

ministers add churches than they generally receive. We either slumber or only arouse ourselves to look at matters of inferior movement, while the enemy is coming in like a flood, and is establishing himself in our citadels. Without pronouncing any opinion as to existing organizations for opposing Popery, we may say that in our opinion some means must be devised and employed for rallying the friends of civil and spiritual freedom, and offering some effectual barrier to those who would, if they had the power, sweep away our free protestant institutions and restore the power of Popery.

We present to our readers the following extract from the sermon by Mr. Wallace:—

“Take another illustration of the ways of God in leading men to do his work. Great and beneficial changes have taken place lately in Ireland. When, in the Providence of God, the famine was sent upon that land in 1817, there were many men of understanding who clearly saw what the Church and People of God ought to do. They gave bread to the famishing multitudes, and at the same time, after the example of their divine master, while they ministered to the wants of the body, they told them of the way of salvation through Christ; unfolded to them a Saviour’s love, and besought them, in a kind and winning manner, to seek rest and peace in Jesus—who alone can save the soul from sin—and not to put their trust in man, though called priest or saint. At the same time, many of the priests of Rome not only neglected to aid them in their distress, but actually, in several instances, exacted their accustomed dues—yea, though it might be the last shilling—from the starving people. The immediate result was, that the prejudices of many against Protestantism gave way. They reasoned naturally and correctly upon the subject—that if the religion of Protestants, and especially of Protestant Ministers, led them to make sacrifices which their own priests would not make to save them from death—the religion of the Protestants could not be such as they had been told. But along with the element of benevolence manifested by the earnest and devoted Protestants, there was another element which contributed largely to their success: that was Irish population. Last year (May 1856 to 1857) the Irish Church Mission (Episcopal) employed 697 Missionaries, Scripture Readers and Teachers, among the Romanists of Ireland—of whom 488 spoke the Irish language. A similar course has been followed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, and by the Wesleyans (the General Assembly has 23 congregations in Connaught). This wise course has contributed largely to their success. At the time of the Reformation the English Government sought to convert the Roman Catholics of Ireland, by missionaries speaking the English language. That language they hated as the language of those that ruled over them, and whom they considered their oppressors. No wonder then that Protestant Ministers and Missionaries had so little success among the Romanists of Ireland. Their own priests had a double advantage over the Protestant Missionary; they were of the same oppressed race as themselves, and they addressed them in the language of their homes and their heart. Had the Reformers adopted the same policy in Germany, Switzerland, or Scotland, these lands would have remained faithful to the cause of Rome. Had Protestant Ministers from the first adopted the same course in Ireland, that they did in Scotland, when seeking the conversion of the Celtic tribes, the result, we believe would have been the same. This appears certain, from the wonderful change that

has lately taken place in Ireland through the power of kindness and the exercise of wisdom in the means adopted by the Protestant Churches. In one diocese alone, that of Tuam, over 40,000 have been converted to Protestantism. And throughout all the south and west—but especially in the west, where the famine most prevailed—many thousands have adopted the religion of the Bible and cast off the mummeries of Rome. There is no race of people more warm-hearted than the Celtic, and hence the heart of the Irishman as well as the Highlander, opens to the influence of kindness, wise and considerate kindness, which seeks the highest happiness of those towards whom it is shown. *The heart is often a better guide to the illiterate than the head.* The instinctive feeling of gratitude for kindness wells up in the soul, when the instructions of the priest would often lead the man to hate or despise his benefactor as a heretic. Had the protestants of Britain earlier adopted the course of the Churches of late, the whole population of Ireland might now be Protestant, *speaking the English tongue*—It was time enough to expect them to adopt the Saxon language, after they had adopted the same religion, and had ceased to hate the Saxons as heretic oppressors. The result of the late elections in Ireland also shows the rapidly declining power of the priesthood in that land. The number of Protestant members returned to the previous Parliament was, I believe, 54; but for the present term the numbers rose to 72, giving a large majority of Protestant members from what was formerly called Popish Ireland. This took place despite the power and exertions of the priests, who, as usual, made every effort to defeat and injure the candidates opposed to their views, and to return members who would vote according to their wishes. A great and beneficial change has come over Ireland. It is no longer cursed to the same extent with beggary and crime. Wages have risen to a three-fold higher rate; industry is rewarded; and the country, fast becoming a *Protestant nation*, is at the same time becoming peaceable and prosperous, and likely to be come—if ever, by very different means than Tom Moore dreamed of—“the first flower of the earth, the first gem of the sea.”

Obituary.

DIED, on the 25th July, aged 20 years, JAMES WATSON, youngest son of Mr. James Watson, of Peel, in the county of Wellington. He was a young man of a very quiet and amiable disposition, and was much esteemed by all who knew him. He bore his last illness with much patience and resignation, and gave very satisfactory assurance to his friends of his happy peaceful state in Christ. J. I.

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	£6 10 7½
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Pictou.....	2 0 2
Beachville	1 10 0
Fingal.....	2 15 0
Brockville	6 0 0
Sarnia.....	5 13 3
Buxton.....	2 0 0
Mitchell	£1 6 11
Carlingford	1 3 1
	2 10 0
St. Thomas.....	1 15 0
Woodstock, Chalmers' Church.....	3 0 0
Knox's Church, Toronto	5 0 0
Milton.....	2 12 2½
Aldboro'.....	4 0 0
Dunnville.....	3 5 0

Inverness.....	1 15 0
Ashburn.....	£2 7 0
Utica.....	1 5 0½
	3 12 0½
Cornwall.....	2 17 6
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Boston Church.....	2 15 7½
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Saltfleet.....	0 16 10
	2 2 1
Ayr.....	5 0 0
Nairn Church.....	2 0 0
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