

## PERSECUTION IN FRANCE.

(From the Scottish Guardian.)

The last number of the *Archives du Christianisme* announces a decision of the Cour de Cassation, the supreme judicial tribunal of France, which shows how completely the civil power in that country is becoming the tool of the Man of Sin; and which, taken in connection with the innumerable signs of the same tendency, every hour appearing with more and more frequency on the political horizon in all parts of Christendom, but too plainly indicate that the grand and final struggle with antichrist is near, yea, even at the very doors. Some time ago, M. Maurette, a French Roman Catholic priest, was brought to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and in consequence abandoned the pale of the idolatrous and apostate Church, in which he had been brought up. Being convinced himself of the danger of continuing in Babylon, he wished to induce as many of his countrymen as possible to flee out of her infected communion. With this view, he published a statement of the reasons that had led him to adopt the Protestant faith, and plainly and forcibly exposed the superstitions of Rome, by the usual arguments employed by the divines of the French Protestant Church. For this he was condemned, on the 17th of May last, by the Court of Assizes of L'Ariège, to a YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT, AND A FINE OF 600 FRANCS!! as being guilty of "insulting, and turning into derision, a religion, the establishment of which is legally recognised in France." From this decision he appealed to the Cour de Cassation; but although his case was ably pleaded by M. Delbore, and the decision in question was shown to be utterly at variance with the constitutional charter, his appeal was, on the 19th ult., rejected, and the sentence of the inferior court affirmed. And this is the result of all the struggles made by France for civil and religious liberty! In announcing this monstrous decision, "We have been struck," says the editor of the *Archives*, "by a sort of stupeur, on learning that in France, in 1844, a man honourable, and honoured by all that know him—a man, to whose excellent conduct, charity, disinterestedness, humanity, and moderate public testimony has been borne by those who sympathise not with his new faith, but who have seen his labours in the parish of which he was curate, (witness the *Emancipation*, a Toulouse journal, of 1st June last) that such a man has been condemned to imprisonment for a year in company with robbers, because he has ventured to publish the reasons that led him to forsake the Pope and embrace the gospel!" This is certainly an astounding fact; and if it be not followed by a burst of indignation from this country, and if Protestants throughout the world will not combine and concert measures for their common defence, it is easy to see that the Man of Sin will be tempted to proceed to still greater excess. Many are apt to flatter themselves, when they hear that Dr. Kallej is delivered from prison, and that sentence of death is not to be inflicted on Maria Joaquina, that something is gained to Protestantism. But though the wave goes back, the tide is still flowing. In spite of individual and local defeats, the power of Popery is every day, and everywhere, upon the whole, pressing steadily forward, and narrowing the bounds of the evangelical Church. When will professing Protestants be wise—when will they be wakened to the danger that is impending over them? We can account for the apathy that now prevails no otherwise than by supposing that men are given to judicial blindness.

**FREE CHURCH MISSION TO NAGPOOR, IN CENTRAL INDIA.**—Our readers are aware of the munificent contribution of £2500, made by a gentleman residing at Nagpoor, towards the foundation of a mission in that interesting locality. The same generous individual has asked Dr. Wilson to send, at his expense, a very considerable quantity of illustrative apparatus for the use of a missionary and the general attraction of natives, along with the Rev. S. Hislop, who is about to proceed to their station as the first missionary. Another gentleman, of the East India Company's Civil Service, at present residing in the north-western provinces, has signified, through Dr. Willson, his intention to do the same, on certain conditions most favourable to its advancement,—while he remains in India. Surely the

friends of the Redeemer's cause in Scotland will bestir themselves to do something for a mission which is so highly favoured abroad. They might easily, by special contributions defray the whole expense, at least, of conveying the missionary to the shores of India.—*Witness.*

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## EXCURSION TO THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

We understand that Sir William Drummond Stewart, the celebrated traveller, has just returned from another excursion to the distant regions of the Rocky Mountains. He is now on his way to Europe. During his recent excursions, he has been traversing by the sides of the Rocky Mountains for a period of nearly two years. He carried with him a large party, amongst whom were botanists, naturalists, and artists, some from Germany, and some Scotch and English. He has made a very large and valuable collection of botanical productions, part of which he shipped down the Columbia river to England, by the way of Cape Horn, and a part he has brought here to carry with himself to Europe. First and last, Sir William has spent about ten years round and about the Rocky Mountains, traversing those wild regions which are in the neighbourhood of the Missouri and Columbia rivers, and encountering innumerable hair-breadth escapes from the Indians. Perhaps no individual of the present age possesses so much personal knowledge of these regions as Sir William; and if he would give a narrative of his adventures, it would outstrip in romantic interest anything yet given. Sir William is now on his way to Scotland, to his paternal residence, Hally Castle, Perthshire.—*New York Herald.*

## UTILITY AND SAGACITY OF SIBERIAN DOGS.

Of all the animals that live in the high north latitudes, none are so deserving of being noticed as the dog. The companion of man in all climates, from the islands of the South Sea, where he feeds on bananas, to the Polar Sea, where his food is fish, he here pays a part to which he is unaccustomed in more favoured regions. Necessity has taught the inhabitants of the northern countries to employ these comparatively weak animals in draught. On all the coasts of the Polar Sea, from the Oni to Behring's Straits, in Greenland, Kamschatka, and in the Kuril Islands, the dogs are made to draw sledges loaded with persons and with goods, and for considerable journeys.—the dog here much resembles the wolf.—They have long, pointed, projecting noses, sharp and upright ears, and a long bushy tail: some have smooth and some have curly hair; their colour is various; black, brown, reddish-brown, white, and spotted. They vary also in size; but it is considered that a good sledge-dog should not be less than two feet seven and a half inches in height, and three feet three quarters of an inch in length (English measure.) Their barking is like the howling of a wolf. They pass their whole life in the open air; in summer they dig holes in the ground for coolness, or lie in the water to avoid the mosquitoes; in winter they protect themselves by burrowing in the snow, and lie curled up, with their noses covered by their bushy tails. The female puppies are drowned, except enough to preserve the breed, the males alone being used in draught. Those born in winter enter on their training the following autumn, but are not used in long journeys until the third year. The feeding and training is a particular art, and much skill is required in driving and guiding them. The best trained dogs are used as leaders; and as the quick and steady going of the team, usually of twelve dogs, and the safety of the traveller, depend on the sagacity and docility of the leader, no pains are spared in their education; so that they may always obey their master's voice, and not be tempted from their course when they come on the scent of game. This last is a point of great difficulty; sometimes the whole team, in such cases, will start off, and no endeavours on the part of the driver can stop them. On such occasions we have sometimes had to admire the cleverness with which the well-trained leader endeavours to turn the other dogs from their pursuit; if other devices fail, he will suddenly wheel round, and by barking, as if he had come on a new scent, try to induce the other dogs to follow him. If travel-

ling across the wide tundra, in dark nights, or when the vast plain is veiled in impenetrable mist, or in storms, or snow-tempests, when the traveller is in danger of missing the shelting pavarna, and of perishing in the snow, he will frequently owe his safety to a good leader; if the animal has ever been in this plain, and has stopped with his master at the pavarna, he will be sure to bring the sledge to the place where the hut is deeply buried in the snow; when arrived at it, he will suddenly stop, and indicate significantly the spot where his master must dig.—*Von Wrangell's Polar Seas.*

From the Christian Guardian.

## THE MORMONS.

The death of the two Smiths has not opened the eyes of the deceived Mormons. They still hold fast to the untruth. Yet there is a division among them; and one party has moved from Nauvoo and commenced a settlement near Rock Island, Illinois. Two brothers of the name of Law are at the head of the seceders, and large numbers have joined them. The Mormons regard the death of the Smiths as martyrdom. A young female disciple, named Eliza R. Stone, has written a sort of elegy on the "assassination of Generals Joseph Smith and Hiram Smith, first presidents of the church of the Latter Day Saints in Carthage, Hancock co. Illinois, on the 27th June, 1844." She thinks a worse deed has not been perpetrated since the death of the Saviour. The following are the young lady's verses:—

For never, since the Son of God was slain,  
Has blood so noble flow'd from human vein,  
As that which now on God for vengeance calls,  
From "Freedom's ground"—from Carthage prison walls!

Oh, wretched murderers! fierce for human blood!  
You've slain the prophets of the living God,  
Who've borne oppression from their early youth,  
To plant on earth the principles of truth.

Great men have fall'n and mighty men have died,  
Nations have mourn'd their favorites and their pride;  
But two, so wise, so virtuous, great and good,  
Before on earth, at once, have never stood  
Since the creation—men whom God ordain'd  
To publish truth where error long had reign'd.

A depth of thought, not human art could reach  
From time to time, roll'd in sublimest speech  
From the celestial fountain through his mind,  
To purify and elevate mankind.

The rich intelligence by him brought forth,  
Is like the sun-beam, spreading o'er the earth.

Now Zion mourns—she mourns an earthly head:  
The Prophet and the Patriarch are dead!  
The blackest deed that men or devils know  
Since Calvary's scene, had laid the brothers low;  
The noble martyrs now have gone to more  
The cause of Zion in the courts above!  
Nauvoo, July 1, 1844.

**BLACKS IN OFFICE.**—The Chief Justice of Dominica, Clanville, is a mulatto, Sharp, the Attorney General of Barbadoes, is a mulatto; Garraway judge of the appeals in Barbadoes, is a mulatto; the Governor of the Nevis is a mulatto; thirty two editors of newspapers in the British West India colonies are negroes and mulattos; twenty one magistrates are mulattos; in all the Legislative Councils and Houses of Representatives there are no less than seventy-two mulattos and two negroes making laws for their former masters—the whites. Two thirds of the army or garrison in these colonies, is already composed of African soldiers, commanded by white officers. The Church is abundantly supplied with blacks and mulatto clergymen: the judges are almost all negroes and mulattos.—*Dr. Costa's "Facts for the People."*

**MARTIN LUTHER'S RING.**—A silver-gilt ring, with ruby stone, on the interior of which are engraved the following words:—"D. Martino Luthero Catherina von Boren, die 31, Octobris, 1525," has just been found on the public road, near Stettin. It evidently results from this inscription, that this ring was presented to the great German Reformer by his wife. It cannot, however, be considered as their marriage ring, for that event took place in June, 1525. I may, therefore, be supposed that Catherine presented it to her husband as a remembrance of their marriage anniversary of the publication of his famous "Theses" (Oct. 31, 1517,) which made so much noise in Europe.