

"THERE IS A HAPPY LAND," consoled Dr. Guthrie on his death bed, and soothed the last days of Lady Nairne, ("The Land o' the Leal,") and has ministered consolation, and expressed the fervor of faith, in thousands of instances. The Author wrote it under a kind of inspiration. So he thought. He has just passed away, at the good old age of 80. Mr. Andrew Young, the author referred to, was for many years a teacher in Edinburgh. He wrote many other things; but this only took the eye and ear of the public. He was a devoted Sunday School Superintendent, and served God by every means within his reach.

CONGREGATIONALISTS have often formed Societies for Missions and Benevolence on undenominational Constitutions. The late Secretary of the London Missionary Society told us once, that their Society wrought on an unsectarian Constitution; that former supporters had branched off into Societies of their own, and left the London Society to the Congregationalist. "We have," said he, some good help from "*The Friends*"; but outside of these, almost no help." It is somewhat different however, outside of England itself. In Scotland, there is very considerable assistance given to it from the three great Presbyterian Churches of that country; and in Ireland it commands the confidence of many earnest Episcopalians. It has sent many earnest Presbyterians into its fields; the late excellent minister of Ayr, Ontario, Rev. Walter Inglis, was one of them.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—We do not ask for the destruction of the public school system. We are more than satisfied with it on its material side. We have no desire to create and control a system of our own supported by State funds. We are willing that the State shall own the school buildings, control the expenditures, make all the appointments, enforce the ideas of the majority as to standards and methods. We ask only that our books and our teachers be Catholic, and our pupils be trained by these teachers in the Catholic religion."—*Catholic Review*.

[That is to say, that the general public should pay for all, but the priests should control the teaching. A Queen of France once made a present to the Virgin of two Provinces, only reserving to herself "The revenues thereof." So the *Review* would say, "You may

have the Schools; we only reserve the teaching thereof."—Ed.]

WE are inclined to think and say that civilized nations do not now persecute. But Russia and Austria prove the contrary, at this moment. Lutheran places of worship are confiscated in Finland, petitioners for redress are exiled to Siberia. Sixty-five pastors have been prosecuted for celebrating the Lord's Supper. An exchange says:

Fifty years ago, in a time of famine, the peasants were cajoled by hundreds of thousands into having their names placed on the registers of the Greek Church, by the promise that on this condition they should be placed as independent farmers on their land. They were never converted, but ever since, those thus registered and their children and grandchildren are forcibly kept in the Greek Church by a law that forbids conversion from the Established religion to Protestantism. Many have been "anointed" and "confirmed" by actual violence.

In the Austrian dominions, an Evangelical pastor, prohibited from public preaching, has now been commanded to cease his "Family worship"; because a couple of servants, and occasionally a neighbor, would be present. And what shall we say about Wales, where a Congregational Deacon's stock of grain will be seized, and sold to the highest bidder, to pay the English Church parson! Liberty isn't quite enthroned yet!

THE Influenza, La Grippe, Russian Catarrh, etc., has made its appearance in very truth among us, but a reference to medical records makes plain that it is no stranger to the civilized world. The years 1762, '82, '87, 1803, '33, '37, '47 are marked as those wherein this most unwelcome visitor left his card at the houses of the people. Febrile symptoms, violent head-ache, sneezing fits, depression of both strength and spirits, with occasionally fatal complications of lung troubles, then as now, marked its presence. Even fleets far out at sea have been visited by it; and, as in Admiral Kempentelt's case (1782) had to return home. It is a veritable epidemic, and as in some quarters, e.g. Vienna, all the physicians not laid up with it are investigating closely its character. We shall no doubt soon have photographs of the miserable microbe or saucy germ that is making all this mischief. Meantime, warmth, light but ample nourishment, and a little harmless medicine will carry the large majority of cases safely through.