

their souls. "We regret," said they, "that the old members of the synagogue, and the consistory, do not seek to satisfy the just exigencies of the new generation. One must either considerably shorten the Hebrew ritual, and celebrate the greatest part of the service in French, or cause the people to be henceforth instructed in the language. The Supreme Being does not content himself with the adoration of the lips; and the prattle of parrots speaking Hebrew, would be as good as the vain repetitions of a people ignorant of what they pronounce. The consistory itself in several of its members is no longer Jewish except by tradition. 'Is it necessary to speak to me of revealed religion?' said the President himself to us. The magnificent order of this universe, and the benefits which a paternal Providence scatters around us with so great abundance, speak to me loud enough both of the Master that governs us, and of the sacred duties that bind us to him. Have I not besides a reason and a conscience to direct my steps, and a heart to inspire me with generous feelings. Here said he, pointing to his heart, 'here is something that tells me I ought to be frank, loyal, disinterested, compassionate; here I feel that thankfulness towards a benefactor is a virtue worthy of a well born man, and that ingratitude is execrable.'" "It is in some respects with religion as with the fine arts," answered my father. "Every one of us has more or less a moral and religious instinct; and every one has more or less the instinct of the fine arts. But as in music or in painting, there are great masters that we admire and seek to imitate, because, rising by the power of their genius above the men of their age they have realised or sought to realise in their immortal works an ideal that was floating more or less vaguely in the instinct of the multitude;—so in religion, and in religion more than in any other domain, there are distinguished models which the everlasting God, presents to our erring and sinful humanity; there is a Moses that gave the law, there is a Christ who accomplished it, and then offered himself as an expiatory victim. And the honor we bestow on those whom the Most High himself presents to our imitation, is not stifling or disfiguring in man the religious feeling, on the contrary it is exalting it.

An aged Jewess, a believer in Christ.

There lives at Marseilles a Maiden lady, of eighty years of age, but still full of intelligence and vivacity. A Christian friend introduced us to her. She received us at first rather coldly, but the Lord was working in her soul. She confessed her Saviour at our second visit. Her spectacles were laying on the "Letter to the Synagogues," which we had given her. "I believe most truly," said she to us, "that Jesus Christ is the true Messiah, the Son of God; all must go to him. He came to save not only his people of Israel, but all men. He will come anew." The accent of deep conviction with which she uttered these words, as well as the emotion produced by so great and unexpected a joy, transported us. From that moment we did nothing else but give glory to God, and converse about the return of our beloved Messiah and the consolation of Israel. The lady being now very old, and much attached to her people does not feel her self called upon, for the moment to separate herself from them by a formal baptism; but she will not fear to profess her faith before whosoever shall ask her the reason of it, and to attend Christian worship whenever she thinks fit. The Lord is faithful, and he will guide her himself by his good spirit, and perfect her in the work He has begun.

News Department.

By R. M. Steamship Canada, May 28.

ENGLAND.

IRON CHURCH FOR AUSTRALIA.—A novelty in the use of iron has occurred in the manufacture of an iron church for transportation to the diocese of Melbourne, South Australia, in the factory of Mr. Hemmings, at Clifton, in the neighbourhood of Bristol. This structure has been made to the order of the Bishop of Melbourne, in order to meet the spiritual wants of the vastly increasing district, and Monday was fixed upon for the formal opening, which took place by the performance of divine service within its iron walls. Three o'clock was announced for the commencement of religious worship, and at that hour a respectable congregation had assembled, having been admitted by cards. The Venerable Archbishop of Melbourne, officiated, and an appropriate address was listened to with the utmost attention. The building comprises a nave, having two side aisles, with pulpit, reading desk, vestry, baptismal font, and altar. The edifice is seventy feet in length and about fifty feet in breadth, and was comfortably seat about seven hundred persons. There are likewise two galleries, one at each end of the building, and the seats and fittings

are most complete, the former having high backs, but without doors or enclosing. The outside is formed of corrugated and galvanised iron; and the interior is lined with thick planking covered with canvas and papered. The roof is formed of iron, and the ceiling is made of inodorous felt, lined with canvas and papered. The advantages derived from the use of the felt are that, from its properties as a non conductor, greater coolness is ensured. Between the outside wall and the inside lining a space of three inches is left for ventilation. The tower is square, and forty feet in height, and will be fitted with bellry and clock. The whole has been built at a cost of 1,000*l.* A parsonage house has likewise been built at a cost of 250 guineas, containing parlour, kitchen, store-room and pantry, four bed rooms and servants' room. These edifices have been inspected by thousands and will prove invaluable in the colonies.

ROMAN CATHOLICS AT OXFORD.—At the anniversary of the Protestant Association, held on Wednesday last in Exeter-hall, the Rev. R. Bickersteth detailed the particulars of a case that came to his knowledge, and which he had an opportunity of verifying also by a second chain of independent testimony. It is simply this. A young man, a Roman Catholic, received a dispensation from his Church, according to which he enters the University of Oxford, taking all the oaths and subscribing all that is required. He performs all the exercises, and fulfils all the requirements of the academic course, even to the taking of the degree of A. B. Upon this, he is commissioned by Dr. Wiseman to make a tour of inspection of the Popish schools in this country; and with the experience gained at Oxford, and in his peregrinations here, he is deputed by the same authority to go to Ireland, for the express object of counteracting the operations of the Society for Irish Church Missions amongst the Roman Catholics. In furtherance of this object, the man presented himself more than once at the controversial class conducted by the Rev. Mr. McCarthy, missionary of the Society in Dublin; and there, by the blessing of God, the force of truth had the same effect upon him that it had before upon Saul of Tarsus. The facts related by Mr. Bickersteth, and of which we have given an outline, are from the lips of the individual himself, and were corroborated by the testimony of another, whose history also would illustrate the dangerous and deceitful dealings of Tractarian clergymen, who, instead of being faithful watchmen placed over the fold, proved themselves at last to have been but wolves in disguise, "not sparing the flock," but doing the work of Rome, while receiving the pay and eating the bread of England.—*Record.*

UPON WHAT A THREAD DOES WAR HANG.—Russia has made demands upon Turkey, claiming an ecclesiastical supremacy over the Greek subjects of the Sultan, which the latter potentate refuses to agree to. The Czar thereon threatens war; but, at the same time, France sends a fleet to the Dardanelles to protect Turkey, and the Czar must either consent to the humiliation of withdrawing his demands, or must resort to the *ultima ratio* with France. The position is delicate—not the less so for the presence of an English fleet in the Turkish waters. In the Chinese seas, too, a portion of our fleet, with those of France and America, are affording a coast protection to the Tartar Emperor against the native Chinese rebellion. This protection is not of a character to benefit very materially the "Brother of the Sun and Moon;" it is probably granted by the respective parties in hope of seeing who make the most in the approaching scramble.—*Ch. & State Gaz.*

THE BISHOP OF SODOR AND MAN.—Lord Auckland, the Bishop of Sodor and Man, was prayed for in the churches throughout the island on last Sunday week. His lordship is in London, suffering greatly from his fractured leg, owing to the severe measures adopted in order to induce the fractured bone to unite.

THE ENSUING ENCENIA.—We have seen an outline of the proceedings and festivities which will take place at the ensuing encenia at Oxford. A great many visitors have already arrived, and, judging from the numerous applications for tickets to the ladies' gallery in the theatre, there is reason to expect a very large influx of persons will take place to witness Lord Derby's public installation. The Chancellor, with Lady Derby, accompanied we believe by Lord Stanley and Miss Stanley, will reach Oxford on Monday, June 6, and will proceed at once to the residence of the Vice-Chancellor at Worcester College, where they will be entertained the whole of their sojourn.

FRANCE.

The *Assemblée Nationale* repeats the rumour of the intended marriage of the Duke de Brabant with an Austrian Archduchess. To strengthen the view that

the *Assemblée* takes of the alliance between the Courts of Austria and Belgium, it mentions a rumour that the Emperor of Austria is to marry a daughter of King Leopold. This princess, be it remarked, is not yet 13 years old.

PARIS LODGING HOUSES.—The plan of the lodging houses for workmen and employes of small incomes will very probably be carried out on a larger scale than supposed. The present plan is to found *ten villages* on the open grounds within the fortifications of Paris. These villages will be composed of small but neat and comfortable dwellings—each of the value of 3000 francs. Each house will be let to the workman at a yearly rent of 250 francs, and after twelve years of occupation will become his property.

ITALY.

ROBBING A DEAD POPE.—We read the following in the *Bilancia* of Milan, under the date of Rome, 2nd.—"A very painful discovery was made the other day in the Basilica of Lateran. Those who are acquainted with the locality will recollect that Pope Martin V. lies buried in the nave. The body having to be removed in consequence of some architectural repairs in progress, the coffin was opened in presence of the chapter. To every body's surprise nothing was found but the bones of Martin V.; the rings, the gold and silver chalices, the tiara all studded with precious stones, had disappeared. Their existence in the coffin had been verified about fifty years ago.

TURKEY.

Despatches from Constantinople to the 12th inst. announce the formal rejection of the *ultimatum* presented by Prince Menschikoff, who has left that city. The adoption of this measure is regarded as the result of the return of Reschid Pacha to the Ministry of Foreign affairs. Rifaat Pacha has been appointed President of the Council. It was considered that the Divan would adhere to their decision. The assistance rendered by England, was not regarded as commensurate with the position she had first assumed.

CHINA.

The latest dates from China are to the 11th April. The American, French and English ships of war on the coast of China were, on the urgent requisition of the Chinese authorities, consigned to guard Nankin, Shanghai, and the mouths of the Great Canal, against the rebels. The Protestant clergyman, and Mme. J. Poser, of Breslau, who have devoted themselves to the propagation of Christianity in China, had arrived at Hong Kong in the English ship *Artemista*, and immediately left for Fou Kiang, a town of about 600,000 inhabitants, and where already exist eleven Protestant churches and several chapels of ease, at which English, American, or German clergymen officiate.

INDIA.

The news from Burmah is to the 13th April, and is unfavourable. More troops are wanted. No prospect of peace short of taking Ava. The Burmese commissioners have refused to sign the treaty. In Calcutta business was dull.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE TOWN, MARCH 22.—The latest accounts from the frontier bring full details of the termination of hostilities with the more powerful Gaike chief Sandilli.

On Mr. Brownlee's arrival Sandilli was sent for and appeared before the Governor's Envoy on the morning of Sunday the 27th February. The draft of the conditions General Cathcart was ready to grant was then read to Sandilli and the rest of the chiefs. The principal conditions were that Sandilli should deliver up 100 guns, that he and his people should be faithful in their allegiance to the Queen; and that while they could not return to their former country, which was lawfully forfeited, protection would be secured to them in an new portion of Kaffraria further from the colonial boundary.

The chiefs listened attentively while the terms were read and carefully explained to them; they then retired and held a consultation among themselves, which lasted four hours. Their opinions of the conditions may be gathered from the speech of Sandilli on their return to the Envoy. He thanked the Governor for his message. He said, however, that the territory assigned was not large enough to support them, and was, besides, partly the property of Umhala, partly that of Kreili, both chiefs at peace with the English. Thrown upon this territory, the Gaikeas would be intruders, and this would lead to war. As to delivering up the guns, this, he said, would be just with regard to the arms of the native police who had departed from the English; they were dishonourably obtained; but the men were now scattered among all the different tribes, and it would require much time to collect all the guns together. He would give up a hundred mus-