

elon hills. The guns of the Redan cannot be sufficiently depressed to bear on it. Our signal, which is bearing towards the Redan, will ere long have reached the lowest level of Frenchman's hill on the left, and will then have to mount the rising ground in front. Before this can be done, however, the quarry must be 'crowned,' or the enemy within would almost look down into our trenches. The men who took the rifle pits a few nights since will not fail to take this also when the time comes; but the somewhat steep ascent of the hill, and the close proximity to other works in the rear, will make the undertaking more arduous. It must be accomplished, nevertheless, for the existence of the work will materially impede our progress, and would be still more detrimental if permitted to be armed and converted into a battery.

"The enemy appear to have everywhere repaired the damage which was done to their works by the late fire from our batteries. On our side, it having been made evident that neither the proximity, nor the weight of metal, was sufficient to accomplish the desired object of silencing the hostile works, vigorous steps are being taken to remedy the deficiencies. Heavy guns, which were in the batteries of the first parallel, are being removed into the advanced work. Other batteries are being thrown up still farther in front. Batteries which at the first bombardment were armed with 24-pounders, replaced at the late fire by 34-pounders, will now be wholly armed with 68-pounders. The late fire has shown, too, where other batteries were required, and some of these are already completed and armed, while others are in progress. The French have also thrown up a new battery on the right, and have added generally to the power of their works."

SOMEBODY HATH TOUCHED ME.—As our Lord was walking to the house of Jairus, to see and to heal his daughter—the crowd thronging Him at every step—he suddenly surprises his disciples and the multitude by asking, "Who touched me?" Not understanding the force of the question, they call his attention to the thronging, pressing multitude, and wonder at his notice of the touch of an individual, in such circumstances.

To this remark, his simple explanatory reply is, "Somebody hath touched me; for I perceive that virtue hath gone out of me."

The public confession of the healed woman, the avowal of her faith, and of the mighty power of God instantly followed, and was, doubtless, the result intended by our Lord, in asking the question.

A great many people attended Church on the last Sabbath, in some instances "thronging and pressing." They have surrounded the throne of the Saviour in crowds, and yet of the multitude, perhaps but one has touched Him. The rest thought of the crowds, of each other, and of all that was generally exciting in the scene; but this one thought only of Christ, and the plague of a sinful heart. "O, could I but touch the hem of his garment!" and she did touch it, and was perfectly healed, and it now only remains that she confess his faith, and give glory to God.

Many Christians on last Sabbath surrounded the Communion table; all of them handled the elements. How many touched Christ? Reader, did you touch Him? Had you no plague of sin, of temptation, or of care, to be healed? You followed in the crowd behind, as He was going to heal some one; why could you not have touched, and have been healed? If you loathed sin as this woman loathed her disorder, if you had as much faith in Christ as she had, you would not have lost the opportunity; you would have touched, would have been healed; and, to the end of your life, His words would have sweetly rung in your ears, "Be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole." "Go in peace."

AMERICAN SYMPATHY WITH THE ENGLISH CHURCH.—The following gratifying incident is related by the *London Guardian*:

A short time since several thousand pounds, raised by voluntary subscriptions, were spent on the repairs of the noble parish church of Boston, Lincolnshire. Unfortunately, owing to the want of funds, the south-west chapel, which had for many years been neglected, part as a vestry and part as an engine-house, was left untouched. The circumstance was made known to New England friends through the Hon. Ed. Everett, formerly American Minister in this country. Mr. Everett's father is an Episcopalian minister, in Boston, Massachusetts; and a few days since a letter was received from the latter gentleman by Pickoy Thompson,

Esq., who had resided many years in the United States, informing him that upwards of 1,200 dollars (about £250) had been raised towards the restoration by Transatlantic friends; and they at the same time wished that the window at the west end of the chapel, now blocked up, should be filled with stained glass, in commemoration of the Rev. Dr. Cotton, Vicar of Boston from 1612-1633, and one of the early Pilgrim fathers, who emigrated to America to enjoy the liberty of conscience denied him in England, and in whose honour the then embryo town of Boston was named. This handsome present is the more gratifying from being so entirely unexpected, and many thanks are due to the Rev. Mr. Everett for collecting this very munificent gift, and to the friends of the old Bay State who have so liberally responded to his call; and we hope that the townsmen of Boston will at once carry out the Rev. gentleman's proposal, which will ever remain as a lasting memorial, not only of the good feeling existing between old Boston and young Boston, but also of the friendship and brotherhood prevailing between Old England and New England, and above all, of that higher communion daily increasing between the daughter Church of America and her mother in England.

THE COST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—The *National Intelligencer* gives the following as the amount of appropriations made during the late session of Congress. Fourteen and a half millions of dollars are appropriated to the Post Office Department and the Ocean Mail Service. The *Intelligencer* in introducing the statement, says:—"This document ought to possess interest for every reader, and ought to be examined by every one, as exhibiting in the main the objects on which the public revenue is expended. The aggregates of the classified heads of expenditure are as follows:—

Civil, diplomatic, and miscellaneous, - - -	\$17,205,929
Army, fortifications, Military Academy, &c., - - -	12,571,490
Indian department, naval, revolutionary, and other Pensions, - - -	4,453,536
Naval Service, - - -	15,012,691
Post Office Dep't., - - -	19,948,814
Ocean steam mail service, - - -	3,574,458
Texas debt, - - -	7,750,000

\$71,574,357

This vast sum of \$71,574,357 is only the amount of specified appropriations. The great mass of contingent objects of expenditure, of which the sums were unascertained and could not be specified, may swell the grand total of the expenses of the year to perhaps seventy-five millions of dollars!

THE VINEYARDS OF CALIFORNIA.—Mr. Buffum, in his speech in the California Assembly, wherein he proposed to exempt California wine from the provisions of the prohibitory liquor law, gave the following interesting statistics concerning the culture of the vine in that State:—

In Los Angeles county—the vineyard of California—there are already under cultivation as many acres covered with the vine as there are in the whole of the great State of Ohio, the pioneer in the wine manufacture in the United States. In Los Angeles the number of bearing vines amount to 809,000; the number of acres under grape culture is 1,500; the quantity of wine which can be made to the acre is 400 gallons; the amount of capital invested in the grape culture is \$1,000,000, and the number of persons engaged in the various branches of the business is 4,000. Thus there 1,500 acres only under grape culture can produce 600,000 gallons of wine annually, which, at two dollars per gallon, will yield, in this single district, the annual income of \$1,200,000. If there are in this State but 250,000 acres of land which can be brought under grape culture, they would produce 100,000,000 gallons of wine annually, which at one dollar per gallon, would yield the enormous annual revenue of \$100,000,000.

The Postmaster-General has just issued a report, the first of a series to appear in future annually. According to the report, the present Post-office staff consists of 21,574 persons. The number of post-offices in the United Kingdom is 9,573. During the last year 512 new post-offices, free deliveries to 1,342 places, and a London day mail to fourteen towns, were established. The number of chargeable letters which passed through the post last year was 443,000,000. Of these 103,000,000 were delivered in the London district, and 210,000,000 passed through the London office; 53,000,000 newspapers passed through the London office last year, and 375,000 book packets (the average weight ten ounces). There are 1,372 money order offices in the United Kingdom. The number

of money-orders granted during 1854 was 5,466,244. Their total value £10,462,411 16s. 4d., the profit on which, after paying expenses, was £16,538. The gross revenue from postage on letters and books, and commission on money-orders last year was £2,685,000, and the gross expenditure, £1,419,000. The report states that a postmaster, three assistant postmasters, and seven letter-carriers, have been stationed in the Crimea; also eighteen horses and mules, are specially employed for the conveyance of mail there. During eight months 282,000 letters have been forwarded from England to the seat of war by the same route. About 10,000 letters are sent to the Crimea, and 2,500 are received from thence monthly, by the long sea route. The correspondence of our forces in the East presents an average of 45,250 letters to, and 43,125 from, the seat of war in each month.

THE FIRST APOSTATE.—The leaven of the ancient idolatry lay secretly working in the bosoms of the posterity of Ham, although he had been mercifully preserved in the ark, along with the other members of his family, during the space of near four hundred years; but was prevented from openly showing itself by the dread of Noah, who was still living. At length that venerable patriarch was removed by the hand of death; and the mighty hunter of men, the tyrannical Nimrod, rose, like a baleful comet, above the political horizon. He was the grandson of Ham, and the son of Cush; and he appears to have been the first avowed postdiluvian apostate. We are informed by the sacred historian, that "the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar." Here he attempted to establish an universal monarchy, and an universal religion; which produced a struggle between him and the descendants of Ashur, whose dominions he had invaded. The result of the contest was, that Ashur was compelled to quit his territory, and to provide for himself elsewhere. "Out of that land went forth Ashur, and builded Nineveh, and the city of Rehoboth, and Calah, and Resep, between Nineveh and Calah." The very name indeed of Nimrod, which apparently signifies a rebellious panther, points out the nature of his offence: and we are justified in concluding that the first postdiluvian idolatry was openly established at his metropolis, Babylon, because that city, when its name is mystically applied to papal Rome, is styled the *Mother of Harlots, and abominations of the earth*. The analogy is obvious; as the pure worship of the patriarchs was first authoritatively corrupted at Babel, so was the divine religion of Christ at Rome.—*Faber on the Mysteries of the Cabiri*.

THE EMBLEM OF THE DOVE.—The Holy Spirit has ever been emblemized in the dove; the adoption of the same emblem, as the expression of protection, in mythologic and traditional story, and that in one of the Scottish isles, would seem to indicate a faint, departed ray of Gospel truth, tinged by superstitious regard. We have the following in *Faber's "Mysteries of the Cabiri"*:

As Brit or Bright is the divine covenant, so Columba is manifestly the dove. This Columba is still supposed to be the peculiar guardian of the Scottish island Iona, which has evidently derived its name from the Phœnician appellation Iona; for Iona in that language, is equivalent to Columba in the Latin. The inhabitants of Iona have a notion, founded, I apprehend, upon the fluttering of the dove over the surface of the waters during the subsiding of the deluge, that, on certain evenings every year, their tutelary demi-god appears on the top of the church spire, counting the surrounding islands, to see that they have not been sunk by the power of witchcraft.

Iona faint, a giant form,
Throned on her towers, conversing with the storm:
[When o'er each Eunic altar, weed-entwined,
The vesper clock tolls mournful to the wind,
Count every wave-worn isle, and mountain hoar,
From Kilda to the green-ferne's shore.]

The imaginary saint Columba or Iona gave her name also to the town of St. Columb in Cornwall; which county contains likewise a harbor denominated Bude, a title of the same origin and import as the Scottish Bute and the Egyptian Buto.

At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society last week, the president announced the receipt of three medals from the Geographical Society of Paris, to Captain McClure the gold medal of the society for his discovery of the north-west passage; to Lieutenant Ingfield a silver medal for his discoveries in the Arctic regions; and to Mr. E. Galton a silver medal for his explorations in the Namagua, Demara, and Orange countries, in South-West Africa.

A GREAT TRUTH.—Lord Bacon says, "He is the greatest philosopher who adheres most closely to particulars."