

# Christian

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to



# Visitor.

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“BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE—BY LOVE UNFEIGNED.”—ST. PAUL.

{ Rev. E. D. VERY, Editor

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## THE ANGEL OF PATIENCE.

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

To weary hearts, to mourning homes,  
The angel Patience gently comes;  
No power has he to banish pain,  
Or give us back our lost again,  
And yet, in tenderest love, our dear  
And heavenly Father sends him here.

There's quiet in that angel glance,  
There's rest in his still countenance!  
He mocks no grief with idle cheer,  
Nor wounds with words the mourner's ear,  
But ill and wounds he may not cure,  
He kindly teaches to endure.

Angel of patience! sent to calm  
Our feverish brows with cooling balm;  
To lay the storms of hope and fear,  
And reconcile life's smile and tear;  
The throbs of wounded pride to still,  
And make our own our Father's will.

Oh! thou who mournest on thy way,  
With longings for the close of day,  
He walks with thee, that angel kind,  
And gently whispers, “Be resigned!  
Bear up, bear on, the end shall tell,  
The dear Lord ordereth all things well!”

## The Prospect in France.

The fears have often expressed in relation to the recent political movements in France, are fully confirmed by a very able article in the July number of the North American Review, the gist of which we lay before our readers.

It would be idle to form any conjectures respecting the future of this new French Republic. That the greater part of the nation are dissatisfied with it, and heartily wish for a restoration of a monarchy, though with a more popular constitution of the Legislature, and with greater safeguards for the future, there can be no doubt. Still, the revolution must be allowed first to expend its blind force, or initial velocity; *Nulla vestigia restorum* is the desperate motto of those who controlled its movements. But one after another of these persons is rapidly losing his power with the people; and as the debilitating consequences of continued anarchy begin to show themselves, the love of peace and tranquillity will gradually lead to energetic measures for placing the government on a firm basis. One thing is certain; the country cannot tolerate much longer a system which exposes every city in France to a desperate insurrection once a fortnight, and requires 200,000 to remain almost constantly under arms in order to preserve the peace of the capital. Such agitating scenes are usually prolific of great men, and the appearance of one commanding character of intellect at the present crisis might suddenly alter the complexion of affairs, and falsify all predictions as to the final result. But the movement thus far has been singularly barren in this respect; the revolution of 1848 has not yet brought forward a Mirabeau, a Sieyès, or even a Danton; and Lamartine is but a feeble and theatrical substitute for Lafayette. We cannot have much respect for the penetration or moral character of the man who has formally selected Robespierre for his model as a philanthropist and regenerator of society.

The great obstacle to the co-existence of free institutions in France with order, industry, and respect for law, is the absorbing and despotic power of the metropolis over the Provinces, and the violent, excitable, and utterly demoralized character of its population. There is no other difficulty; there are no kings or nobles to combat, no overgrown fortunes to excite envy, no privileged classes to be humbled, no foreign enemies to encounter. There are but two classes of the population which are plainly distinguishable from each other, the *Bourgeoisie* and

the people—including the peasant proprietors under the former head, and understanding the latter to comprise those only who have no resource but daily wages for their support. The interest of these two classes are closely allied by nature, and nothing but the machinations of ambitious and intriguing politicians could ever have created dissension or hostility between them. And except in Paris, Lyons, which are the hot-beds of political intrigue, it does not appear that any such enmity exists; the two move on as harmoniously together as the two corresponding classes in this country, peace being preserved between them by the evident consideration, that each is necessary to the welfare of the other, both upward and downward, are easy and frequent. But in these great cities, the rivalry of desperate politicians and fanatical speculators has kindled social dissension, and arrayed these classes of citizens in arms against each other, the power of all France being the prize of victory. Paris now resembles an intrenched camp, occupied by two hostile armies; at any hour the beating of the *rappel* summons the shopkeeper from his counter to take his place in the National Guard, and at the same moment the tocsin sounds, and the artisan drops his tools and seizes his musket, to join in the defence of the barricade. When these careless alarms shall have produced exhaustion and weariness, the nation will gladly seek a refuge from them under the power of a military dictator.

## Classes of Society in Ireland.

THE LANDLORDS.

Several of the larger are absentees, and natives elsewhere than of that part of the United Kingdom, called Ireland. The small landowners are generally resident. Both classes are usually embarrassed in pecuniary circumstances, and alien from the sympathies, creed, and prejudices of the cultivators of the soil. Land owners have seldom had the will, and less seldom the ability to improve their estates. No class has been more extravagant or less provident than they. The land has been long in the possession of the present occupiers; and any improvement effected has been accomplished by the occupant, not the owner. The soil thus reclaimed from sterility by the tenant alone, is held by a tenure very different, in justice, from that held by the leaseholder, who entered upon an improved soil, or reaps the fruits of his landlord's current expenditure. Leases are all but unknown; and the relations between landlord and tenant are consequently vague and unsatisfactory. The duties of property have been grossly neglected; the rights, consequently, are too little recognized, and too often violated. Too often have the former been merged into the ignoble process of mere rent-exacting; and too often have the latter been dishonestly evaded and feloniously resisted.

THE TENANTS.

The average size of Tipperary farms is from eight to ten statute acres. For good land the rent per acre, (statute) may average £2 2s., and taxes per acre 8s. additional. The farmer and the peasant are nearly convertible terms, and, as a class, compose the great bulk of the Irish population. Husbandry is a family process, and often conducted with the simplicity of primeval times. The little grain the farmer can raise, the price of his pig, and a portion of his potatoes, go to pay his rent; the bulk of his potatoes, and the produce of his cow and poultry, remain for the sustenance of the cultivators. The farm house is the reverse of imposing in external aspect, or cleanliness and comfort. The capabilities of domestic improvement are clearly unexhausted. The long personal and ancestral possession of his land has, in the peasant's eyes, acquired for him a right to its occupancy equivalent

to perpetuity. Rent is rather an implied acknowledgment of tenure, than indicative of present value. He clings to his land with a tenacity which nothing can withstand. Hence the fearful collisions in cases of ejections. Sub-letting is prevalent, and practised apart from the contract of the proprietor. Thus arises the class of ‘middlemen,’ whose position, as incompatible with the higher and purer relations of landlord and tenant, is obviously prejudicial to agriculture and the well-being of society. Often, too, do the smallest occupier sublet, for the season, part of their holdings. This is the ‘con-acre’ system. The land is cropped with potatoes; it is prepared in spring for receiving the seed, and manured, by the occupant; the cropper provides seeds, sets the ground, and does all future operations. For this land so prepared and manured the usual rent for the season in the vicinity of towns is £1 16s. per quarter (statute) acre. The potatoes are grown in beds more frequently than in drills, and cultivated in the former case by spade and husbandry.

THE TOWN POPULATION.

This is usually composed of small farmers and laborers in the adjacent country; of professional men and small capitalists, and those engaged in such branches of trade and commerce as are sustained by a purely agricultural community. The middle class of society is small. Here, where the stamina of the social body chiefly lie, and the strength of a nation consists, and the virtues flourish, is Ireland unfortunately deficient. Munster towns are not celebrated for their intellectualism. The arts and sciences have not yet here taken up their abode, nor the muses their resting place. Museums and gymnasia, philosophical institutes, and oratorical atheneums are still enveloped in the coming future. Yet here, as elsewhere, are found men of polished manners, and well furnished minds, of sterling integrity and high principle, of scholarly attainments and philanthropic heart.

## The Oregon Bill.

A telegraphic despatch in the New York papers of yesterday gives us a brief account of the closing proceedings, in the Senate of the United States, upon the Oregon Bill, including a short sketch of a speech of Mr. Webster upon it.—The bill was amended—by a vote of thirty-three to twenty-one—on motion of Mr. Douglas, so as to extend the Missouri compromise to the Pacific Ocean. The following is the sketch of Mr. Webster's speech and the subsequent proceedings:

Mr. Webster obtained the floor, and addressed the Senate on the subject in his most earnest and effective manner. He said,

It is desirable, sir, undoubtedly, that there should be established, as soon as may be, a proper Government for the territory of Oregon; and I am willing to vote for the bill to establish such Government which has come to us from the House of Representatives, but if amended as proposed, by the proposition for amendment now under consideration of the Senate, I shall not be able to vote for the bill.

The fourteenth section of this bill provides that the inhabitants of said territory shall be entitled to enjoy all and singular the rights, privileges and advantages granted and secured to the people of the United States. Northwest of the Ohio, by the articles of contract, contained in ordinance for the government of the said territory, passed 13th day of July, 1787, and shall be subject to all the conditions, and restrictions, and prohibitions of said articles of compact imposed upon the people of said territory. It is well known that by the ordinance of the 13th July, 1787, involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime, was excluded from the North West Territory. The proposal now before the

Senate is to give a reason for applying that rule to the Territory of Oregon, and that reason is in the words of the amendment: “Inasmuch as the said Territory is north of the parallel of 36 deg. 30 min. of north latitude, usually known as the Missouri compromise.” I understand, sir, that when a man does an act, and undertakes to give reasons for that act, and gives but one, without suggesting that there are others, the world is fairly entitled to draw the inference that he has no other reason. For my part, sir, I should think that with this provision in the section, the implication would be irresistible, that if the territory were South of the parallel of 36 deg. 30 min. the proposition of the ordinance of 1787 would not be applied. For one, I wish to avoid all commitments, all traps by way of preamble or recital; and as I do not intend to discuss this question at large, I content myself with saying, in few words, that my opposition to the further extension of local slavery in this country, or to the increase of slave representation in Congress, is general and universal. It has no reference to limits of latitude or points of the compass. I shall oppose all such extension, and all such increase, in all places, at all times, under all circumstances, even against all inducements, against all supposed imitation of great interests, against all combinations, against all compromises. This is short, but I hope clear and comprehensive. It is merely to announce my purpose, and I have no more to say against this bill. If it be the pleasure of the Senate to take it as it came from the House of Representatives, it shall have my support. If amended, I shall vote against it.—So much for the Oregon territory.

With respect to California and New Mexico, no subject regarding them is before the Senate, and therefore I have only one remark to make, and that is, that the controversy which has arisen in the Councils of the country respecting the Government of these Territories, is just exactly that controversy which I supposed it very easy to force a peaceable and satisfactory termination of it. That subject is not now before us. I will therefore say no more upon it, but that I am happy in the reflection that for one I had nothing to do with the commencement of the late War with Mexico, but to oppose it with all my might; and that I had nothing to do with the Treaty which terminated that war, but to oppose it with all my might. I regarded the war as a calamity—I regarded the treaty as a calamity; and I fear it is likely to prove by the annexations and acquisitions which it has brought to us, a greater, because a more prominent calamity than the war itself.

GRAND LIGNE MISSION.—The Christian Chronicle says:—

By a letter dated 24th of July, Dr. Cote learns that the parish of St John the Baptist, has sent a deputation to the Lord Bishop at Montreal, to ask him to abolish the *Casuel* in their borders. The *Casuel* is the money the priest receives, for the performance of different services, in addition to the tithes, which of themselves, are said to be more than sufficient for their support. Several of the prominent men have threatened to leave the Roman Catholic Church. One of these has actually done so. They have sent to St. Pie for the Swiss missionaries to come into their parish. Two Baptist missionaries are already there, and Mr. Normandeau expects soon to follow.

The Shakespeares.—A Mr. Devan has discovered a muster-roll for part of Warwickshire, made in the time of Henry VIII, which contains the names of William and four other Shakespeares, three Hathaways, and other relatives of the great bard.