the mountain, and having walked till near its summit they wished to buy bread and milk at a farm, but were told that they could not sell anything, for they had felt the influence of the revival. They next got dinner, and went along the sea shore in search of a boat; but no one would give one, for the revival had stopped all Sabbath boating. They next directed their steps towards a town to get a refreshment; but could get nothing but whiskey, for the keeper of the house they called at told them she did not think of keeping a supply of other drinks "till their revivals were over;" she also told them of a good many spirit-shops which had been obliged to succumb to the effects of the revival.

ITS INFLUENCE UPON ROMANISTS.

"A student" tells of visiting a family (lately Romanists), consisting of five or six daughters and one son, who all, except one, had been converted, and consequently, had forsaken the Romish Church and attached themselves to a purer faith. On his referring to the blessing which had been poured out from on high upon their town, they exultingly affirmed that they were living witnesses of it, monuments of God's sovereign and omnipotent grace; then, with all the warmth of "first love," they declared that Jesus was a long suffering, loving Saviour, the only Saviour, and one whom they were not ashamed to own, nay, for whose sake, if need be, they would gladly die. As they spoke their countenances shone with the sweet, heavenly radiance, which bespeaks the inward peace of the soul that has been washed in the blood of the Lamb and is living in intimate communion with him. How great the change from Romanism to Jesus!

OPPOSITION OF ROMANISTS.

The British Ensign gives the following instance of Romish outrage:—We have already had occasion to shew that the Popish priests are exceedingly alarmed at the progress of the Revival in the North of Ireland, and not without cause; for wherever the work spreads it proves fatal to their system and their power. We are, therefore, quite prepared to hear that a few evenings ago a party of Romanists attacked and injured several houses in Marley-street, Portadown, for no other reason than that they were occupied by Protestants, who were in the habit of singing praises to God and engaging in prayer thereon. Some persons were slightly injured. The perpetrators of this wanton outrage escaped, through the darkness of the night; but it is hoped the vigilance of the police will prevent further outrages of this description from persons who make so much ado about civil and religious liberty.

ITS SPREAD.

The revival has reached the colliers of Staffordshire, and in one place it is estimated that there are five hundred converts. From among their own number, a collier has been raised up who daily preaches the Word with great power. In many of the coal-pits daily prayer meetings and Bible readings are held. In South Wales, so extraordinary is the revival interest, that all the churches and chapels are crowded on week days as well as Sundays. Prayer meetings in churches, in school rooms, in work shops, and even in fields, are held morning and evening. In one town eight public houses have been closed since the work began. It is now spreading into North Wales. A clergyman of the Established Church writes: "There is no enthusiasm, but a deep, profound and awfully solemn impression." In some districts, notorious for blasphemy, an oath is now never heard, and drunkards on the streets have become total abstainers. It is estimated that in two counties only, 9,000 persons within the last five months have been converted.

IRISH DEPUTATION.

The Deputation from Ireland referred to in our last, arrived at New York on Monday of last week, and were most cordially received by many friends. The following Thursday evening a meeting was held in the Cooper Institute and a

public reception given them. On Friday was the second anniversary of the daily prayer meeting. The N. Y. Post of Friday evening says:—

"The second anniversary of the Fulton street Prayer-Meeting was held to-day. The house above and below was crowded to its utmost capacity, the aisles and doorways being thronged. Several States were represented. Dr. Leland, of Columbia, S. C., presided, and opened the meeting with prayer. After singing, remarks were made by Mrs. T. Y. Murray, Mr. George H. Stewart, a Philadelphia merchant, and the three clergymen who have come to solicit aid for carrying on the Irish revival.—Drs. Edgar, Dill and Wilson.

The managers of the daily prayer-meetings in Fulton street are encouraged by the increased attendance, and believe that another great revival is about to take place in this city.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—This association held this year at Fredericton we learn was largely attended by both ministers and people. Several places of worship in the city and vicinity were supplied on Sabbath with preaching by the former. The introductory sermon was preached on Monday by the Rev. E. B. Demill from James 4: 12.—We learn it was well received. It was followed by the reading of letters from the Churches, many of which reported large accessions. The cause of Temperance was ably discussed, and a committee appointed to draw up a petition in behalf of the Association to present to the Legislature at the next session, praying for PROHIBITORY LAW.

The subjects of Home Missions, Education, and various other interests were discussed and measures adopted to promote them.

Mr. Wm. Peters, Treasurer of Free Baptist G. Conference acknowledges the receipt of Five pounds from Wm. McLeod, Studholm, for Conference Fund.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, Sept. 9th, 1859.
THE GREAT EASTERN.

The Great Eastern reached the Nore Yesterday afternoon! This is the one great article of news which in importance dominates with us over every other. So many hitches and hindrances had occurred in reference to this mammoth ship, and so many sinister predictions had been ventured in regard to her deficiencies and faults, that we feel it a keen relief to know that she has emerged gallantly from her river home, and (so far as present experience goes) has justified all the expectations formed of her sterling qualities. Even to the last day there was something in the way, as if the genius of Envy had been suffered to indulge his will and put every one out of sorts. I allude to the grievous disappointment caused by the non sailing of the ship on the day fixed, Tuesday 6th. I write feelingly, for I had made a five miles early walk to occupy a post of observation, and was forced to be content with a view of the floating castle lying at her moorings. Next morning, however, the movement was made, and the difficulties of the river navigation were overcome. All the ship's course to Purfleet, (on this day Gravesend) the first day, and thence to the Nore Light the next, was tracked by one line of exultant cheers, wherever cheers could stand or cheering be heard. All reports coincide—and I have read half a dozen this morning—in representing her as being as manageable as the tiniest bark, as making the smallest possible swell in her progress through the waves—cutting them rather with the greatest ease—and as attaining to a speed which justifies the promise of both architect and builder.—Mr. Brunell and Mr. Russell. When going at her two-thirds steam pressure she showed a rate of speed which at the full pressure will about double the propelling power exhibited by any other steamer in the world, the *Persia* not excepted. Portland, U. S., is the first passage trip, and the Americans will have the pleasure of seeing what the Old Continent can yet "turn out." Oh! that the Phœnix—the ancient world's greatest warrior—could see this product of shipwright skill by a people inhabiting the land to which they traded, and whose canoes those bold navigators sailed upon and despised. They would have to express that a greater than Tyre had arisen; and with what delight would they scan the ship destined (as I believe) to change the commercial relations of the world! As your readers know, the tonnage of the "Great Eastern" is 22,000—rather more than that which is ascribed to Noah's Ark; and it is interesting to find that Trollope's new anchors, far less in weight than the old ones, do their duty admirably. One five ton anchor kept the mammoth vessel firm both in the river and at the Nore.

DR. SMETHURST.

A week ago to-day great anxiety was felt concerning the fate of Dr. Smethurst, who had been found guilty of poisoning Miss Banks. In all its parts the case was a repulsive one; and after the conviction of Dr. S. a new investigation was gone through by the Home Secretary, which was tantamount to a new trial. The issue was that on Friday evening a reprieve during Her Majesty's pleasure was sent to Horsemaneger Gool, and the prisoner's life is spared. What will be next done is not yet known. Sir G. C. Lewis clearly doubts the efficiency of the evidence as a proof of guilt, and to spare the prisoner's life for such a reason logically involves his being set at large. The alternative is simple: if guilty, the gallows; if innocent, liberty. To keep a man prisoner for life on suspicion of guilt is contrary to all English law. If I were asked what the public feeling is, I should say that a great majority do not consider the evidence of guilt legally conclusive, but that a full half or more consider him as really guilty. Much is said of his amiable disposition; but Palmer had the best reputation for kindness among the poor of Regely, who to this day disbelieve in the charges of secret poisoning established against him.

GENERAL ITEMS.

The outrageous murder near Leeds, when an old man perished in open day, has been brought home to one young man, who has confessed, and has deserted his accomplice, and (as he states) the actual murderer. Violent offences are fearfully rife, and, as of old, the agency of drink is seldom absent from the record of blood and woe.

From Railway accidents we have been tolerably free this season, but one of a disastrous

nature was within an inch—almost literally—of occurring. A draw bridge near Haverfordwest was up, and no signal made, and the engine was only stopped within a single revolution of the wheel of the gaping abyss. In another instance some excursionists were turned out of two carriages next to an engine, and soon after the engine ran off the line down an embankment, taking with it those very carriages, which were smashed into fragments. The other carriages were preserved by the connecting chain breaking.

The Court is now in the highlands, and according to the wonted phrase, London should be out of town. I do not see much difference in the traffic, the sons of high class houses are shuttled up till the return of other patrician tenants.

For several weeks the mortality of the metropolis had stood at a high figure, but this has greatly declined, and now not above 1200 deaths are registered in the week. The births regularly range from 1600 to 1900. Facts like these tell us of the magnitude of this city, whose population about equals that of Pennsylvania, the second State of the Union, in the number of its inhabitants.

We had need have plenty of pockets, and something in them, when we consider the National debt which rests upon the Empire. In 1848 this was £787,598,145; it is now £804,445,483, an increase of sixteen millions, the result mainly of the Russian war. Cunningly enough the charge of this debt (interest, &c.) is lower than it was in 1844,—then it stood at £30,495,459, now at £28,501,473—a decrease of two millions sterling. However recklessly much of this debt has been contracted, it is undeniable that the British people are better able to sustain it now than they were the debt of a century back. The Times has been setting Mr. Cobden a task suited to his financial talents,—that of saving five millions or so out of the army and naval estimates, without loss to the efficiency of those services. I fear the task is super-Herculean. Many of the charges capable of great reduction, could be proved so only by a Commission authorized to call for papers and parties. Place Mr. Cobden at the head of such a Commission and he might do the nation a great serviceable benefit. Single handed he might fail, I think. Where details are concerned a limit is now put to one man's power of detection and reformation.

CHURCH SCANDAL.

A great scandal—religious as we may call it, as we speak of the 'criminal court'—has been going on in the East of London, to which I have before referred. The parish of St. George's has a Puseyite rector and Puseyite curates. Some time since an afternoon lecturer was chosen by the people and licensed by the Bishop. But this gentleman is Low Church and evangelical—an Irishman to boot, and very warm in feeling and stating his feeling of semi-Papistical performances. For a time the Rector wanted to shut out Mr. Allen from the afternoon use of the church, on pretence of setting up one of his own—but the insolence of this was so intolerable that he retreated from this position and agreed to resign the use of the church at an earlier hour, 2 p.m., I think, and conduct his own service afterwards. This arrangement being a departure from the old afternoon service time, has never been palatable to the anti-Puseyites; but nothing remarkable happened till the Rector left the district for his health and installed as his deputy a Rev. Mr. Lee, who has been flaunting himself in peculiar coloured garments and making a parade of the other ceremonial symbols of Tractarian absurdity. This could only be done to brave and insult the public sentiment, and to show the parishioners that they had their master. But this defiance has met with a general rising, and very unseemly exhibitions have taken place, as much out of character with extra meekness on the people's part, as Mr. Lee's had been with extra modesty on the part of the Bishop of London has written a letter to the churchwardens, in which he reviews the case, and while stating his inability to interfere authoritatively, offers his arbitration if both sides are willing to receive it. The newspaper press praises the Bishop, and it will now rest with the combatants to reply. The parishioners, I dare say, will be ready to assent, but the others—one of whose principles is submission to Episcopal rule, when it makes in their favour!—will probably reluctantly agree, if they do not flatly refuse. The advocates of an established Church here always pleaded that its Catholicity was in its favour, but these events are not a confirmatory illustration. If men widely differ it is better that they should separate than that they should be cooped up in one ecclesiastical system, and fiercely contest which shall gain the mastery.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

Foreign intelligence may be composed in a few sentences, and when all is told, little is made known. The Emperor Napoleon and his family are in the French Pyrenees, and an effort is being made by the Austrian Emperor to appoint another interview when the whole Italian question can be renewed and decided upon. The French Emperor would prefer a Congress, but Austria loathes the name. Meantime Central Italy has done its part. The Tuscans have sent delegates to the King of Sardinia asking incorporation. The Parmese Assembly has just met. Modena goes into Tuscany, and Bologna (a part of the Papal States) has unanimously voted separation from the Vatican and a union with Piedmont. Now it is believed that the Austrian Emperor dreaded all this, not only because it overturns the scheme of returning the exiled Dukes to their thrones, but because it tends to the greatness of King Victor, and is but because is a precedent which other countries—and not last those included in the Austrian dominion—may be led to imitate. What is to be done then? Austria would be willing to forward, it is said, the elevation of Prince Napoleon to a Central Italian kingship, in order to rebuke the democratic feeling and to checkmate Sardinian ambition. Will Louis Napoleon accept the bribe? If he does not must pay the price—armed intervention—and how can he do this and retain the English Alliance? The Zurich Conference has suspended its sittings without even settling the Lombardian boundary. It is certain, and happy for the Italians is it, that all the influence of our Cabinet is being exerted in favour of noninterference with the Italian Duchies and their full independence in tending their allegiance where they please.

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