

be a difficult matter if the war continues. Even now the heavy fighting seems to be on the Belgian frontier. If Great Britain should be involved, we shall be seriously affected. Our very existence as a British colony will be in danger.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* graphically describes the declaration of Papal infallibility. It was a great and awful blasphemy, perpetrated by five hundred men, whom the Christian world professes to revere as its most learned and most venerable heads. They solemnly dishonored the King of kings. Amid booming of cannon, fumes of incense, and waving of handkerchiefs, they performed the farce of clothing a weak and frail old man with the attributes of deity. Would that their reverence were equal to their audacity! But a voice was heard just then that might have made them tremble. God thundered and lightened. Thus he warned those bold and irreverent performers to dread a voice mightier than that of all church conclaves, and a light that would flash from pole to pole and sweep away all the clouds of error—all the mists of superstition, from a much priest-ridden and distracted world. The opponents of the dogma were numerous and influential; of whom 88 openly voted against it; 62 voted against it with amendments, and 76 stayed away. They drew up a paper before leaving, in which they promise to carry their views to their several dioceses. All honor to them for their courage and consistency in a very difficult situation. They must have been proof against threats and flatteries. Their conduct proves that there is such a thing as conscience still left on the earth. It may have been the result of policy, but we are bound to give them credit for principle. The name of Archbishop Connolly appears among the *protestants*.

THE Scotch papers contain accounts of a final banquet in the front hall of the old university of Glasgow. The buildings have been sold to a Railway company, and the professors and students henceforth meet in the splendid new buildings at Gilmore Hill. Dr. Caird's speech from the chair is very chaste and beautiful. The theme was rich in historic reminiscences, and the prospect gorgeous with hope. The ancient hall in which they were met had for centuries witnessed scenes fraught with weal and woe to the country. Notwithstanding Dr. Caird's eloquent defence, we cannot view the conversion of these old halls into railway offices or such like as anything short of desecration. Remove the university by all means; but preserve such historic monuments. Such has been our past policy, and we are sorry to see learned and literary associations falling down and worshipping the prosaic and utilitarian mammon spirit of our time. Let them have fresh air, pure water and pleasing prospects; but we most earnestly hope that when walking among the shady groves and scenting the daisies of Gilmore Hill, some members of the *Senatus* may have grace enough left to miss old associations, and to know that genius is superior to gold, and large souls are more important to mankind than spacious drawing-rooms. It is very doubtful if the new retreat will ever nourish as much genius or learning or high principle as these old halls sacred to the memory of the noblest of the human race. The times are not remarkable either for learning or principle. Shallow thought and expediency prevail. Every year exposes the hollowness of our Christian pretensions. Upon the whole, we must view the final banquet and Dr. Caird's speech as the very artistic embellishment of a rather shabby transaction.

WHAT a feeling of thankfulness should occupy our minds when we hear and see such signs of a bountiful harvest. Never has there been such abundance on the earth. Thus God is merciful to us notwithstanding our great personal and social crimes. Let us acknowledge His goodness by timely humiliation and gratitude and benevolent lives. A. P.

[Since the above was received, telegrams have announced the probable termination of the European war, by the complete discomfiture and capture by