

text to argue out the future salvation of "the spiritual Israel." As we have only the Cause of God, and His truth at heart, we shall indeed rejoice should he be able to well sustain such an argument. But in failure hereof, we hope he will have the candour to admit this to be another instance in which he has either misapplied or misunderstood, to us his own words, "a plain declaration of the Word of God." Awaiting either alternative,

I remain, Mr. Editor, yours,
AN HUMBLE BELIEVER IN A MILLENNIUM YET TO
BE PRODUCED BY THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.
Near Lake Champlain,
October 27, 1843.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

INTERVIEW WITH MAR YOHANNAN.

A PUBLIC meeting was recently held in England to hear the report of the Rev. Ridley Herschell, who had just returned from a visit to the Holy Land. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Herschell said:—

He next went to Smyrna, where he met with a society of Christians. He supped there.—One Jew came in, and then another. A rabbi proposed to sing a hymn, and selected—

"All hail the power of Jesus' name."

It was a great thing for him to select such a hymn in the presence of a large number of his brethren who had made no public profession of Christianity. The same rabbi afterwards selected—

"Come, let us join in cheerful songs."

The scene was deeply interesting, occurring as it did in Smyrna, whose early Church was one of those that had an epistle directed to it, and was the one with whom at least God found no fault. By the Providence of God, (continued the speaker) he could find no steamer going to Beyrout, and was detained for ten days. In the mean time he went to Constantinople.

On board the steamer, he was introduced by an American missionary to a bishop of the Nestorian Christians. He had long desired such an introduction. The countenance of the bishop was decidedly Jewish, and he (the bishop) felt himself that the Nestorians were descendants of the Jews. He asked him whether he thought they had descended from the Ten Tribes. He replied that he could not say, but that the general opinion amongst them was, that they had descended from the Jerusalem Jews, and not from the Ten Tribes. He then asked the bishop whether the Nestorians kept up the rites of the Mosaic law? He replied: A few of them; they had a peace offering, but it was not a sacrifice; the brethren simply assembled around the peace offering as a symbol of their love for each other, as in the times of their forefathers.

He (Mr. Herschell) had himself thought about these people, and was induced to believe that they were the descendants of the early believing Jews. These people were clearly traced down to the fifth century, by historians who sneeringly mentioned them, and then all trace of them was lost. It was remarkable that in the same century Nestorians were excommunicated for declaring against the worship of the Virgin Mary; and there was little doubt, from this concurrence of facts, that these people joined with him in his testimony. It was remarkable that the Jews in their captivity had always been averse to idolatry, and this seemed a fulfilment of the declaration, "Ye are witnesses, because there is no strange God among you." It was also remarkable that the Eastern Christians called the Nestorian Christians in the neighbourhood their nephews. The bishop (Mar Yohannan) urged the necessity of sending missionaries to the Persian Jews—those, he said, who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity; they did not want forms, they were formal enough already, and wanted to be less so. He asked, whether there was union amongst the Christians in England. He showed some antipathy to what he called High Church principles; by which he (Mr. Herschell) supposed he meant those principles we now termed Puseyism. He (Mar Yohannan) said High Church would soon be Pope; that he loved Episcopacy, for he was a bishop himself; but that he loved Christian brotherhood better. He complained of the conduct of the Khoords in Persia, who descended from the mountains to the dwellings of the Nestorians and

their uncles and plundered them; and he wished him (the speaker) to ask Queen Victoria to write to the King of Persia to put a stop to these ravages—not to send an army, but to write a few kind words; and that, he felt sure, would be all that was necessary, and the Khoords would then hurt them no more. The Nestorian Bishop had been to America, to thank them for the missionaries they had sent, and to ask them for more, and he had the satisfaction of returning with some. He said also that they (the Nestorian Christians) were very ignorant, and wanted to learn.

On arriving at Constantinople he (the speaker) met with a converted brother, a minister of the Church of England, who was laboring with great success. He manifested so much simplicity and earnestness that he gained on the affection of the brethren day after day. For years there had been no appearance of an opening there; but the ministry had been led to translate the Bible into a kind of Spanish-French spoken by the Jews there; and so effectual had this been, that the rabbis, who before would not allow the Jews to go into the streets to hear preaching, feeling the pains which had been taken in producing this faithful translation of the Bible, began to sympathise with the minister, and while he (the speaker) was there, the chief rabbi sent for Bibles, and asked the minister to appoint a time to meet him. This showed that the labour of love was honoured by God. This appeared to him important, for how did they know that reading the Scriptures might not overturn tradition.—These were interesting movements, but they were only the stirring up of the dry bones; but God will put life in them. From Constantinople he proceeded to Syria, to Beyrout, across Lebanon, and on to Balbeck.

JEWS IN NEW YORK.—The Jews in New York have Sabbath schools, which are taught on Saturday. They have also schools on the other days of the week, in which their children are taught Hebrew, German and English, by Jewish instructors. A few send their children to Christian Sabbath schools. They manifest a strong attachment to their faith. It is their firm conviction that they and their people shall yet be restored to the land promised to their father Abraham and to his seed after him, and their long looked for Messiah will come to rule over them and over the world, as an earthly Prince, and will subdue all opposition to his reign upon the earth. They cherish a bitter hatred towards Roman Catholics, whom they stigmatise as the robbers and murderers of their fathers. Towards Protestants they are more charitable. They commonly express their views thus:—"If a man is born of Christian parents, let him be a good man, and strictly obey the commandments of God, and it will be well with him in this life, and in the world to come; and if a man is born of Jewish parents, let him be honest and upright in all his dealings, and strictly obey the laws of God as they are found in the five books of Moses, and he will be saved at the day of the grand judgment."—*Journal of Commerce.*

THE DECREE OF ANCONA.

A HEBREW publication called the "Voice of Jacob," makes this announcement:—

We have sincere pleasure in announcing, from an authentic source, that the atrocious decree of the Roman Inquisition, first issued under authority of Leo XII., and recently put in force by the Inquisitor General of Ancona, has been again suspended. We learn from various quarters that the utmost consternation had been produced, not only throughout Italy, but every where in the Mediterranean; not only among the Jews, but among Protestant Christians, either subject to Catholic governments or surrounded by Catholic populations, at this revival of the fearful Inquisition. Some misapprehension has existed as to the genuineness of the decree; we have reason to know that certain of the clauses had already begun to be acted upon.

CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

Nothing of particular interest has transpired since our last in the Provincial Legislature, with the exception of the passing by the Assembly of the Resolutions respecting the establishment of the Seat of Gov-

ernment at Montreal. It was expected at Kingston that the same resolutions would obtain a majority in the upper house. Should this be the case, there is scarcely room for more than one opinion respecting the decision of the Imperial Parliament on the subject—namely, that Montreal will be appointed the future capital of this rapidly rising and important portion of the dominions of our beloved Sovereign.

In the absence of later news from Europe, we glean the following summary from the papers brought by the last packet:—

A perfectly unique turn-out has been exclusively appropriated for the private airings of the infant royal family in the private grounds of Windsor—consisting of two beautiful milk-white foreign goats, which have been trained for double harness.

The captain of a Swedish brig called the Bull, just returned from a three years' voyage, has discovered several small islands in the Pacific. Several of them, he says, have not been visited since Captain Cook's time, and four are not to be found upon any map hitherto published.

The celebrated vine at Cumberland Lodge, in Windsor Park, supposed to be the largest in the world, now contains 2,350 bunches of grapes, each averaging one pound weight. Its length is 138 feet, width 16, and it extends over a space of 2,200 superficial feet. It has been planted 40 years.

Fossil bones of the lizard, (twenty-four feet in length (equal to the dragons of antiquity) have been found in Bavaria.

By the last census of Scotland, 126,300 natives of Ireland are returned as residing in that country, and 87,000 natives of England.

The Rev. Dr. Lee has been appointed Professor of Divinity at Edinburgh, vice the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, resigned.

The sum of £605 10s 9d was lately collected at Aberdeen, in aid of the Free Church of Scotland, after a public breakfast, attended by the Rev. Dr. Chalmers.

The *Post* announces the death of the oldest Dissenting minister in London, perhaps in England: yesterday morning, Mr. John Clayton, who was in his ninetieth year, died, after a somewhat long illness. About a year since Mrs. Clayton died; and from that time until the present, the health of the deceased had gradually declined.

Emigration to Canada and the United States from our harbour has closed for the present year, the last vessel likely to take any passengers having sailed a few days ago.—Upwards of 5,000 souls have sailed this season from the Broomielaw for the above place, being greatly above the last or any former year. The British possessions have this season had a decided preference, only about nine hundred having sailed for the United States; whilst last year it was nearly equal, the United States having the preference by about two hundred.—*Glasgow Herald.*

The *Times* is informed by a correspondent "that a Special Commission is about to issue for the trial of the prisoners concerned in the recent disturbances in South Wales. The presiding Judges have not yet been named, but the most active exertions are in progress on the part of Government to get together evidence against the prisoners already committed.

A boy has been exhibiting in Germany, who had the power of emitting three vocal sounds at a time, and can therefore execute pieces in three parts.

The sovereignty of the Sandwich Islands has been restored to King Kamehameha III. The act of restoration was consummated in July last. Guaranteed as the independence of these Islands now is, in effect, by England, France, and the United States, it will rest on a firmer basis than ever before; and the Sandwich Islands will continue to be a lodge on the highway of nations, for the commerce of all friendly powers.

The restoration of the Sovereignty of the Sandwich Islands by the British government, will afford to that of France a fit opportunity to perform the same act of justice to the Society Islands, and there is some reason to think that it will be embraced.