

them, so that Mr. McMillan must stand or fall, according to the nature of the contract he made with his employers, the Free Church, and whether he has fulfilled or violated that contract according to the law of the land. A most impartial justice will be meted out to both.

A most atrocious outrage, under the form of law, has been committed upon a British subject named Escalante, a tract distributor and most excellent man, who has been sentenced by a Spanish court of justice to nine years penal servitude, for giving away a copy of the New Testament in Spanish. We have no doubt that prompt satisfaction will at once be demanded by the British authorities for this great wrong. Lord Palmerston is not the man to pass over so gross an insult to his country and so cruel an outrage upon one of its subjects.

Hungary appears on the verge of another revolution, which the blind and tyrannical Austrian seeks to crush with an iron hand. He will try in vain. The Magyars are a noble and high-spirited people, and if left alone, in six months would break in pieces the discordant ingredients which make up the Austrian empire. Russia is not likely to interfere a second time to save his imperial brother. The tyranny of the latter is almost beyond belief. We will mention but one instance. A Hungarian nobleman ventured to present a petition, asking in the most respectful and loyal spirits, certain concessions and privileges, for the Protestant religion (almost all the Hungarians are Protestants), and the answer was, incredible as it may seem, a sentence condemning him to four years' penal servitude *in chains*. Who will say that the monster who could be guilty of such an act is not ripe for destruction! Contrast with it the spirit of our own free and happy land, where a noble and pious lady, Miss Burdett Coutts, has again given £25,000, to plant and extend Gospel truth in Central Africa, and the sovereign and her ministers not only applaud the deed, but hasten to strengthen it with their influence and aid.

The most pleasing feature in British affairs at present, is the general, the almost universal contentment of the people; trade flourishes, and labor is well rewarded. The current of prosperity is strong and sound; pauperism and crime have decreased, and are still decreasing; political excitement is down almost to zero, nor can all the efforts of Mr. Bright create more than a shadow of interest in his reform nostrums: his discreditable attempt to excite the humble against the higher classes has been a miserable failure.

The Queen opened parliament on the 21st January with the usual pomp and circumstance, and demonstrations of loyalty. The Royal speech possesses little of interest. England is on good terms with all the leading powers. France has rather astonished us by inaugurating the principle of free trade, by entering into a treaty with England, to allow

certain articles of British industry to be imported into France, either free or at a greatly reduced duty; England in return taking the silks and wines at a corresponding reduction. It is thought, however, that the Emperor is made by far the best bargain. Be this as it may, it has a most excellent effect upon the English public;—all apprehensions of war are at an end, though it is gratifying to observe that the volunteer movement is as vigorous and popular as ever.

Macaulay's remains have been laid in Westminster Abbey, in companionship with England's great departed—meet resting-place for the illustrious historian, orator and essayist. His pall-bearers were England's choicest men, his mourners, every admirer of our noble English tongue.

Captain Harrison, commander of the *Great Eastern*, has unfortunately lost his life, while crossing the Solent in his gig, which was upset in a squall. His body was recovered very few minutes after going down for the last time, and of course every effort was made for his recovery, but in vain. Captain Harrison was the very model of an English sailor—frank, fearless, and skillful. He was universally beloved, and entirely trusted. An almost unprecedented amount of sympathy has been expressed for his bereaved partner. The unfortunate shareholders of the great ship have suffered many misfortunes, but this is perhaps the greatest of them all.

It is now said that England and France have come to a thorough understanding on the Italian question, the policy being non-interference themselves, and a resolute resistance to any interference from any other quarter. There is yet great hope for Italy.

YOUNG MEN'S SCHEME.

Jan. 1860—Collection St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, £5 10

WIDOWS' FUND.

Jan. 1860—Collection St. Matthew's Congregation, Pugwash, £0 13

SYNOD FUND.

Collection Barney's River Congregation, \$
" Pugwash Congregation, 6

£0 13

MISSIONARY SERVICES.

Feb. 8, 1860—Cash from W. B. F., River Cong., per J. Gray, Esq., £11
Pictou, Feb. 15, 1860. W. GORREY

Treas.

Printed in Pictou by S. H. HOLMES, and published on the first Thursday of the month. Communications of a business nature to be addressed to Robert Doull, Esq., Pictou, who will receive subscription lists and notices. Communications intended for publication to be addressed to Costley, Pictou Academy.