

From a long and interesting speech delivered by the Rev. John Rodd on this occasion, we select the following account of the success which by the divine blessing, has attended the labours of himself and brethren in this Colony:—

But, it may be asked, "What have you done?" What do you expect to be done in five years, but to make preparations? (Hear, hear.) And, if we have made preparations for large proceedings, I think we have done a great deal. During that period, an insurrection has disturbed the Colony. The effects of that event were most disastrous. It was an event by which Providence evidently intended to wean us from human reliances; for it drove numbers out of the colony who had previously been the object of a carnal confidence on our part. They were taken away I believe, for our spiritual good, though, numerically, it was an injury. The common feeling, when we went to Canada, was "The men that have turned the world upside down, have come hither also." The common impression was, "This is the Ishmaelitic sect, which is against all endowments for religion, and which will not, if they can help it, allow any of us to have the Clergy Reserves." (Hear.) No sooner did the rebellion break out, that an attempt was made to identify us with it, in order to drive us out of the country. Thank God, not one of our church members was drawn into the rebellion, much as some of them have suffered from it. After we received your sympathy, not one of our ministers ever entertained the idea of quitting Canada. The Congregational brethren have had nothing whatever to do with politics, unless my letters in behalf of Religious Liberty, as affected by Thanksgiving Proclamation, can be considered politics. We actually refused to participate in a legislative grant, of which we might have availed ourselves; and we are not a little vain at having had the first opportunity of actually making such a refusal. (Cheers.) We have declared publicly, that we will have nothing to do with the Government money. (Cheers.) Permit me to say one word on a subject of considerable interest. Our object being to evangelise the people, by preaching the Gospel and bringing sinners to Christ, in the first instance we have said little about Congregationalism; we have only availed ourselves of the Press and special occasions, to disseminate Congregational principles. Our object has been to form a body of men who should carry on the work hereafter. We are endeavouring to get the people to support the cause of religion themselves; and I believe, if able brethren are sent out to Canada, we shall see established a native ministry, which, in the course of a few years, will cover the whole of the province. (Cheers.) We have already, in the midst of our poverty, undertaken missions among the destitute settlers, and the other classes to which I have adverted. We made provision, before I left Toronto, for supporting four brethren, who are labouring, or are about to labour, in these missions. We have deeply felt the importance of impressing the ministry, which is rising up, with the right character. We feel, that, in a short time, there will be another race in the Colony; that a character is to be perpetuated and handed down; and that, under God, it depends greatly upon our exertions, whether it shall be bold and generous, or cringing and mean. It has been our constant endeavour, therefore, to elevate their minds. I ask you, then, and will continue to ask, till you respond to it, to send out more of your ministers—men who, if they do

nothing else, will cause you to rejoice in them, as missionaries to this Colony. One of our objects has been, to promote a right spirit amongst other bodies; and I hesitate not to say, that our labours for its accomplishment have been valuable. Let that suffice. We are endeavouring to promote our objects by means of the press. We have already established a periodical, and have, so far, succeeded. Such, then, are our operations. With respect to our success, I may state, that we have seventeen chapels, already built, and others are in the course of erection. We have an academy, which has already sent out two men, and two more will shortly leave it; when these have left, it will still be supplied with ten students. We are the first body in Canada, strong, and holy, and intelligent, and wealthy, as many of them are, we are the very first body in the Colony, who have made a regular provision for the education of the ministry. The tutor of this institution, is the Rev. Adam Lillie, who emigrated from Scotland: he is eminently qualified for the station which he fills. Pray for him, that his health may be established; for we have had some fears that it would not continue. If you still ask me, then, what are the results of our labours? I ask you, what visible results you could expect from a ministry which has laboured only four years in any country? If asked to state numbers, I could say, that, in Montreal, there are 160 members in a church; in Toronto, 140; and in Canada West, between six and seven hundred, admitted into church-fellowship, and giving evidence of their conversion. It ought not to be overlooked, that we have had no assistance in the erection of our places of worship in Canada West, with the exception of the case of a single chapel. Of the 17 chapels which have been erected, between Cobourg and Warwick, two only have not been paid for. But these are not all the results. Our ministers are amongst the wilds, the forests, the back woods of the Colony. I have learnt the meaning of that passage, "We have heard of it at Ephratah; we have found it in the fields of the wood." We have churches of saints in the wilds of the North and the West, and have heard the song of adoration and praise in the very wilderness and desert. There is a church in Canada East, presided over by a poor Indian—the Rev. Peter Paul O'Sunkershine. Both his parents were Indians. He is a man of true eloquence, a man spoken of admiringly and affectionately by all brethren. His church are all Indians. These are things which have been done, and we thank God that he has done so much.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN EUROPE.

The Constituent Assembly of Geneva is still busily occupied with the new legislation on the subject of religion: and the more the discussion is prolonged, the more evident it becomes, that some changes must be made, and that those changes must open the way for a more liberal and independent system of ecclesiastical polity than has hitherto prevailed. The learned and able Author of the two publications on the "Liberty of Worship," from which we have given extracts, (generally said to be M. MERLE D'AUBIGNE, whose work on the Reformation has acquired for him so high a reputation,) has published an appeal in favour of a Constituent Synod, as the only means of saving Protestantism from the invading power