

self and his work to the prayers of all assembled. The meeting was an exceedingly satisfactory, and, what is much better, a blessed one.

MINISTERS OF DUTCH CHURCH AND CONVERSION OF THE JEWS.

Let me now add a few words about newly-established prayer-meetings on behalf of Israel by ministers of the Dutch Church, and conducted regularly in the national churches. I give you the statements from the report they have sent me for the *Herald*. The meetings are to be regularly continued every three months, and tracts to be published. The titles of the four first tracts are: The Divinity of Christ; The holy Spirit; The Name of Jesus; The Words of the Spirit. The first sermon was preached by a dear brother and an excellent Christian minister, the Rev. Mr. Callenbach, on the last clause of Num. x. 29, where the words occur, "For the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel." Proceeding from the past, that Israel's unbelief could not destroy the faithfulness of God, it having pleased Jehovah to choose Israel as His people from among the nations,—the preacher added, that *Israel* and the *Messiah* can never be separated from one another, and that the people being once chosen by God, He cannot but fulfil the promises given on account of and in the Messiah. The promises will be fulfilled, as it is manifest from the promises already fulfilled, from the power of God that He can, from the goodness of God that He will, and from the faithfulness of God that He shall, give what he has once promised. Therefore must we join our prayers with the friends of Israel everywhere, and love Israel for God's sake, for He loves Israel; for *Israel's* sake, and for our own sake, for we shall then be blessed for Israel. It was rather remarkable that I got the letter containing that delightful intelligence on the very day our meeting took place at Amsterdam. May we not firmly believe that the Lord, having given it into the hearts of many of His children to pray for Israel, will also grant speedily the supplication brought before the throne of the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob? At present, I only add, that the church continues to be very well attended indeed, and that on last Wednesday of this year more than a hundred Jews were present, to whom tracts were given when leaving the church, as many went away even during the service. The subject of the discourse was "Unity and Trinity." The *Herald* and our new publication, the *Friend of Israel*, are more and more read, even by Jews. In my next letter I hope to give you some details regarding it, and of two baptisms that have taken place, of a Jew of high standing at Utrecht, and of a whole Jewish family at Amsterdam, on the 25th and 26th of December. A mother and four children were baptized under rather remarkable circumstances.

MISSIONS OF THE IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

INDIA.—The Rev. H. Pestonji, a convert of the Free Church Mission in Bombay, has been appointed by the Board as one of the Missionaries of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland. Those, with whom Mr. Pestonji was associated in the Free Church Mission at Bombay, while they deeply regretted parting with him, approved the step which he took.

JEWISH MISSION.—The last number of the *Missionary Herald* contains a most interesting account of Rev. Jules Ferrette, formerly a Dominican Monk, but now a faithful preacher of

the gospel in connexion with the Damascus Mission. Mr. Ferrette had once studied under Dr. D'Aubigne, but had afterwards joined the Romish Church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION—COLPORTAGE IN CONNAUGHT.—At the meeting of the Board of Missions, held in the month of December, it was found necessary, from the exhausted state of the funds of the Home Mission, to decline an application of the Presbytery of Connaught for the salary of an additional Colporteur to labour within their bounds. This state of matters, so much to be regretted, elicited a letter from the Rev. John Wilson, explanatory of the importance and adaptation of this particular agency to the state of the Mission-field in Connaught, and appealing to private liberality to supply the untimely deficiency of the public funds of the Church. We are happy to say that the appeal has not been in vain.—A friend who withholds his name, but who writes from L—— House, near Ballibay, is willing "to contribute a mite, and give one £1 per annum for three years." A gentleman, "once a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland," has remitted to us £20, thus reminding us that separation and distance but serve to intensify in the Christian bosom love of fatherland and mother Church, while Dr. Edgar, with his usual readiness to help every good work, promises £15. The salary of an additional Colporteur for Connaught, for one year, may therefore be regarded as secure.—But a great door and effectual has been opened. An extensive system of colportage may, and ought to be undertaken for Ireland.

Miscellaneous Extracts.

MAYNOOTH, OR THE PLOT UNRAVELLED.

II.—DOINGS IN THE COLLEGE—ITS RIPER YEARS.

Recapitulation.—In our preceding paper we have seen that Maynooth was founded with the professed object of supplying Ireland with such a class of priests as were speedily to terminate that country's miseries. We have seen that a College honestly seeking to accomplish this object, would not desire a larger establishment than the object itself required,—would endeavour, as was promised, to give the education most likely to secure it,—and, especially, would in all its doings be distinguished for that transparent openness which ever marks the *mens conscia recti*. We have seen that if, on the contrary, mischief were intended, the main aim of such a College would be indefinitely to enlarge the institution,—proportionally to intensify the virulence of the teaching; and, meanwhile, to study that secrecy which usually marks dishonesty. And, finally, we have seen how sadly our worst anticipations in these respects have, during Maynooth's earlier days, been realized.

Examination Continued.—We now pass on to its riper years; and if in our preceding sketch we have after all been misjudging that College, it is in the present one that this will be sure to appear. Innocence has often been suspected for a time, but rarely, if ever, for a lifetime; for sooner or later its worst-looking acts are explained, and the clouds of suspicion begin to disperse. It is in the case of real guilt only that we find the opposite process going on, and these clouds growing darker to the last, till suspicion ripens into certainty. Therefore, if Maynooth after all be innocent, its innocence is sure, as its years roll on, to come out with resistless evidence; but if it is guilty, as certain are the signs of guilt to multiply as we proceed. You need have no fear, then, reader, for the ends of justice

in the present case, as it is here on a track on which it cannot be baffled. In an investigation stretching over sixty years; we are certain to find abundant evidence to clear up this case in one way or other. We can do no better, then, than simply pursue the aforementioned threefold course of inquiry, and endeavour to ascertain whether the suspicious doings of Maynooth in regard to enlarging the establishment, intensifying the teaching, and aiming at concealment, which have already marked his career, are found, as we proceed, to disappear or to multiply.

Further Schemes of Enlargement.—I. Were there the least necessity, we might adduce numerous facts to show that the passion for enlargement seems only to have grown with Maynooth's own growth. As, for instance, the absorption into it in the year 1817 of a lay college, (with all its buildings and lands,) which had early been established within its precincts, because found, say the Commissioners, to be an "inconvenient appendage." Or the employment of the immense sums which we have found to have been fraudulently appropriated, not in improving the buildings already reared, but in erecting "new buildings," and then these bare walls being used as an argument for farther supplies, after the manner of Rome's well known scheme of leaving her chapels half finished for years, the better to draw out her people's liberality. Or the extraordinary fact, that the more the accommodation of Maynooth increased, the more seems to have been required, inasmuch that, even in 1845, we find it still so unfinished, and still so crowded, as to constitute one of Sir Robert Peel's strongest arguments for the Maynooth Bill, then forced on the nation. Or his memorable statement on that occasion, which somebody must have authorized him to make, and which not one of the professors corrected; but which, as was proved before the Commission of 1854, "was let run through the land uncontradicted, because it served a purpose, that three students were accommodated to sleep in a bed." From these and similar facts, it would appear that the idea of a vast establishment seemed never for an instant to have been lost sight of. But it is quite sufficient for our present purpose to show how, under that statesman's auspices, the idea has been actually realized.

The Act of 1845.—Be it remembered that the Maynooth Trustees had, by the year 1845, expended some £75,000 of the public funds on buildings, and above £400,000 on maintenance—making in all near half a million sterling;—that their schemes of enlargement had swallowed up, like a Maelstrom, the lay College, with much of the Dunboyne funds and commons; and that from 50 students who appear on the first year's roll, the number had gradually risen to 440. Yet, as if this were not enough, the community were astounded at the introduction that year of a Bill by the Premier himself, which proposed, at one sweep, to raise the Maynooth Endowment from £9000 to £30,000 a year—to put this princely revenue beyond the chances of annual votes, by the permanent security of an Act of Parliament; to add to all this, £30,000 more for enlargement and repairs; to make the Trustees a body politic and corporate, self elected, irresponsible, and consisting, for the most part, of Popish bishops; and, despite the statutes of Mortmain, to empower them to take and hold land to the value of £3000 a year, in addition to what they already were empowered to possess, to the value of £200 more, to take and hold personal property to any amount whatsoever!! While, in its boundless profusions, the Bill provided for the board and education of 520 students, allowing each of them £28 a year, and giving £20 additional to 250, and £40 additional to the 20 Dunboyne students. And all this prodigal bounty it proposed to heap on Maynooth, without condition affixed or enquiry instituted—as the Premier himself expressed it, "in a liberal sense and confiding spirit." Even the trifling