

spent millions of money and thousands of lives. Is it not time the delusion should cease, that we are thus subserving any good purpose?

The Syrian massacres have stripped off the tinsel that covered the real character of Mohammedan rule, and revealed its inherent corruption and cruelty. Civilisation has covered, not eradicated, the vices and fierce passions engendered by that sensual creed, and we find, as in the case of Ahmed Pasha, that the educated Moslem is more savage and treacherous at heart than the uninstructed Turk.

By this time the French expeditionary force is landed in Syria. That its arrival will cause a fresh outburst of Moslem fanaticism we do not believe. It will rather strike terror into the hearts of the dominant race, and enable Fuad Pasha to restore order and punish the guilty. Already, if report be true, the Turkish troops under the command of the Commissioner of the Porte complain of being obliged to act against those of their own faith, and are imbued with the spirit of their fellow-soldiers who took part in the massacres. How, then, can the tranquillity of Syria be ever again left in such hands. "Once this expedition is over," says a writer on the spot, "there can be no doubt whatever but that the fanaticism of every Moslem in Syria will be ten-fold greater than ever." In a few months, if the present *regime* is maintained, the withdrawal of European troops may be the signal for the exodus of the entire Christian population.

DR. CUMMING ON THE DESTINY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* writing on Sunday says:—The church of the Oratoire was crowded this afternoon with a fashionable congregation of English residents, the fair sex greatly predominating, to hear Dr. Cumming's sermon on prophecy, as applicable to the destiny of Great Britain. He made out, with a force of demonstration which, backed by many learned quotations and the free use of Hebrew roots, defies any impromptu contradiction, that within the next seven years the English government will collect together all the hook-nosed, dark-complexioned, black-eyed denizens of Houndsditch, St. Mary-axe, Cursitor-street, &c., give them a free passage to Jerusalem, and put them in possession of the Holy Land. To arrive at this result the reverend doctor is obliged, though he regrets it, to do considerable violence to the authorised version of the Holy Scriptures. He shows that where Ezekiel is made to denounce calamity by the use of the word 'woe' he in reality means 'Hoe!'—a rallying cry; that 'ships made of bulrushes' mean steam vessels; that 'Tarsish' is England; that 'seven times' means 360 multiplied by seven; and that one of the prophet's lions means the British lion on the Queen's coat of arms. These interpretations being granted, it is made plain to the meanest capacity that England is the nation predestined to restore the Jews to their inheritance, and to 'present' them on Mount Zion as an offering to the Lord of Hosts. These things are to take place sooner than Dr. Cumming would 'dare' to say in public, but he gives it to be understood that 1867, when according to his calculation the world will be just 6000 years old, is the very outside of the time. We are at this very hour, to use a poetical expression of his, on the Saturday night of the world's long dreamy week. The two great apostacies, Popery and Mohammedanism, are tottering to their fall, the rotten branches of the vine are about to be cut away, and the end of the present dispensation is at hand. Dr. Cumming's manner, perfectly free from rant and passion, is that of a demonstrator at a clinical lecture; he appears, as I have no doubt he does, thoroughly to believe the doctrines he teaches, and was listened to throughout with the most respectful attention."

THE KING OF SARDINIA AND THE PROTESTANTS.—The *Leeds Mercury* publishes the following as a "reliable communication, recently received from Italy:—"Our beloved King Victor Emanuel has offered to Mazzarella (a distinguished Protestant Preacher at Genoa), the chair of Philosophy at the University of Bologna, and I believe that he has already accepted it. Hereby the King offers a reward (so to say) for Mazzarella's literary productions, especially for his work 'Critique on Science,' the object of which is to lead the thoughtful to Christ. Such an act shows that the object of the book has been understood and apprecia-