

illustrious scion of England. Royalty is never seen to greater advantage than when it testifies its appreciation of industry and proves that it would unite the various portions of the empire by promoting friendship, extending commerce, facilitating intercommunication, and recognizing its obligations to govern for their good.

CONFESSIONAL IN ENGLAND.

A remarkable movement is in operation amongst the Roman Catholics of Manchester, England, as will be seen by the following address, which has been extensively circulated amongst the members of that body:—

"Some Roman Catholics, holding entire the Christian faith so miraculously perpetuated in the Communion of the See of St. Peter, yet deeming the office conferred in the Holy Sacrament of Orders to be simply ministerial, and abhorring the assumption by the minister of God of the judicial character in the Confessional, as obstructive of the free grace designed by our Lord for sinners in his institution of the Holy Sacrament of Penance, are desirous of forming, under the special invocation of the blessed Virgin Mary, an associated Membership for earnest private prayer, in each other's house, that God will of his grace remove these, and other scandals of man's devising, from his holy and immediate church."

The Confessional is the stronghold of the Romish priest. Put him out of that, and he loses every moral hold over his people; he is a powerless man. To the Protestant mind this is obvious enough. But it is a new thing that "some Roman Catholics" should discover that the judicial power of the Confessional is obstructive of true religion. To see this is the way to remove "these and other scandals of man's devising" from themselves, if it does not reach the church.—*Liverpool Courier*.

STATE OF RELIGIOUS FEELING IN ITALY.

The applications from Italy, within the last few months, for supplies of this version of our Liturgy, as well as of the Society's edition of Diodati's translation of the Bible, have been of an unexpected and interesting nature. One correspondent writes, "The present state of religious movement here is indeed deeply interesting, and likely to become more and more so every day. There are some influential Italians who desire earnestly to see the Roman Catholic Church here reformed, after the model of the episcopal Church in England. They have told me so themselves. Our English Liturgy is greatly admired, and some Italian Prayer Books which I had, have been long since gladly received and studied. More, when they arrive, will be very welcome. We may, I think, without presumption, believe that all things are at present, under Divine Providence, working together for the spread of Scriptural truth, and that a reformation, similar to that in England, may be, not impossibly, the result. God grant it!"