

nations of the world are now becoming, appears from the passage on the foreign relations of the country, in the recent message of the President of the United States :

"Our relations with the Emperor of China, so recent in their origin, are most friendly. The unbroken harmony between the United States and the Emperor of Russia, is receiving a new support from an enterprise designed to carry telegraphic lines across the continent of Asia, through his dominion. Our commerce with South America, is about to receive encouragement by a direct line of mail steamships, to the rising Empire of Brazil. A hope is entertained that our commerce with the rich and populous countries that border the Mediterranean Sea, may be largely increased. And it is worthy of note that a special envoy has brought us messages of condolence on the death of our late chief Magistrate from the Bey of Tunis, whose rule includes the whole dominions of Carthage on the African coast."

What is true of the United States is true of France, and true, we believe, in a wider sense of Britain. Each of these three great powers has according to a favourite image of Scripture, become a great tree : each has thrown, and is throwing out roots, and branches, to the utmost corner of the earth : and their shadow is over every mountain and sea of the globe. "The natural tendency of all this "in the language of another statesman," is peace, goodwill ; their natural tendency is not to divide, but to unite men in the experience of benefits reciprocally given and reciprocally received. When a ship leaves a British port, for a port in America, or France, it means that certain parcels of goods are forwarded on the one side, and are paid by other parcels of goods, forwarded on the other. But is that all that it means ? Does it not mean a great deal more ? Does it not mean this—that human beings on the two sides of the water, are coming to know each other better, and to esteem one another more. We may say that labelled on almost every one of these parcels of goods, there is likewise a spark of kindly feeling that comes from the one country to the other, and the ships that revolve between those lands and this, are like the shuttle upon the loom weaving a web of concord between the nations of the earth."

In the tendency therefore, towards a community of temporal interests amongst all the nations of the earth, we see much that is calculated to cheer the christian. Here we see a distant hope that wars shall cease, that every country will yet be in possession of constitutional liberty, that the printing press, and the Bible, will find entrance into every corner of the world, and that all lands will yet be open to the missionaries of the cross.

2. But in the second place, it is apparent, also, that *Christianity is destined to become the religion of the whole earth.* To the eye of faith this has been always apparent, for it has had five great promises to look to, and lean upon. *First* the general promise made individually to our first parents, that the seed of the woman should bruise the head of the serpent : *second*, the more specific promise to Abraham, that in his seed all the nations of the earth should be blessed : *third*, the promise to David, more particular still, that his "Son" should have dominion from sea, to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth, that all kings should fall down before him, and all nations should serve him : *fourth*, the wonderfully vivid revelation to Daniel,—“there was given him (the Son of man) dominion and glory, and a Kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages, should serve him : and *fifth*, the words of Christ himself, “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw—all men unto me.” Depending on these promises, faith could, even when the affairs of the Church were at their lowest, look forward to the time when victory would crown the cause of Christ. But in our day Reason confirms what Faith so long believed. Faith has always maintained that, “all things,—the world, life, death, things present, things to come,” belong to the Church, “and that the time will assuredly come when God will bruise Satan under the feet of the Church,” but