

624; Santiago, 403; Saragossa, 389; Salamanca, 242; Oviedo, 155. Some of these universities were once the most celebrated in the civilized world; but how are the mighty fallen! Salamanca, which now has scarcely 250, numbered 10,000 in the fourteenth century, and its reputation eclipsed most of the universities of Europe. That such should be the state of Spain at the present day is most lamentable, and we do not wonder that, among the great subjects demanding consideration and correction, the present provisional government should specify national education."

What may be the future form of government is not yet known, but it may be regarded as certain that a new era has dawned on Spain. Freedom, religious and civil, will, we trust, be firmly established. We trust that the change will open a door for the introduction of the truth, such as has not been witnessed for centuries, and that the friends of the gospel, especially in Britain, will be enabled at once to set themselves to embrace an opportunity so unexpectedly given in the providence of God.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION IN ENGLAND.—At the Synod of the English portion of the United Presbyterian Church, held in Liverpool last month, a Conference was held between the Synod and a large committee of the English Presbyterian Church, on the subject of union in England. After a lengthened deliberation, in which many on both sides took part, the following resolutions were agreed to:—"1. Approve generally of the finding of the Union Committee on the ninth head of the programme, on the understanding that it does not bar the Union until all the four Churches agree to a basis; 2. Declare our readiness, in the event of lengthened delay in Scotland, to seek Union on the basis of the said finding of the Union Committee; 3. That a Committee be appointed by the English United Presbyterian Synod to confer with the Committee of the English Presbyterian Synod, in order to their conjointly taking steps, according to emerging circumstances, for the accomplishment of the desired object."

DEATH OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—Dr. Langley, Archbishop of Canterbury, who has, since 1862, occupied the highest position in the Church of England, lately died at the age of seventy-four. He was a good man, and universally respected, but his administration of ecclesiastical matters was not characterised by much rigour. He is succeeded by Dr. Tait, formerly Bishop of London.

THE QUESTION OF PATRONAGE IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—The subject of patronage has been engaging the attention of Presbyteries in the Established Church of Scotland, as, in accordance with a resolution of the General Assembly, they are required to prepare answers to certain queries on the subject. The Presbyteries of Aberdeen and Paisley have reported in favour of a modification of the law of patronage. But throughout the Church there appears to be great difference of opinion on the subject.

THE CHURCH QUESTION IN IRELAND.—The elections in Ireland—in Belfast in particular—have been characterised by considerable heat. Formerly the Presbyterians supported, in general, the Conservatives; but in many places they have given their influence and their votes to the candidates who favour the policy of Mr. Gladstone. In Belfast, a letter was published, written by Dr. Cooke, who is supposed to be on his death-bed, calling upon the Protestants to rally for the defence of the Established Church.