

own in Ireland with astonishing pertinacity. The Established Church has utterly failed as a mission church, and it seems highly probable that its success would be great as a "free" church.

Of the Protestant churches of the European Continent we can say but little. The conflict between Rationalism and orthodoxy within the National Reformed Church of France, continues with great violence. Hitherto the advantage on every practical point has been with the orthodox. A preacher who made no secret of denying the Divinity of Christ, has been expelled, and there is now comparative soundness in the pulpits. The Evangelical Church in its various subdivisions shows signs of vitality. The most noticeable evangelistic effort of the year in France was in connection with the Exhibition, where two and a half millions of Testaments were circulated, besides other portions of the Scriptures, and good books and tracts.—In Holland the basis of the national church has been widened so as to include all Protestant denominations; but we cannot venture to say that this is a movement in the interest of truth.—In Germany there is a contest between the High Lutherans on the one hand, and on the other the Reformed and Low Lutherans. The late war, and the consequent unification of the country, is not without its effect on the churches. The religious as well as the ecclesiastical world is in a state of effervescence. Hungary, and some other parts of the Austrian empire are stirred with strange new symptoms of spiritual life—reminding on-lookers of the great Methodist movement in England.

In the United States the last winter and spring witnessed extensive and powerful revivals. The increase in some churches was unprecedented; and California was visited with the first remarkable revival in its history. The same battle that is going on in England between Ritualism and Evangelical religion, is raging in the United States in the bosom of the Episcopal Church, threatening its destruction. In the Lutheran Church a similar contest is also going on.—The Methodists of the United States have signalized the hundredth year

of their existence on this side of the Sea by collecting the magnificent sum of SEVEN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS for denominational purposes! The Presbyterians commenced a Union movement which is likely to prove successful, their Convention in Philadelphia having been one of the most remarkable gatherings of the age.—The American churches have done much during the year to elevate and christianize the freedmen of the South.

The Protestant Churches in the British Colonies generally show progress. There are now about three hundred Presbyterian ministers in Australia, and five hundred in British America. The Episcopal churches in the Colonies are generally learning to be independent of the Anglican establishment.

Let us now turn for a brief glance at the Papal world. We do not know where to note real progress on the part of Popery except in England and Scotland, and there chiefly among the degenerate portions of the aristocracy, whose minds had been prepared for perversion by High Church follies.—The contest relative to the temporal power of the Pope has been carried on with some wildly exciting episodes. Garibaldi marched to Rome, and he would undoubtedly have snatched the prize had not France interfered. While Italy is irritated to madness against the Pope, a spirit of servile loyalty has been manifested in other and far distant lands. Garibaldi and his followers denounce and reject the spiritual as well as the temporal power of their mortal foe, and it is remarked that now all Italians are Garibaldians. Once more the Papal throne rests upon French bayonets, amidst the derision of Europe.—Evangelical work has made more than average progress during the year.—In Austria the *Concordat* has been a dead letter. Protestantism is tolerated; religion is free.—Spain is still legally closed against the Gospel, but doors of entrance have been found, and more evangelical work performed than during any one of the last twenty-five years. The same is also true of Portugal.

Reviewing the religious features of the year, we must not forget the great gathering of the Bishops and other ecclesiastics