

ity over the other Presbyters of the Christian Church. Holding this view, I am amongst the number of those who would say to my Presbyterian fellow-countrymen, do not sacrifice anything of your ancient traditions and your national opinions for the sake of joining the Episcopal Church or any other Church on earth. Treat all your brethren of the Christian Church, of whatever section, with perfect toleration, be willing to hear everything they may have to say in favour of their organisation, but until you are convinced that they are in the right in regard to the main principles which separate you, do not join them, but keep separate, keep to your own organisation."

Referring to the Confession of Faith, His Grace expressed the opinion that in the Reformation Churches one great error was made, and that was having made their Confession of Faith and their Articles of Belief much too long and much too elaborate. At the same time there are difficulties in the way of altering it, and he was not one of those who would recommend that process.

It is not ten years since evangelical ministers were subject to imprisonment for preaching the gospel in France. But now the whole of France is open to evangelical labourers. Every one of the 36,000 communes is accessible to the preachers of the gospel, and in many of these communes, the mayors preside at the meetings and introduce the preachers, some public hall being used for the purpose. This is true not only of the cities, but also of the provincial towns of France, and the people everywhere show an eagerness to listen to the preaching of a pure gospel. It is one of the most remarkable changes of our time.

INTELLIGENCE of a religious revival among the inhabitants of the famous Norfolk Island has been received. These good people—the descendants of the mutineers of the *Bounty*, whose removal from Pitcairn Island took place upwards of twenty years ago—have always borne the character of being more under the power of the Gospel than the general run of Christians are, and it would appear that their love for the truth has not abated of late years. Their invariable custom has been to assemble every morning in the ordinary place of worship for prayer, previous to proceeding to their daily work; and in this respect they resemble the seventy or eighty persons, including their pastor and his family, who form the whole population of the lonely little island of St. Kilda, in the Atlantic, on the north-west coast of Scotland, and who, though an isolated community, are apparently the most godly and simple-hearted people in the British Isles. The Norfolk Islanders have three full services every Sabbath, and their Scriptural knowledge is said to be great.

Their educational acquirements are also of no mean order, there being an excellent school on the island. The spiritual oversight of this peculiar congregation has been under the Rev. Mr. Nobbs, who on the occasion of his visiting England was presented to the Queen, and immediately afterwards ordained by the Archbishop of Canterbury as minister of Pitcairn Island. Mr. Nobbs, who is an old naval officer, and whose life seems to have been a chequered one, is a piously-devoted man, and it is not therefore strange that his labours should bear fruit.

THE BIBLE has now been translated into two hundred and seventy different languages and dialects. Some idea of the time and labour involved may be gathered from the fact that it has taken six years to prepare the Japanese version of the New Testament which has just been completed. The event was celebrated in Yokohama as an important era in the history of the evangelization of Japan. Missionaries connected with at least fourteen different societies were present, and a large congregation of native Christians. It was remarked by one of the American missionaries, that "no possible reverses can now quench the light of the Gospel in this heathen land. Were every missionary expelled, as they were at a former time, it would now be impossible to expel the Scriptures, which during the last decade have been sown widely through the land." Thousands of New Testaments and hundreds of Bibles in the Chinese language have been circulated in Japan. The task of completing a Japanese version of the Old Testament will be proceeded with immediately. According to recent returns, the total membership of the Protestant Churches in Japan in December, 1879, was 2,701, an increase of 1,084 since July, 1878. There are now in Japan, 66 married couples, 11 unmarried men, and 40 unmarried women, making a total of 183 missionaries, of whom 140 are Americans.

THERE IS A LEGEND to the effect that, as Solomon's temple progressed, a dressed stone was sent there from the quarries, for which no place could be found. Over and over again the workmen examined it, and tried it in various ways, but to no purpose. It seemed fitted for no place whatever, and hence it was left unnoticed at last, and became overgrown with weeds. But when the work was about completed, the headstone of the corner was missing. From the quarries came the word that it had been sent, but where was it? Then the rejected stone was remembered, and upon seeking it out, that which the builders had rejected became the chief ornament of their work. Thus some rejected Moses, and others rejected Jesus, but God has places of eternal honor for each of them.