BY OLLIG HERLAND, B. A.

In consequence of the strong measures adopted by the Prussian Chancellor to bring the Roman Catholic Church of the rope and America, to the position which the Church holds in the German Empire.

The Ultramontane press, all over the world, is loudly crying out that the church is being persecuted. If it is, the persecution is somewhat different from the oldfashioned sort to which the same church treated its victum in the part centuries. If history is not ulturly take, that persecution was of a terribly flerce and sauguinary nature. However, it is not my intention to rake up the embers of these extinguished

I propose in the following statements giving a rapid resums of the position of thet church in the German Empire, and of the measures which have been adopted to bring it into subjection to the civil authority.

For much of my information I am indebted to an able article on Prussian Church Law in the first number of the International Review. Other sources of information have also been made available, to which it is not necessary to make further reference.

From the Peacs of Westhalia in 1648 down to the revolution of 1848 a mixed system of dealing with the different churches had prevailed in those states, where the population was neither wholly Catholic uor wholly Protestant. The Catholic, Lutheran and Calvinistic denominations were called and treated as privileged churches, their privileges being that they were equally entitled to receive state pay out of the public treasury for their clergy.

As a result of the general upheaval in 1848, an attempt was made to separate more completely between Church and State; not that the Liberals cared very much for the independence of the church; but they hoped by that means to curtail the power of the state, by removing church matters from its interference. The king, Frederick William IV., consented, and in the Prussian Constitution of the 81st January, 1850, we find the following provisions:-

First. There is no denominational requisite in admission to public office. Second. There are, however, some important exceptions. The corporate formation of religious bodies, more especially of dissenting congregations, shall depend on special permission to be made by legislative enactment with the full concurrence of the King and with the luit concurrence of the Aing and Chambers. Another clause practically excluded Jews and Dissenters from part, cipation in the administration of public instruction. Third, The Evangelical and Roman Catholic Churches were entitled to self-government and the use of their respective funds. Finally, the previous venting free intercourse between the Catholic clergy and hear superiors was abolished by the Prussian constitution.

In consequence of the perfection of it organization, the Catholic Church was able immediately to avail itself of these provisimmediately to avail itself of these provisions, and to assume practically a position of independence, while still supported by the state. The Protestant church continued to be governed by the head of the state personally or by a council appointed by the king, who still continues to maintain his king, who still continues to maintain his dignity as the head of the Evangelical Church. The result was, that the Papal Church while representing only one-third of the population, enjoyed more liberty and greater privileges than in any other Protestant churches remained in a position of year. tant churches remained in a position of vassalage to the state.

The tendency of the Prussian Constitution was to elevate and increase the power of the Roman priesthood. Some of the privileges enjoyed by that church, and also by the favored Protestant churches, were of a most oppressive nature, and such ought not to have been tolerated for a moment in any country in the world claiming to be

Let us note some of the provisions of the

- 2. They had the privilege of enforcing the compulsory religious instruction of the young, either under the care of the priest, or under his control in the public schools.
- 3. Owing to the absence of civil enactment regarding the solemnization mat-rimony, the clergy of the privileged -hurches might give or refuse their assistance to applicants without incurring any legal responsibility. Hence, it happened, in not a few cases, that the clergy refused to officiate where the civil law had recognized the right of husband and wife.
- 4. Dissenters who had no connection with either of the privileged churches, still remained subject to the payment of church rates, even after the separation from these communities.
- 5. The state power had formally recognized the whole of the Roman Catholic discipline, and gave aid and assistance in enforcing punishment on clerical offenders even to the extent of fine or imprisonment in order to procure obedience.

These are somewhat formidable privileges it must be confessed. Privileges it is true common both to the favored Protestant well as to the Papal church, but none the less oppressive both to those within and without the pale of these denominations. Religious liberty, in the sense in which it is understood in Engand or America was manifestly unknown. A magnificent op-portunity was now given to the keen in-tellect who controlled the operations of the Roman Catholic Church in Prussia, nor were they at all sluggish in availing themselves of the privileges thus thrown in their way. Every effort was put forth in order to aggrandize the church, and procure the It was a part of the subtle system of Jesuitis maintain, if possible, the complete

prepunderance of some one of the great preponderance of some one of the great Catholic powers in Europa, and althousams time, the division of Italy and Germany. The one was necessary for the temporal power of the Pope, and the other was quite as essential to check the progress of Protes-tuations in continential Europe. Graticules for the great benefits conferred by Prussia had no effect in diminishing the appointment bring the Roman Catholic Church of the bring the Roman Catholic Church of the Empire into history with the ideas held both by the Emperor and himself, not a title attention has been given, both in Europe and America, to the position which the Church holds in the German Empire. which helps to make a nation strong and respected, that it was believed that the had lost her piace among the great powers of Europe. She seemed to have become the vassal of Austria and Russia.

During the period from 1850 to 1886 the progress of German Jesutism was som-thing marvellous and incredible. In numbers, wealth, and power, the growth of the Roman Church was well fitted to cause unensiness to every true German patriot. Public institutions, such as prisons and hospitals, gradually fell under the influence of Ultram utanism. Every effort was pur forth to control the electorate and procure a dominating influence in the legislature. Aggressive missionary raids were made on strictly Protestant districts. Strenuous exertions were made to separate Catholics from Protestant influence. Mixed marriages were declared to be incompetent, and accomm .-Catholic inns were built for the dation of the Catholic workman on his travels, so that he might be separated as completely as possible from Protestant in-Education was reduced to the tunce. Education was reduced to the standard of medioval sholastics, and a purely Ultramontane press was created and recommended to the faithful for their sup-

The result of this aggressive policy was widely felt, especially in those districts where different religious dezominations had for a long time lived side by side in peace and harmony. A spirit of disloyalty was fostered, and domestic peace fied affrighted from many of those homes were Catholic and Protestants had intermarried.

But a great change passed over the face of Europe when Austrian power was broken and the Austrian proponderance in Germany destroyed on the battle field of Sad-Henceforth, the power of Protestant Prussia was to be the controlling element in the affairs of Germany. Bitter indeed was the disappointment of the advanced guard of Ultramontanism.

All the world knows that one grand result of the Austrian overthrow was the consolidation of Germany under the leadership of Prussia. The Ultramontanes manifestly looked upon this consolidation as only tem porary, and in the meantime, every effort was used which might impede the complete wielding together of the different small states in which the empire was composed. Fail-ing in this, the next move in the great game of European politics was the French invasion. The disastrous results are only too recent in men's minds. What connection existed between the desire of the Papal church to weaken or destroy the power of the new Protestant Empire and that invasion, the historian of the future may perchance be able to reveal.

One result, of the French overthrow, was one result, of the French overthrow, was manifest in the disappointment and rage of the Jesuit party. It had been their great hope that the German power would be broken, and Roman Catholicism re-established. lished as the dominating influence on the continent. As for England, matters were progressing there as favorably as could be expected. The battle of Sedan and the surrender of Napoleon destreyed these hopes.

The privileges, which had been pointed out as enjoyed by the Papal church, show conclusively enough that neither the king nor his great minister was unfriendly to the nor his great minister was unfriendly to the Roman Catholic Church. Indeed, to the astonishment of the Liberal party, Bis-marck had chorished the idea of having a Papal embassy accredited to the court at Berlin. He had endeavored to reconcile the Pope by entrusting to Prince Hohen-lohe, a Romish Cardinal, the representation of the newly created empire. All was of no avail. To reconcile the irreconcilable has ever proved a hopoless task. Indispu-Prussian law applicable to the provided table testimony coming from the Blemish churches—Roman Catholic and Protestant provinces, as well as from Selesia and Banal to none clse. contrary to the wish of the parents, and claim the assistance of the police to effect their object. might be gathered and organized. It was simply intolerable and utterly impossible that a priesthood supported by the state, but manifestly under the control and ready to do the bidding of a foreign power, should be permitted to carry on unchecked its disloyal practices.

Having brought the narrative down to the time when those measures were inaugarated which specially contemplated the diminution of Jesut influence in Germany, I shall in another article return to their consideration.

The famine in India occupies the attention of the British press and pulpit. Bishop of Manchester accuses the government of apathy in the matter and of viowing a retr nehment of taxes as of greater importance than the saving of human life.

According to the Continential Herald, some recent researches have brought to light the existence of a Roman coinciery, by the side of the Roman read that skirts the mandaws of Mattes, near Avenches (the ancient Aventicum; in the Canton of Vand. The remains of a fine ecffin were found. containing the skeleton of a man of large appears to have been laid on his side, with the head resting upon an arm. On the same day were found the fragments of a cinerary urn in glass, also one of red and another of a dark-coloured earth, and two goblets of earthenware, which had been subjected to fire, one of them of red earth. with some simple ornaments. On the following day, inclosed in massive masoury about a yard square, was found a glass urn about eight inches in height, containing the bones of an infant, it is supposed, to judge from the fact that an earthenware biberos, almost intact, was found by the side of the

Prosbytory of Guelph.

This Presbytery met in Chalmers' Church, Guelph, on the 14th of April last, at 9 o'click a.m., and in consequence of the amount of business to be transacted, had to

examination and report. A Committee was a preinted te prepare a list of commissioners to the General Assembly. This Committee at the afternoon suderunt reported the tolposing, which were greed to—By rotation, Mesers, Little Goodwilhe, D. McDonald, and D. D. McLennan; and by selection, Mesers. Wardeepe, Bentley, Middleim eq. and Anderson, Ministers; with Messrs. McCrea, Douglas, Ferrier, Lutz, Cranston. McCroe, Danglas, Ferrier, Lutz, Cranston, Campbell, Wood, and Dr. McGuire, Ruling A Committee was also appointed Elders. A Commuttee was also appointed to superintend students that may be in the bounds during summer. A conference was held on the Sato of Religion. A deputation was appointed at the request of Mr. Reeve, to visit the congregation of Rocks-wood and Elon Mills, Mr. Bentley Con-vener. Messrs. Fisher and McRobbie were introduced as students who had completed the prescribed course of study, and who were applying to be received on trials for license. A Committee to whom their application was referred, and who met with them, subsequently reported, recommend in that the Presbytery apply to the General Assembly for leave to take them on trial and license them if they see cause. Mr. Cameron declined the call addressed to him by the congregation of Thamesford, and the same was set aside. Mr. McGuire accepted the call from Jarvis and Walpole, and the the call from Jar's and Walpole, and the Presbytery agreed to his translation, Mr. Anderson, of Roth-ay, being appointed to declare the charge of Glenalian and Hollin vacant as soon as the Presbytery is informed of Mr. McG ires induction at Jarvis and Walpole and Mr. A. D. McDonald, Modern and Market and Mr. head of Mr. McG ires induction at Jarvis and Walpole and Mr. head. Walpole, and Mr. A. D. McDonald, Moderator of Session During the vacancy.
Messrs. Smellie and Ball were appointed to prepare a minute expressive of the Presby tery s sense of the loss they have sustamed by the removal f Mr. McGuize, and of sympathy with the congregation depreced of their pastor. A call from the congrega-tion of West Puslinch, to Mr. John Mc-Nabb, lately of the Presbytery of Manitoba, was sustained, and the Clerk ordered to for ward him notice of the same, and request his decision as soon as convenient. At his own request, Mr. Cameron was relieved own request, Mr. Cameron was renoved from the Moderatorship of the Kirk Session of West Puslinch, and Mr. Alexander Mc-Kay was appointed in his room. Mr. Ball was nominated as Moderator of the ensuing General Assembly, but at his urgent request was released, and Mr. Wardrope was then unanimously chosen for recommendation in his place. The Report of the Sabbath School Conference, held in Acton in January last, was read, and the Clerk was instructed to send an outline of the same to the General Assembly's Committee on Sabbath Schools. Mr. Kay, who has been appointed missionary to the Sault Ste Marie, was directed to appear before the Presbytery at an adjourned meeting to be held in Chalmer's Church, Guelph, on the 5th May, at 9 o'clock a m., and underge his trial for ordination, and the ordination was appointed to take place the fellowing evening at half-past seven o'clock, and arrange ments were made for conducting the ser ments were made for conducting the kervices. Members of Missio y Deputations prosent gave in their vepues of their diligence in fulfilling the duties assigned them. An application from Hawksville for payment in one sum per advance of interest, which had been promised them yearly on the debt of their church, was granted, and the Finance Committee instructed to arrange for the same. The money in the hands of the Treasurer for the rebuilding of the Church in North Luther was authorized to be paid, one moiety when the brilling is roofed in, and the other when finish 1 and ready for opening. McLennan's resignation of the Waldemar portion of his charge given in at the meeting in October, was received, and Mr. Millican was appointed to declare it vacant, to act as Moderotor of Session in the meantime, to onquire into the state and prospects of the field, with the view of uniting Waldemar with some other station in the supply of Gospel business. The report of the Finance Committee was read and received, and certain accompanyommendations were adopted. The Clerk was instructed to apply for their statistical returns to those congregations that had not sent in the same. Mosers. Middlamiss and McCrae were appointed members of the General Assembly's Committee on bills and overtures. Home mission business was taken up and disposed of, it being left in the hands of the Clerk to procure so far as he can supply for the mission stations and vacant congregations in the bounds. It was reported that the Home Mission Committee had granted the application of the Prosbytery for a supplement of of \$200 to Everton and Mimosa in the event of then procuring a settled paster. Notices were read from the Presbyteries of Chatham and Montreal that the former intended to the General Assembly for leave to re ceive Mr. Frederick Sm th. a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the latter, Mr. Gavin Sinclair, a licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, and Mr. John McLeod, a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. A reference from the Kirk Session of Cotswold was taken up, and the further consideration thereof delayed till the adjourned meeting, due notice to be given by the Clerk to all the parties interested. Mr. Dickie had leave of absence from his congregation granted him during June, July, and part of August, to allow of his visiting his native country, and it was recommonded that those members of the Presbytery who can do so with conven-ience, give him a Sabbath supply till his return. Next ordinary meeting was appointed to

be held in Chalmer's Church, Guelph, on the second Tuesday of July, at nine o'clock,

Professor Blackie is engaged upon a volume of essays, to be called "Horse Hellenics," which will be opposed to many of the views of Mr. Grote and Professor Max Muller.

Presbytery of Hamilton.

The Presbytery of Hamilton in counce-The crossycery of Hammoon in counce-tion with this Course of Sectiand, met-yesterday, Dr. John Hogg, Moderator. There were present:—Messrs. Barnet, Herald, Campbell, Murr, Yoemans, Waits of the following by We present a condensed extrement of the proceedings. See and Smeth, Munsters; and Moses. Abx and Smeth, Munsters; and Moses. Abx and Records were called for, and those son, Eiders. A deal of routino basiness produced were referred to Committee, for was transacted. Dr. Hogg brought in a examination and report. A Committee was a report which recommended that a moder appointed to respect a list of commissioners is attent of a call by meant of the Nalson and ation of a cail be granted to Nelson and Waterdown, which was agreed to a future state of the proceedings. An everture remitted by the Syaol on the minimum amount of salary rejected by a large major ity. The Prosbytery appointed a committee to devise means for the better payment of the munistry, and report at next meeting. A memorial from Clifton, osking leave to sell a piece of glebe was recommended for favourable consideration to the Synod. Several communications were ordered to be answered in conformity to the decisions of Discussions followed on pres the court. byterial appointments, on the employment of catechists, and on prossing mission fields. A call from Hunting lon, in favour of Rev. W. Mur was real, and the engregation of Galt summoded to appear before the Presbytery at Galt, on the 30th April, at mon. A representative was appointed for the general Sustentation Fund of the Church. The discussion on the third article of the Basis of Union came up. M. Bain timoved, seconded by Mr. Hera'l, "That it is ultravires of this Court, or any Court of the W. Mur was real, and the engregation of vires of this Court, or any Court of this Church, to resolve regarding the disposal of the Temporalities Band Fund, inasmuch as these funds were given in trust under the two following additions, a breach of which stipulations would endanger the continuance of the Fund itself. These provi-sons are to be found in the minutes of Synod: Montreal, Tuesday, January 11th Synon: Montreal, Tuesday, January 11th 1855, and were passed as the expressed conditions of the gitt: "The following to be a fundamental principle, which it shall not be competentfor the Synod at any time to alter, unless with the consent of the ministens graphing such power and authority." isters granting such power and authority; That the interest of the Fund shall be devoted, in the first instance, for the pay ment of £112 10s. each, and that the next claim to be settled, if the fund shall and as soon as it shall admit of is to the £112, 10s., be that of the ministers now on the Synod's roll, and who have been put on the Syno-Teroil, and who have been put on the Synod a roll since the 9th of May, 1858. And, also, that it shall be considered a fun-damental principle that all persons who keep a claim to such benefits shall be min-leters of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Sectland in connection with the Church of Scotland, and that they shall cease to have any claim on, or be entitled to any share of such commutation fund, whenever they shall cease to be ministers in connection with said church." It was moved in amendment by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Muss, "That these resolutions be approved of simpliciter." The amendment was carried over the motion by a vote of 8 to 8. Presbytery then adjourned.

The British Empire of To-day.

The recently published census of the British Empire recalls the splendid figure of Daniel Webster about the drum beat of its armies awakened by the sunrise, re-echoing from land to land, till it encircled the whole globe "with one continuous and unbrok ns train of the martial airs of England." The Queen of England now rules over 234,762,593 souls. There is only one other more polulous empire on the globe, that of China, which is calculated to have 477.500,600 of people. Russia which stands there is habeled to have a constant of the list, has short of 80,000, 8000 - only about a third of the numerical 812e of Great Britian. The United S ates is the seventh nationality in point of numbers, but in the course of a dozen years will probably stand next t. Russia. The area of the British Empire is put down at 7,769. 449 square indes, which makes it a trifle in the midst of such figures) smaller than the Russian Empire, now possessing 7,862,568 square miles. The United States is the third in landed possessions-3,578, 382 square miles-and Brazil is the fourth, 582 square miles—and Brazil is the fourth, having within about 200,080 square miles of our own extent of territory. The sujects of Queen Victoria are said to live in 44,142, 651 houses, which, if the figures are accurate, can give but little practical idea cit! or of value or confort, for they would comprise dwelling of all grades from Halcomprise dwellings of all grades from Holland House to the hut of the Hindoo or the New Zelander. Such, however, are the statistical out-lines of the British Empire of to day, the richest and most imposing, if not the most powerful materially and intellectually of the age, and immensely superior to the great empires of autique.

The centre or hub of this vast nationality United Kingdom, which has but 121,608 square miles—which is almost exactly the size of our Territory of New Mexico, or about the same as the combined area of New England, New-York and New Jersey. There are 260 persons to the square mile in the United Kingdom, but only 88 to the square mile throughout the empire. In some parts of the colonies, however, as in portions of India, the density of population is greater-than it is in Eng of population is greater than it is in England and Scotland. The European portion of the British Empire, aside from the home region, consists of but three little dots, as it were: Heliogoland, with five square nules of terr.tory, Gibraltar, with less than two, and Malta with 115—the last two heing military stations, with garrisons amounting to some 14,000 men.
The total population of the three is about 178,000.

In crossing the Atlantic a very different state of things is seen. In the Canadas or the Dominion, as it is now called, a population but slightly exceeding that of land, inhabits a country ten times the extent of Scotland and is increasing steadily, but not rapidly, at something like an average rate of 14 per cent, in the decade. The total population is 8,789,870, inhabiting an area of 3,876,925 square miles; nearly the extent of the United States. average rate of 14 per cent, in the decade.

The total population is 3,789,670, ishabiting an area of 3,376,925 square miles; mearly the extent of the United States.

The only other British possessions on the main land of the Americans are British Honduras, having only \$77 whites, and Guiana having about 200,000 inhabitants,

including 50,000 "immigrants or coolies from Asia." The West India Islands with 18,103 equore miles and about a million of people and the little Fulklands Islands, with 803 inhabitants, close the list of British American possessions.

On the African continent and adjacent Islands the English to be masters of 236, 500 square miles of te-ri'ory, peopled by 1,813,450 inhabitants. In Australia we find 1,813,450 inhabitants. In Abstralia we find six divisions, ranging fall the way from 23,400 inhabitants up to 721,525 in Victoria, The greatest of all the British colonial possessions, however, in India, whose population is reckoned at 194,307,070, distributed over an area of 838,836 square miles and inhabiting 487,061 villages. In addition are the Island of Ceylon, with over two millions of people, Singapore, Malacca, Hong Kong, etc. Truly, Mr. Wobster's margary was as correct as it was striking. Boston Journal.

South African Diamonds.

Hon. Theophilus Shepstone has pointed out that Africa, south of the equator, consists of a great central, irregularly shaped basin, the outer edge of which varies in height from 4.0 5 to 10.000 feet above the level of soa, and that through this rim the Orango River to the couthwest, and the Lumpopo River to the northeast, cut their It is near the exit of the former, way. It is near the exit of the former, from the enormous basin, that the diamond fields lie, while gold in large quantities is being obtained from the northwestern dis trict. The author of this paper conjectures that this basin is the dry bed of an enormous inland sea, and that the diamonds which are found in it are formed by carhome and gas, ejected by the action of sub-terrangan heat through festures in the earth's surface, into the bed of the dried-up sea, the water of which was sufficiently deep to imprison and liquefy the gas after its evolution. The discovery of the process by which this liquid gas became crystallized, whother by electric or magnetic current, or by the potent malarace of iron in some of its numerous i. must be left to future scientific investigations.

Dr. Robert Mann, late Superintendent of Education in the Colony of Natal, states that, since the serious working of the diamond fields in 1871, large numbers of diamonds had been obtained, and it was esti-mated that in 1872 there were no less than 20,000) miners engaged in searching for them. So large had been the yield that a very material diminution had been brought about in the value of the larger gems in the home market, and the diggers are now leaving the diamond fields for the more profitable northeastern gold fields. The result of the discovery of these fields has been to develop South African commercial enterprise, and to civilize the wild tribesia that part of the continent.

Mr. Sopen, a diamond merchant, states that the number of diamonds of the puret water received from the Cape was very small, not amounting, on the whole, to more than two or three per cent, while of ten carat stones not one in 10,000 was perfect. In consequence of the large quantity fect. In consequence of the large quantity of second class stones received from the Cape, such gems were now sixty or seventy per cent cheaper than they were three years ago. Stones which some time sine would have realised \$7,500 would now only fetch \$1,000. The first class diamonds, however, were rather dearer than formerly.-Scientific American.

Misscelluneous.

A baptistry has just been put in the Brooklyn Tabernacle for such as may put for it, and on a late Sunday the Rev. Mr. Talmage baptized six new church members by immersion.

If Nebuchadnezzar's image was of solil gold, and every wershipper was to have a bit of it, I fear our nation, as well as his, would be ready to fall down before it-Rev. John Newton.

The evangelical clergy of the Church England do not seem to have heard, or, they have heard, to appreciate the shrew-ness and wit of Dr. John Ritchio's reply to one who disapproved of his going up an down the country and resorting to agis-tion. "Agitation!" said John; "whatgod in the world was ever done without agis-We cannot make butter even w tion? out it!"

A delegate has been speaking quite large, during the meeting of the Council, it the extraordinary attainments in Christia character of the Plymouth church, which made them all the more unwilling to be preached in his pulpit by a minister was said:—"Brothren, we are only sanctified part in this world; and it is a great men that this is so. For if we were wholly said that the said is a great men that the said is said. tified, we should be so lifted up with pros that there'd be no doing anything will

A very learned judge was once akkil what he would do if a man owed him to pounds and refused to pay. His reply we worth remembering by those who are quite to take offenes and begin a quarrel. said:—"Rather than bring an action againshim, with its cost and uncortainty, I would give him a receipt in fail in the said. give him a receipt in full of all demands yes, and I would send him five pounds of to cover all possible expenses." That we have conclusion after extensive observates on the restance of the restance o on the matter of going to law.

Spurgeon gives a hopeful view of the pects of religious sentiment in Euglander He holds that "the Calvinism which had lights to a procedure of the calvinism which had lights to preach, so far from being an a solete theory, is growingly operative ups the minds of a large section of Christi-people;" that "if the sermons now prest, ped in Partial with the sermons now prest, d in Baptist pulpits could all be they would be found to contain vasily me of what we call Calvinism than they