

RELIGIOUS WORLD ABROAD. MONTHLY SUMMARY.

Progress in the development of a sound opinion and policy in the Church of England under her present anomalous circumstances, may be noted from month to month. The example of the Free Church of Scotland seems to be exerting an influence upon prominent men in the church, such as Dr. Duff mentions as coming under his observation in South Africa and elsewhere. Dr. Pusey's zeal for the purity and spiritual independence of the church seems likely to lead to important practical results. On the continent there has been a lull of expectancy during the month, while Rationalist and Orthodox waited for the decisions of voters and councils as to their position in these-called Evangelical Churches.

On the missionary field, the star of hope seems to be rapidly rising over China. Hundreds may safely be reckoned as converted every year. Most cheering reports come from Peking, Ningpo and Amoy. Let us especially pray for this multitudinous and remarkable people.

GREAT BRITAIN. Discipline in the Church of England.—Either the Church of England must gain independence of the State in spiritual matters, or its truly evangelical elements must imitate the Free Church movement of 1843 in Scotland. Hopes are entertained that the former result may be reached by some, as yet unknown means.

An important letter appears from the Archbishop of Canterbury, in reply to an address from the clergy of a rural deanery, urging their conviction that such a tribunal as the Judicial Committee "does not possess the requisite qualifications for dealing with questions of doctrine," and pressing upon his Grace to "take steps for recovering for the body spiritual the lawful exercise of such powers as we believe to be therein vested by the Divine Founder of the church, and recognized by the laws of his realm." His Grace says in reply: "I accept with grateful feelings the expressions of personal respect and confidence with which you address me; and I humbly trust I may have grace and strength to discharge with fidelity the important duties which devolve upon me in the position which I hold by the Providence of God. I agree with you in thinking that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council does not possess the requisite qualifications for dealing with questions of doctrine; and I trust that means will be found for placing this tribunal on a more satisfactory footing, and no endeavor shall be wanting on my part to effect this object."

The celebrated Dr. Pusey has issued an eloquent and indignant manifesto on the decision of the Privy Council, in which he speaks of both of the above alternatives, but warmly urges popular agitation for a reform in the Church government, by act of Parliament. He says: "It will be unwise for politicians to try the endurance of the Church too long. It is a new thing, since the days of the last revolution, to hear persons who have been the most devoted of her sons speak of a 'Free Church.' It was a far less injury which rent the Establishment a Scotland asunder."

"Will the Church of England require that the court which has shown itself so partial; so dishonest, which—had it been a matter of human property—could not have dared so openly to profane justice, should be reformed?" Is the Church to be really a mere arena for jugglers' tricks?"

The answer to these questions Dr. Pusey puts practically thus: Parliament gives sooner or later what is asked; dissenters get everything they demand; at the church ask for the liberties dissenters enjoy. Churchmen can now make their voices felt. Let the State give income to whom it will, but let the church have power to suspend heretics from preaching. "It is time to cast off this anti-Christian tyranny of the State. Pledges have been in fashion, and a general election is at no great distance. Let Churchmen, on the principle of the Anti-Corn Law League, league themselves together for the protection of the faith. Let them support no candidate for Parliament who will not pledge himself to do what in him lies to reform this Court of Privy Council, and besiege Parliament until it is reformed. It has been suggested that no church should be offered for consecration, no sums given for the building of churches which consecration should become the property of the present Church of England, no sums given for endowment in perpetuity, until the present heresy-galvanizing court shall be modified. This will show our rulers that we are in earnest."

The Weekly Review regards this demonstration on the part of Dr. Pusey as "an occurrence of the gravest importance."

SCOTLAND.—Innovations in Public Worship in the Established Church.—At the meeting of the Assembly of the Established Church, the Assembly declined to adopt the motion of their procurator, instructing the Presbytery of Edinburgh to deal with the Rev. Dr. Lee on the subject of his read prayers, instrumental music, and novel postures during praise and prayer. An attempt subsequently made in Presbytery to call the Dr. to account signally failed. The Christian Work says: "It was stated in the course of the discussion that these 'innovations' were spreading more and more among the congregations of the Established Church."

Handsome Legacies to the Free Church Scotland.—The late Dr. Mansfield, of Ayr, has left the following handsome legacies: To the Large Free Church congregation (the interest to be applied

as a contribution to the Sustentation Fund), £1,200; to the same (the interest to be applied as a supplementary endowment to the clergyman for the time being), £1,000; to the missionary schemes of the Free Church, £5,000; to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund of the Free Church, £8,000—in all £13,000. Edinburgh Courier.

The Riots in Belfast of the middle of last month, arising from the old religious feud between the governing and the subject classes, resulted in wounding 150 persons, and killing 5 Protestants and 4 Roman Catholics. The Banner of Ulster, published at Belfast, calls for a special commission to try the offenders, the courts being too tardy or inefficient. It also demands "a thorough inquiry into the efficiency of the Belfast magistracy." The Weekly Review says: "The inquests on the men that were killed by the contending factions are hurried over as quickly and as superficially as possible; but one or two persons were shot by the police, and these are investigated with scrupulous minuteness, and with a strong desire on the part of some of the witnesses at least, to have them found guilty of wilful murder."

Pleasant news from this city is to the effect that the homes of the workmen are likely to be improved. A gentleman well known there, Mr. Dunville, proposes to place £10,000 in trust for the purchase of land within the borough boundary, and to erect on it from sixty to one hundred houses of approved sanitary construction, to be let at a fair average rent to the working classes. The income, calculated at £500, is divided into fifteen shares, of which one forms a reserve fund, one is devoted to the Charitable Society, two to the General Hospital, six to form exhibitions for pupils as well of the middle as of the working classes, if educated in non-sectarian schools, one to instruction for working men in regard to health, and four to the promotion of the recreation of the working classes of Belfast.

Archbishop Trench holding Special Services.—Another encouraging item may be quoted from the Christian Work: "A religious movement at Bray has been followed by a series of services in the town and neighborhood, conducted by clergymen of the Church of Ireland. They lasted from the 30th of July till the 7th August, and were under the personal superintendence of Archbishop Trench, who was himself one of the preachers, and among whom were also the Deans of Cork, Ferns and Emlly. Sixteen sermons were preached during the week at Bray, now the most frequented watering-place in Ireland; and in the neighboring churches and school-houses seventeen more, besides frequent morning prayers and celebration of the Communion."

Bray is on the coast, about fifteen miles south of Dublin. Forms of prayer for the Archbishop and clergy, for all who should join in the special services, and for the conversion of sinners, were widely circulated. It is a matter of rejoicing that the good Bishop, already well known for his sound and judicious treatises on Scripture-interpretation, should thus identify himself with evangelical enterprises. It augurs well for his needy diocese.

FRANCE, BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND, ITALY. The Reformed Church is agitated by preparations for the elections to the Presbyterian Council. Orthodox and Rationalists may vote, and both, of course desire and labor to gain control of the body. The Rationalist party, however, is divided; most of them desire to remain in connection with the Reformed Church, with a view to the widening of its pale for the reception of such mere uncomformable Deists as themselves, while others would have the Deists—"Theists," they call themselves—found a separate church.

Free-thinkers in Belgium.—The irreligious people of this country, annoyed by the practices of the ultramontane clergy, have organized a society, discharging all manner of worship and ministerial aid, which is in full action in Belgium, where it took its rise, and is in existence in the west of France, whither some of its Belgium members have planted an offshoot. Their statutes show that their intention is to be separate from every kind of clergy, and so to remain until proper reform is made; and to manifest this intention, they declare their wish to be interred at their death without religious rites. The correspondent of the Christian Work saw an invitation to the funeral of a boy of ten, as follows: "SOCIETY OF FREE-THINKERS: No more priests at baptisms, marriages or deaths. The committee has the painful duty of giving you notice of the death of —, at the age of —, having received no sacrament of any kind of creed. His parents, Free-thinkers, regard it as a duty to bury him under the care of the Society of Free-thinkers."

SWITZERLAND.—Riots in Geneva.—The Weekly Review of Sept. 2d says: "There has been a political riot in Geneva, ending in loss of life. M. James Fazy, who, for several years has been the leading spirit [of the radical and infidel party] in that town, and whose measures have gradually raised up a strong opposition, was defeated at a recent election, and his leading opponent was returned to the Council in his room. But as the Fazy party have long held all the offices of Government, means were found to declare the election informal, and the legal majority of votes to be in favor of M. Fazy. This irritated the other party, the Council Hall was besieged, barricades were thrown up, shots were fired, lives were lost, and the troops of the Swiss Confederation were called in to restore order, which it must be added, was speedily effected. The most ominous circumstance connected with the affair is, that it is taken for granted, even by the English newspapers who write on the affair, that if the Genevese do not conduct themselves better, the French Emperor must, for the sake of order,

step forward and annex the town to France. It is extremely significant of the disturbed state of Europe, that such a high-handed act of robbery can be calmly calculated upon, and even approved, by the professed advocates of peace and order."

ITALY.—There are above 800 converts in the Waldensian and Italian Churches in Milan alone.

GERMANY. Dr. Schenkel and the Evangelical Church at Baden.—The revived rationalism of Germany, which responds to the movement of Roman in France, is led by the able and earnest Heidelberg (Baden) Professor, Dr. Schenkel. He is the leader of the so-called Protestant Association, which was formed last year at Frankfurt on the Main, and will this year hold its first meeting at Eisenach. Dr. Schenkel published lately a life of Jesus, in which he entered unreservedly into the footsteps of Strauss and Renan. This work gave occasion to an agitation which has not yet reached its close. A good part of the clergy of the Grand Duchy of Baden protested publicly and solemnly against the conclusions of this work; and the protest was copied into all the most important papers in Germany. These ecclesiastics declare that they can no longer consider the author of such a pamphlet as worthy to occupy the position of a teacher in the Evangelical Church; and they therefore demand his deposition from a station which affords him so much influence. On the other hand, the Rationalist movement produced lately a great meeting in the town of Durlach in Baden, in which a series of speakers, unfortunately comprising one Professor of Theology, maintained, that by the Protestant principles of free teaching and freedom of conscience, Dr. Schenkel was perfectly justified in writing and publishing a work of this description. In Baden, the synods will now be soon assembled, and will no doubt take cognizance of this important matter. There can be no doubt that all the believing members will ratify the protest of the ecclesiastics, and openly declare that a man like Dr. Schenkel, having taught that Jesus is not the Son of God, that he has not risen from the dead, and that he is not living and reigning to all eternity, cannot possibly occupy the position of a teacher in the Evangelical Church; and that at least the students ought not to be compelled to attend his lectures.

The German Evangelical Church Diet, which was to meet September 13-16, at Altenburg, will doubtless take cognizance of the whole subject. Its influence, says the correspondent of the Christian Work, is still great in Germany.

MISSIONARY. MORAVIAN MISSIONS.—The Annual Report of the Board of Missions, issued in Europe, appears, in condensed form, in the Moravian, September 15. The missions are in Greenland, Labrador, West Indies, Surinam, Mosquito Coast, South Africa, West Himalaya, Australia, and among the N. A. Indians. In Greenland and Labrador a great obstacle to the success of the work is "the desire of the natives for the European luxuries of the table, particularly coffee. For these they lust, not satisfied with the food of their country, and in order to get them they sacrifice their little property and impoverish themselves. The consequences are a distaste for the hardships of arctic life, idleness and indifference to religion. In this respect the missionaries look into the future with no little solicitude." In Jamaica, some of those who were subjects of the great revival, three years ago, have indeed again fallen away, but, upon the whole, the diligent attendance on the means of grace, the liberality of the members, their love one to another, and the joyous faith so often manifest on beds of sickness and of death, are all cheering signs that call for gratitude to God. In the Danish Islands, the most interesting occurrence was the solemn installation of the first Native Assistant Missionary.

Surinam.—The hopes entertained with regard to the conduct of the negroes after their emancipation, of which a full account was given in the last Annual Report, have not been disappointed. The term fixed by Government for making contracts between the planters and freedmen passed over without any disturbance on those plantations to which the Mission has been extended, except in one instance, and this exception was satisfactorily adjusted by the arrival of the Governor. In other respects the work, amidst the new circumstances and relations brought about by the emancipation, is in a formative state, and entails heavy labor upon the missionaries. Very encouraging is the reclamation of so many fugitive slaves, who, with their leader Broos, have come out of their fastnesses, begun two settlements on the Surinam river, and put themselves under the direction of the missionaries.

In South Africa spiritual prosperity is joyfully recorded. At the old stations, the increasing willingness of the converts to contribute to the support of the work is a pleasing feature; and the installation of the first Assistant Missionary a hopeful step. On the Mosquito Coast, the first converts of various Indian tribes were baptized in the year. In West Himalaya the missionaries are hard at work, preaching, teaching and circulating a Tibetan literature, preparing for the harvest yet delayed.

The summary shows 38 Stations; 322 Missionaries, 851 native laborers; 277 Schools, 26,804 attendants; 53,407 converts and 22,966 baptized children; Receipts of the Board \$65,752; Grants from other Societies and raised by the Missions themselves \$151,634; total \$217,386. There has been a falling off in the receipts and a diminution of one thousand in the converts reported.

NEW HEBRIDES.—There is a flourishing Mission on these islands sustained by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland and by the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of

British America. Two vessels are in the service of the missionaries. Rev. John Geddie and wife, who were sent out by the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia eighteen years ago, have returned for a brief visit to the provinces. The Home and Foreign Record, of this church, commenting on the changes which have taken place since Mr. G. left, says:

"When Mr. Geddie left it was maintained by many that the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia could not support two missionaries. It was feared by more that the effort made at his departure was spasmodic, arising from sympathy, and that its permanence could not be depended on. Mr. Geddie had faith to believe that the liberality of the Church would increase rather than diminish, and was willing to commit himself to it without fear. Here again his expectations have been more than realized. Never has the Foreign Mission been at a loss for funds. For it the committee have never needed to issue urgent appeals. In fact, ministers have been obliged often to say to the people that the Foreign Mission Fund was overflowing, and rather to direct their attention to other funds than to urge the duty of giving to it."

The same journal informs us that the Reformed Presbyterian Committee have secured the services of four additional missionaries for the New Hebrides. One of these is a licentiate of the Free Church, and one of the United Presbyterian Church. Before two years elapse it is expected that the Reformed Presbyterian Church will have seven missionaries in the New Hebrides.

MADAGASCAR.—In deference to the bigoted heathenism of the mass of the inhabitants of Ambohimanga, the religious capital of the island, the present Queen decreed on ascending the throne, that while Christianity might be taught and professed in every other part of her dominions, no church should be built nor public worship conducted in Ambohimanga.

This decree has since, on the representation of the idol-keepers, been rendered still more stringent and extended to embrace both public and private christian worship in the city, under penalty of chains or death. This is a virtual expulsion of all Christians from Ambohimanga. The Christians, says a correspondent, although disappointed, are not discouraged, and we have been most solemnly assured by the prime minister that no further concession would be made to the spirit of heathenism, to the restriction of Christian liberty.

CHINA.—The mission work in this great and difficult field is beginning to yield fruit, to a most encouraging degree. (The Lord of the Harvest seems about to give great increase. What may we not hope for if the hard, stolid, material man-worshipping and God-ignoring followers of such deistical and self-righteous teachers as Confucius and Mencius, are reached by the converting grace of the Gospel?

Mr. Blodgett of the American Board, wrote from Peking, April 6th, announcing the opening of a room in his house for preaching. He says: "The open proclamation of the gospel in this city is a new thing. So far as I know, the Roman Catholics have never opened their doors for the masses of the people to come and hear the word, and they, in consequence remain in utter ignorance of revealed truth. They are eager to hear what this new doctrine is. More than twenty times the population of the Sandwich Islands wait to hear the word. The field of labor opens beyond all my expectations. My chapel is full daily, of attentive listeners, and no opposition is offered. Men seem to inquire into the meaning of our doctrines."

Rev. J. Edkins, of the London Society, reports three converts as the first fruits in the western part of the city. The congregations number as high as sixty. The Protestant missionaries are remaining in the capital. At Ningpo, the O. S. Board report that forty members had been received to the Presbyterian church at an out-station near Ningpo, during the last year, not one of whom receives any support from the mission. They have a native pastor, supported in part by the church. In all, there are about two hundred members of that church, two native pastors, and four laymen, who are graduates of their boarding school. It will be remembered that the mission there had been in operation only since the opening of the "Five Ports."

At Amoy, the work of grace in connection with the Amoy mission of the Reformed Dutch Board continues. Thirty-eight persons were received to the three churches by profession, during the year 1863, and they now number 310 members. Native pastors have been installed over the two churches at Amoy, who "have full charge" of their churches, "have both given great satisfaction," "seem to have secured the confidence of the people, and are respected by old and young." The contributions of the churches during the year amounted to \$702 43.

The harvest in China is drawing nigh. I think, says Mr. Blodgett, it may be said, hundreds are now uniting with the Christian church each year.

Africa.—Over 150 churches have been built on the Eastern coast of Africa. Nearly 200 schools are in operation; 20,000 children have been instructed in English; 20,000 baptized persons are members of different bodies of Christians; 25 dialects have been reduced to writing. Between 60 and 70 settlements have been formed—the centres of Christianity, civilization, agriculture and commerce. Lawful commerce has increased from \$100,000 annually, to between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000; and yet, though so much has been done, it is very little in comparison with what yet remains to be done on the "Dark Continent." These sixty or seventy Christian settlements are but so many beacon lights on the coast, while the vast interior is still enshrouded in midnight darkness.—Spirit of Missions.

South Africa.—A Missionary of the Episcopal Church writes from Shiloh, that not less than fifteen Churches had been erected in the eastern district alone of the Cape Colony within a twelvemonth, all of them for the use of the K. Affre.

Advertisements.

U. S. 7-30 Loan.

The Secretary of the Treasury gives notice that subscriptions will be received for Coupon Treasury Notes, payable three years from Aug. 15th, 1864, with semi-annual interest at the rate of seven and three-tenths per cent. per annum—principal and interest both to be paid in lawful money.

These notes will be convertible at the option of the holder at maturity, into six per cent. gold-bearing bonds, payable not less than five nor more than twenty years from their date, as the Government may elect. They will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000, and all subscriptions must be for fifty dollars or some multiple of fifty dollars.

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Have and do give Better Satisfaction! HAVE MORE RESPECTABLE PEOPLE TO VOUCH FOR THEM!

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From Rev. J. Newton Brown, D. D., Editor of the Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge: Although not disposed to favor or recommend Patent Medicines in general, I have consented to try their ingredients and effects; I yet know of no sufficient reasons why a man may not testify to the benefits he believes himself to have received from a simple preparation in the hope that he may thus contribute to the benefit of others.

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From Rev. J. M. Lyons, formerly Pastor of the Columbus (N. J.) and Miltonum (Pa.) Baptist Churches. Dr. C. M. Jackson.—Dear Sir:—I feel it a pleasure to say of my own accord, to bear testimony to the excellence of the German Bitters. Some years since, being much afflicted with Dyspepsia, I used them with very beneficial results. I have often recommended them to persons afflicted by that tormenting disease, and have heard from them the most flattering testimonials as to their great value. In cases of general debility, I believe it to be a tonic that cannot be surpassed. J. M. LYONS.

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