

the doleful tidings have reached our ears, in the sympathetic and anxious feelings of our hearts, we have been led to ask, 'When or where shall these things end?' But as yet, to this inquiry we have had no answer. Nevertheless, 'God is our refuge and strength, and a very present help in trouble; therefore will we not fear, though the earth be removed, and the mountains be carried into the sea,'

"In the midst of those perplex-

ing scenes we have endeavoured to keep ourselves from political inter-meddling, believing that while we 'fear God, and honour the King,' our appropriate and special duty is to preach righteousness, and call sinners to repentance; 'to know nothing among men, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified;' and knowing our chief interest is with Heaven, 'we give ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.'

### FRANCE.

A MISSIONARY of the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews, states that he finds the Jews in that country much less accessible since the Revolution of 1830. They now consider themselves at liberty to oppose Christianity openly, and some have boasted that there were now very few persons in France who believed in any religion at all. On several parts of the Continent, the Jews were anxiously expecting the approach of the Messiah; and many Rabbies had declared that only a very short time can elapse before he make his appearance.

*Great crisis for the Scriptures in France.*—Never was the Gospel so imperiously called for, as under the existing state of things, and in the present situation of men's minds. Whole bodies of the people are in their minds alienated from the Church of Rome; and their anxiety to find something which may answer to them as a substitute is so great, that the most absurd reveries find multitudes of followers. The Bible which for a long time had been considered a Protestant Book, begins to be looked upon by many as the Revelation of God to all Christians. It is in vain that the bigotted Priests seek to give themselves out as the sole interpreters of the Sacred volume; even among the less enlightened classes. The

people are determined to judge for themselves.

We do not hesitate to declare, that we are arrived at the very period of time, when you are more especially called on to render greater services than ever your labours could effect, at least in behalf of France. The Gospel of Christ will by its beneficent influences, enlighten many individuals, whom the want of every religious sentiment would quickly lead back to error and superstition, and the far greater multitude of whom the philosophy of this world and all the aberrations of the human mind are desirous of carrying along with them in their train.

The hottest partisans of the Romish Church are at present obliged, in many cases, to carry on their disputations according to the Bible. It was during the present year that one of us, having maintained 'Ten public discussions with the adherents of St. Simon',—less with a view of refuting their absurd doctrines than to preach the Gospel,—not only reduced that party to the necessity of obtaining a Bible, by demonstrating to them their ignorance of Christianity and their inability fairly to oppose it, until they were actually acquainted with its contents; but even several of the Professors and other learned men, who, in consequence of attacking the opinions of the Saint Simonites

\* For some information respecting their dogmas see page 50 of our first number.