

Dr. Verner White, of Liverpool, has made up a table showing that in Great Britain and Ireland, where the growth of Roman Catholicism is such a bug-bear, the proportion of Roman Catholics fell from 27 per cent. of the whole population in 1841 to 18 per cent. in 1871. The Protestants have gained and the Roman Catholics have lost.

At a recent meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society, a Welsh speaker said:—"Wales is preeminently the land of one book. We owe it to the influence of the Bible that *we have not a single infidel book in our language*, and that Popery has failed hitherto to make any progress among the pure Welsh, because they read and know their Bibles too well."

*Slavery* has of late been receiving additional death-blows in Africa. King Johannes of Abyssinia has resolved upon the total suppression of the traffic in his dominions. In a letter, prepared by his direction, addressed to Earl Granville, he says:—"Knowing that it is the wish of Her Majesty and the English nation that slavery should be abolished in all parts of the world, and as it is equally distasteful to himself as a christian Sovereign, his Majesty promises to put an end to all traffic in slaves in his kingdom, and to declare all slaves now existing in Abyssinia free men. The purchase and sale of slaves is only carried on by his Mohanmedan subjects, but he will put in force such laws as shall effectually stop it."—*Advocate*.

*France*, which a few years ago was the most Romish of all Romish Countries, is now wonderfully opening itself to the true Gospel. A distinguished French Protestant, than whom there is no one better qualified to form a correct opinion, in a recent address said:—"Without disguising from myself any of the difficulties and obstacles presented to the progress of religion in our day, I am fully convinced that never since the age of the Reformation was there so favourable an opportunity for the propagation of our doctrines and of our faith." "Lectures! lectures!" says the Paris correspondent of *the News of the Churches*, "It is suprising to see how France is opening to lectures. Something new, something fresh, something to instruct, something to satisfy! And the Gospel contains all this; so that the handful of lecturers, who are going about, telling the people of the true liberty whereby Christ maketh free, of the true love of God which saves and purifies, are eagerly listened to, and colporteurs find a ready sale for New Testaments and Bibles after the meetings." This is particularly the case in the South of France. "The Secretary of the Central Evangelical Society of Paris states that if they had the means, they could found a new Protestant church every week, so eager were the people in the South of France to accept the blessings of the Gospel." May we not hope that a bright day of true liberty has begun to dawn upon that fair yet morally benighted land?

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