

**Norway.**

Intolerance is still triumphant at Norway. The Storting has rejected a proposal by its own commission, to grant liberty of worship to all Christians, and permission to Jews to establish themselves in the kingdom.

**Germany.**

The following items are extracted from the proceedings of the National Assembly, in its debate on the Constitution:—

“Sec. 14. Every religious community (church) orders and administers its affairs independently; but it remains, like every other society in the State, subject to the laws of the State.”—Carried.

“No one religious community enjoys, by means of the State, privileges above the rest. Moreover, there exists no State Church.”—Carried.

“New religious communities may be formed; it is not necessary that their confession be acknowledged by the State.”—Carried.

The principal rejected motions were:—

“Existing religious communities and the new ones which are formed are, as such, independent of the power of the State. They order and administer their affairs independently.”—Noes, 357; ayes, 99.

“The pastors and presbyters of the communes are chosen and appointed by the communes, without the confirmation of the State being necessary thereto.”—Noes, 320; ayes, 134.

“The publication of ecclesiastical decrees is subject to those laws only which attach to all other acts of publication.”—Rejected.

**Africa.**

**PROGRESS OF CIVILIZATION AT LATTAKOO.**—At Kuruman, or New Lattakoo, the scene of Mr. Moffat's labours, the progress of civilisation is astonishing. The merchants upon the stations during the past year, disposed of £1,000 worth of goods, consisting of haberdashery, hardware, and tools; besides what was sold by other traders. Since the receipt of the Bechuana New Testament, nearly £100 worth have been sold, and a sum above £30 has been received for hymn books. The number of church members is 246: six native assistants are employed, in missionary work. A great portion of the Scriptures has been rendered into their language, and other portions are in progress. Besides school-books, an edition of 10,000 copies of the Assembly's Catechism has been printed, and the missionaries are

carrying through the press a version of the “Pilgrim's Progress.” The schools are in an efficient and prosperous condition, and the number of readers is rapidly increasing.

**Persia.**

The translation into Persia of Dr. Keith's work, “The Evidence of Prophecy,” is now in active circulation. The Rev. Dr. Glen, in a letter dated Tehran, January 26, 1848, gives an interesting account of the presentation of the Persian edition of the Scriptures to the king of Persia, and also to his prime minister, accompanied with copies of “The Evidence of Prophecy,” in the same language. He writes:—

On the king taking into his hand Dr. Keith's “Evidences,” I was much surprised at his reading the whole of the preface *alta voce*, containing two closely-printed large octavo pages, descriptive of Dr. Keith's object in composing the original work in English, namely, that of neutralizing, or repelling, the objections of European sceptics to the Divine origin of the Bible, by showing the fulfilment, in modern times, of predictions made by the prophets hundreds or thousands of years ago; a result which none but God could foresee, or enable any mortal to foretel. On reading the account of the sceptical opinions of European infidels, as briefly given in the said preface, his majesty named Voltaire as being one of them, and looked to me for the confirmation of what he said, which was done by my remarking that he was the great leader of our European Socrates. He also took occasion to remark that *being without religion* was a very bad thing; which furnished an opportunity of remarking, in reply, that for creatures to withhold from their Creator the worship which was his due, “was indeed very bad;” and the looks of our hearers glanced approbation.—*Christian Spectator*.

**United States.**

**DEFLECTIONS FROM POKERY.**—The *Freeman's Journal*, the organ of Bishop Hughes of New York, makes the following confession of the defections from Pokery in consequence of “Kirwan's” series of letters addressed to the Bishop and widely circulated throughout the country.

“These defections, alas, may be called not only numerous but frightfully numerous. Every priest will attest, every town in the land is a crying witness of it. Week before last two gentlemen unacquainted with each other called on us at different times. Each had recently arrived from Ireland, and the