

sults upon the evangelisation of Italy. The temporal power of the Papacy, as if by just retribution, struck at decisively by Italian hands, is evidently doomed. Not even France can save it; and how vast the effect will be on its spiritual pretensions no one can tell. Some may have thought it possible to separate the two, and regarded the adherents of the Papacy as blind to their own interests in not attempting it. But after all they may be wiser in their generation, and therefore we may regard the blow now dealt as all the more charged with fatal issues. No doubt it may be long before the spiritual Popedom expire; but it becomes virtually a new religion; and the old blood may not run in the new veins with copiousness enough to keep it very long alive. If it lose any of its old territory—such as Italy, or France, or Austria (and this amongst the collisions and jealousies of these Powers is quite possible)—its pretensions to Catholicity will become more and more untenable; and any great spiritual apostasy, following on its temporal losses, would give a shock to its credit not easy to be repaired. For this reason, as for others, we have the mightiest arguments to carry forward the work of evangelisation in Italy, now so gloriously free; and in a time of great and fundamental shaking, we may expect God to pour out His Spirit more widely than ever before.”

ITEMS OF GENERAL RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

BISHOP COLENZO.—A decision has been given in regard to the payment of the salary of Dr. Colenso, in favour of the Bishop. The decision is regarded by many as proceeding on grounds opposed to the views of the Privy Council.

THE UNION QUESTION.—This subject still continues to engross a large share of the time and attention of the Presbyteries of Scotland and in England. It is evident that by far the most of the members are in favour of union, but different points are coming up which may occasion discussion and delay. In England the principal question is as to the extent of the union,—whether the united church shall be for Britain, or for Scotland and England separately, the United Presbyterian Church being, in general, opposed to a separation from their brethren in Scotland, while the English Presbyterian Church and the Free Church are generally in favour of union in Scotland and England separately. A large meeting of the ministers and elders of the two churches was recently held in London, for the purpose of exchanging sentiments on the subject of union.

SECESSIONS TO ROME.—During the last three months no less than five clergymen in full Anglican orders, and all belonging to the ultra High Church School, have been formally received unto the Romish Church.

DR. LEE ON CONFESSIONS OF FAITH.—In his opening lecture at Edinburgh, Dr. Lee delivered a characteristic address on theological education, strongly condemnatory of articles and formulas, and urging their abolition. Until this is done, the Professor holds that “the christian minister must continue to hold a false subordinate, and in a great degree, an influential position.”

THE POPE.—It is stated that there is an understanding with the King of Italy as to the retention of Rome by the Pope. It is, however, very doubtful whether the Romans themselves will be satisfied to be still under the temporal power of the Pope, while the rest of Italy is under Victor Emmanuel.

DROWNING OF THE BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.—Dr. Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta, was accidentally drowned in the Ganges, while proceeding on board a steamer at Kooshtea. Dr. Cotton was highly esteemed not only by those of his own church, but by others.

CASE OF REV. WALTER SMITH OF GLASGOW.—For some time past the