

foreign. Pit, gallery, and boxes, the latter for payment, were crammed with persons of both sexes and distinguished position. We remarked several deputies (members of parliament). It was one of those scenes which never will be obliterated from memory, and which religious history will proudly register in her ever-living pages.

"Here, in Rome, once mother of the Republic, then servant of the Cæsars, and afterwards slave of the Popes, who swathed her in ignorance and superstition during centuries of religious despotism, and at last smothered every fort towards political or religious liberty under infallibility; here, in Rome, so humiliated, so degraded, under sacerdotal servitude, where the Index poisoned every holy work, and the Inquisition extinguished every throb of generous endeavour; in this Rome fabricated on the spoils of a conquered world, into an immense sacristy hung with saints and Madonnas, or rather into a huge confessional for the Catholic universe; here, where the Vicar of the Vatican had made for himself a god of silver and gold, and given up to temporal cares, amidst the barbaric luxuries and delights of the Vatican, full of Falernian wine and finest grapes, preaching to credulous throngs the words of Christ—'sell what ye have and follow me'—here, in fine, where a couple of years ago the possession of a Bible had been a crime which the Loyolaites of the Vatican had punished by at least the stake; here was held such a splendid Bible meeting as may lead to those reforms and transformations necessary to make the church Christian once more. Ideas are marching; the mist of the Papacy is dissipating at the breath of heaven, and the Gospel of Christ even here shall break the fetters of the Pope.

"At half-past seven o'clock prayer was offered and a hymn sung, accompanied by the harmonium. Admiral Fishbourne took the chair, and read an address. Mr. Wall read the report. Professor Comba delivered a speech which was hailed with reiterated plaudits. Mr. Hoare spoke in English, and Signor Meille interpreted. Signor Ressetti next spoke; then followed a hymn; and next came Gavazzi, hailed with three salvos of applause. He began: 'I am like God, because I am infallible,' and on this terrible text delivered a speech of which the conclusion was, 'We must clasp the Bible to our breasts and push the Syllabus away from us.' Mr. Piggott was the next speaker, who closed by saying that the qualities which the Italians praised in the English were the beneficial effects of the Bible. Then another hymn was sung, and Mr. Stoare, apparently a Scotchman, spoke, Mr. Wall translating. Signor Cocordi followed, remarking on the unrest of nations which have not the Bible. The Secretary read the names of the committee, and the assembly of 2,000 was dismissed amid enthusiastic applause, but in perfect order."

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

The Board of Directors have much satisfaction in being enabled, after