

# CHRISTIAN



# VISITOR.

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REV. E. D. VERY,

"BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE—BY LOVE UNFEIGNED."—ST. PAUL.

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[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

## THINGS SEEN—MUTABLE.

The world is passing—on its brow  
Is writ the chilling word *decay*,  
All, all it yields of pleasure now,  
With all it is, must pass away.

O Lord, how blessed is the trust,  
While Time's dark scenes flit rapidly  
And faltering life assumes the dust,  
To live forever blest with Thee.

This single hope o'ercomes the pain  
And steadfast sorrows of the heart,  
Teaches the bosom to sustain,  
And wait the moment to depart.

Cold—cold and rayless is the tomb  
Without one cheering soothing sense,  
Until Thy glory pierce the gloom—  
Great Conqueror, thou hast risen thence!

## FRANCE.

The following is from an abstract of a lecture of Dr. Baird, which, in connection with a series of lectures upon such subjects, he has been recently delivering in Brooklyn, N. Y. The abstract of one on Great Britain, which we gave a week or two since, was also one of the series.—Ed.

With regard to the geography of France, we find the remains of Grecian colonies, even at the present day. Vienna was the principal Roman colony, founded after the conquest of Gaul by Julius Cæsar, where, it is supposed, Pontius Pilate died, and a statue, supposed to have been erected to his memory, is even now shown; but which, of course, is not the fact. The lecturer glanced at the principal features of the conquest of this country, together with that of the Britons. When the Roman empire began to fall to pieces, they had to give up Gaul, which they prized so much; but not until after they had abandoned Britain and a portion of Germany. After this, the Germans commenced their old work of invading Gaul, and under Clovis, the chieftain of the Franks, obtained a footing in the country, and changed its name to its present designation. Paris, originally called Lutetia, or "mud town," but afterwards changed to the cognomen of a tribe that lived on the site, first obtained notice in the reign of Charlemagne. At that period France was not one eighth of the size that it is now; but it gradually increased in magnitude through the energy of the kings, who, commencing with Louis Capet and terminating with Louis XIV., conquered the ducal owners of the old feudal territories, so that now there is but a single count or duke who has any political influence, and even less property than other men. Dr. Baird reviewed the history of the French vassals, beginning with William of Normandy, the conqueror of England, in order to show what power they possessed, and to illustrate the causes of the dreadful battles which took place between the two countries, down to the time when Calais was given up by the English, in the reign of "Bloody Queen Mary," as she is generally called, who took it so much to heart that she said if they looked at it when she died, they would find the word "Calais engraved there." Under Louis XIV. who revoked the edict of Nantes, a great number of Protestants were obliged to fly the kingdom. The fatal and protracted wars which he caused, so weakened the energies of the nation that it laid the foundation of the French revolution which subsequently broke out in the reign of Louis XVI. The country became greatly involved in debt, and a change was looked for by many, especially when Lafay-

ette arrived, from his participation in gaining the independence of our nation. Louis XVI. had some idea of liberty—he called together a convention, composed of nobles, clergy and the common people, to form a constitution; but the latter being in the majority, would not agree to having three houses. The constitution was put into force in the year 1790; but one great blunder had been committed, which never would have entered into the minds of anybody but Frenchmen, namely—refusing to allow those who had been connected with the formation of its machinery to legislate under it. Our country acted differently, and to this, in a great measure, may have owed the success which crowned our first years of nationality.

The lecturer next glanced at the dreadful scenes that took place in Paris between the years 1792 and 1796, under the dictatorship of Danton, Marat, Robespierre and others—the abolition of Christianity and the worshiping of a lewd woman under the impersonation of the "Goddess of Reason," and all those principle features of an era so well known, and which even traced make the blood curdle with horror. He then traced the early progress of the young engineer, who distinguished himself first at Toulon—General Bonaparte—to his attempt to subvert the National Assembly which might have cost him his life, as the men of that body were made of different stuff from that of the late one in Paris, and a hundred daggers were planted at his breast, but for his brother Lucien. He followed his footsteps, as an emperor and the conqueror of Europe, until after numerous defeats, his imprisonment in Elba, and subsequently in St. Helena, closed his eventful history. The next thing that attracted the attention of the audience was the vivid description of the revolution of 1830, given by the Rev. lecturer. One scene is worth remembering, viz. the origin of the barricades. During the conflict between the troops and the people, the young men belonging to *L'Ecole Polytechnique*, a military academy, numbering about five hundred, were dismissed on a charge of mutiny; but allowed to walk off with their side arms. They immediately started off for the scene of combat, and placing themselves at the head of different bodies, ordered them not to fight the troops in the manner they were doing, but erect barricades.—Their advice was taken, the woods that shaded the walks of the Boulevards were cut down, coaches, diligences and travelling carriages were brought into requisition, and victory crowned their efforts. He next came down to the unexpected revolution of 1848, and gave a very minute account of it. He then alluded to the career of Louis Napoleon—his unsuccessful attempt at Stratsburg and Bologna, and his rise to his present position. As to his *coup d'etat*, he did not feel a single particle of sorrow for the men who composed the National Assembly. There were a great number of republicans in Paris; but they could not fight against Louis Napoleon while they hated the Assembly. The lecturer considered the President as a man who had thought to some purpose—who had tact, and knew when the proper time arrived to use it. He dwelt on this subject at some length. In relation to the rumors now prevalent concerning his future actions, he stated that the English people are saying all manner of things against the French, and the latter are retorting by bringing up their old feelings of animosity; and such a stupid set of editors are over the London press, that if matters go as they do, it will drive both countries into war. He believed, however, that Napoleon would never land in England with a single troop. No one can tell. He may involve Europe in a flame. He has the

genius to do it. It may be that the Divine Being may allow matters to be carried out that will destroy that odious feeling of man-worship which has lingered around the memory of Napoleon.

## Fortunes of the Orleans Family.

Since the accession of Louis Napoleon to absolute power in France, he seems to pursue the House of Orleans with peculiar vindictiveness of hate. It is, perhaps, more in his way than the elder House of Bourbon, whose return to the French throne is an impossibility. Several of the sons of Louis Philippe—and perhaps his grandsons—are kindly remembered by a large portion of the French people; and among the calculations of a new government, to supplant that of Louis Napoleon when his fall comes, that most likely to be approved by the moderates is associated with the Orleans interests—with the name of the Prince de Joinville or the Count of Paris. Some such vision seems to disturb Louis, for he pursues the Orleansists with a rancour of enmity which has something in it like fear. The confiscation of the property which the late king gave his children, was an atrocious manifestation of this temper. Another, of a different kind, is publicly charged, which attacks the right of the whole family to any inheritance of the blood of the Bourbons. The story so long circulated, that Louis Philippe himself was no true son of Egalite, but the son of an Italian jailer named Chiapelli, exchanged for the daughter born of the Duchess of Orleans, has been revived under the authority of the Bonapartes; and we see that his cousin, Pierre Bonaparte, has been dispatched to Italy for the express purpose of investigating the tale, and, if possible, of invalidating the title of Louis Philippe's children to any relationship with the Bourbons, or any inheritance with the Orleans property. Our readers will remember the particulars we have heretofore given of the claim set forth by the Italian's daughter, claiming to be the true princess of Orleans. She married an English nobleman, and on his death a Russian Baron, and died only last year, having spent years of her life in attempting to substantiate her claims; but received no encouragement, and at the same time no molestation from the Bourbons of either branch. Louis Napoleon has, however, taken the matter up, and will prove, if he can, that Louis Philippe was an intruding impostor, and his children unconnected in blood with the House of Orleans. It may help to extenuate his seizure of their property, if he can show that they had no legal right to it themselves.

There is still another attack upon the Orleans estate, which Louis Napoleon is suspected of prompting and known to favor. It is the impeachment of the title by which Louis Philippe's son, the Duke d'Aumale, holds the immense property bequeathed him by the Conde de Bourbon, father of the unfortunate Duke d'Enghien, who was seized and shot under such circumstances of lawless violence by Napoleon.

The old Prince was one of the richest men in France, and without direct heirs. His relatives annoyed him by their intrigues about his successor, and being extremely old and eccentric, he shut himself up in retirement.—He had with him, however, in some capacity, and intriguing woman called, we think, the Duchess de Fercheres. She was English by birth, and her original name was, if we recollect, Lucy Hawes, or Dawes. With this woman it was shown that Louis Philippe held a correspondence—a singular fact, for which no sufficient explanation has ever been given.—The old nobleman, after a great deal of vacillation, made a will, in which he bequeathed the larger part of his estates to the son of Lou-

is Philippe, and provided amply for his attendant. Not long afterwards he was found one morning suspended to a window cord in his bed-room. The decision was that he had committed suicide; but the circumstances were so suspicious, that various attempts were made at investigation, which all failed. The details make an extremely probable case that he was murdered—a comparison of all the facts showed that self-destruction in the mode in which he died was physically impossible.—Pamphlets have been published, and the story circulated that he had been murdered by the connivance of his female companion to prevent his changing his will; and the enemies of Louis Philippe threw in the possible suspicion, that he was a consenting party to the atrocity. That part of it is incredible; but the charge that undue influence was made to get the will made, that the interests of the King's family were consulted, in order to secure a powerful protector, and that the murder was done to secure the spoils of the Prince, has been maintained with much ingenuity; and the heirs of the Duke, with the connivance of Louis Bonaparte, are eager to re-examine the case, and inflict another blow upon the Orleans family.—*N. Y. Chronicle.*

**ANTS IN PERU.**—The forests of Peru swarm with ants. Every shrub is alive with them.—The large yellow puca sisi is seen in myriads in the open air, and it penetrates into the dwellings. This insect does not bite, but its crawling creates great irritation to the skin. The small, black yaha sisi, on the contrary, inflicts the most painful punctures. A very mischievous species of stinging ant is the black sunchiron. Its wound is painful, and even dangerous. "C. Klee, my travelling companion," says Dr. Tschudi, "being stung by one of these ants, such severe pain and fever ensued, that he was for a while delirious."—The Doctor himself was stung, and he states that the pain was severer for a few moments than he had ever experienced. A most remarkable phenomenon is exhibited by the swarms of the species called the "great wandering ant," which appear suddenly, in immense trains, ceaselessly marching forward in a straight line. The small, and weak, form the centre, while the large and strong flank the army, and look out for prey. These swarms sometimes enter a hut, and clear it of all disagreeable insects. The united force of these small creatures is so vast, that not only snakes, but large animals, such as the armadillo, on being surprised by them are soon killed.

The commencement of steamboat navigation on the Mississippi, was about the year 1816; and the first steamboat built on Lake Erie, was in 1817. In 1819 a steamer first visited Lake Huron, and Lake Michigan in 1826. In 1832, the first steamer visited Chicago, and in 1833 there were but eleven small steamers upon these inland seas. In 1851, there were seven hundred and sixty one steam boats upon our western interior lakes and rivers, employing 17,503 persons; having a tonnage of 188,468 tons; and the original cost being over \$15,000,000.

**THE CAFFE WAR.**—The Propontis, which left the Cape on the 3rd of March, arrived at Plymouth on the 6th inst. On the frontier the Governor's call for the burgher levy was a failure; and although there were some expectations of the receipt of intelligence at headquarters, on the 8th of March, of the success of Gen. Somerset's parole, yet the appointment of a new governor was likely to induce Sir Harry Smith to confine his efforts to the most simple operations. The Cape of Good Hope papers to the 9th of February state that several divisions of the army had been marched to the country and the strongholds of the hostile chiefs, who appear to have determined not to surrender unconditionally, and to dispute every inch of ground with the invading forces. The Zuid