

tion of intoning the prayers adopted by the incumbent, the Rev. J. L. Fulford, the Bishop of Exeter thus wrote to the Rev. gentleman:—"The question of absolute right is one to which I do not at present advert. But I have no hesitation in saying, that unless the bulk of your parishioners, in which number I include all orders, poor and not poor, prefer intoning, I think it very undesirable to incur or continue, jealousy on such a ground. I never would ask a clergyman to surrender a point of duty at the bidding of any party whatsoever, but 'charity seeketh not her own' in particulars not of duty." With this advice Mr. Fulford refused to comply, and forwarded to the Bishop a paper subscribed by two hundred persons, including thirty-nine communicants, stating their satisfaction with the manner in which the service is performed. On the other hand the churchwardens forwarded to the Bishop an address, signed by two hundred and ninety-eight parishioners, including ninety-two communicants, expressive of dissatisfaction at the practice of intoning of the vicar. To this the Bishop has replied as follows:—"Having already declared both to you and to Mr. Fulford my sentiments on the matter in dispute between you—and being not aware of any law of the Church which Mr. Fulford contravenes—I should be exercising authority which does not belong to me, if I were to attempt to deal with the matter more imperatively. In conclusion, I must express my earnest wish, and my sense of the demands of Christian duty, as prescribed by Christian charity, that the minister and the parishioners of Woodbury would strive together in love, rather than seek occasion for crimination and recrimination."

THE BISHOP OF EXETER AND THE DEVONPORT SISTERS OF MERCY.

The Bishop of Exeter has addressed a letter to Miss Sellon, on the subject of Mr. Spurrell's accusations against the Plymouth Sisterhood and that lady's reply. His Lordship states that he has read the "reply" with the attention due to it—

"And which it could not fail to excite in one who feels towards you the sincere admiration which I feel for your deep, continued, constant, unexampled—at least in these latter days—devotion of yourself, your time, your talents of every kind, to the service of your Redeemer and of His poor, His little ones, whom He emphatically regards, not only as His own, but as Himself."

The Bishop then proceeds, to give two reasons why he considers it necessary to withdraw from the office of Visitor to the institution, an office, "which has been, as might be expected, little more than a title." The first reason is, viz., the difficulty of forming a clear and definite idea of the obligation incurred by the sisters in joining the institution. The Bishop thinks that in urging upon Miss— in the strong language of scripture that in leaving the sisterhood she was yielding "to temptation as did Demas," and "loving this world rather than to suffer hardships," Miss Sellon acted inconsistently with the fundamental principle on which his Lordship became Visitor, that there be "free liberty to every sister to withdraw, if it shall so seem good to her."

"Now let me not be misunderstood. I am very far from blaming you and the Sisters at aiming at what is impossible, when you and they have listened to 'that voice in the heart which bids it think no longer of earth, which calls the soul to live only for the Lord, in bringing other souls to Him.' I only mean that this is a course of life beyond and above that which was contemplated when I accepted the office of your Visitor."

The second objection of the Bishop relates to the practice stated by Miss Sellon to exist in the sisterhood, with regard to the property possessed by individual members of it. By the second rule of the society it was provided:—

"That any sister so withdrawing, or in any way ceasing to be a member of the Society, shall be entitled to her own personal property; but neither she nor her heirs shall be entitled to any share of the common property of the Society."

His Lordship thinks that the interpretation given by Miss Sellon of this rule in page 22 of her reply, is such that a sister retiring from the house might be left actually "penniless." After some further observations on this point, the Bishop proceeds:—

"In truth, the progress of your action has been such as makes a Visitor absolutely useless or worse than useless. Such an officer must have either nothing to do, or a great deal to much; for, if he does anything, he must have to enquire into all the internal arrangements of a community of ladies, labouring for the best and noblest ends, yet doing things, be they many or few, in the exercise of their Christian liberty, as allowed by the Church, which the Visitor may deem inexpedient, and even perilous—or, at least, giving scandal not only to the ill-informed, but to many others who are reasonably jealous of anything that has even the semblance of corrupting the purity of doctrine or of practice in our own Apostolic Church. Under these circumstances, it may be the duty of him who is the Visitor—and I frankly own, that I feel it to be my own duty—to avoid the appearance of sanctioning what, if he continues Visitor, he either must have the appearance of sanctioning and approving, or must, by a very questionable exercise of authority, forbid."

Before concluding, the Bishop warns Miss Sellon against exaggerated claims on the obedience of the Sisterhood, and advises her to give up the title of "Spiritual Mother," and be content with that of "Sister in Christ."

POSITION OF ORGANS.—Dr. Wesley, late organist of the Parish Church, Leeds, but now of Winchester Cathedral, has addressed the following letter to the *Salisbury Journal*:—

Sir,—One of your contemporaries, some time since, contained an announcement of its being the intention of the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury to move the organ from the choir-screen to the side of the choir of their Cathedral. The profession to which I belong being rarely consulted on such a subject, and knowing well, as I do, that such a step is highly detrimental to musical effect, I take this means of expressing my opinion that, not only is the effect of an organ injured by placing it at the side instead of the centre of a Cathedral, but the choir service also suffers in various ways.

1. The antiphony is in great measure destroyed.
 2. The singers do not hear the instrument so well.
 3. The congregation, in some situations, either hear too much or too little, which defect is beyond the power of the most judicious accompanist to rectify.
- The musical question, indeed, has long since been settled, and the sad failures in Durham, Canterbury, and Westminster Abbey, where the organ has been moved to the side, but too well confirm the general re-

probation under which the new practice of placing a Cathedral organ at the side of the choir has fallen. If anything could justify such a step, it would be the fact of the architecture of a Cathedral receiving some great and decided improvement thereby, but I am informed that is by no means the case, and moreover, that the choir-screen and organ may both, in themselves, be rendered beautiful objects, and highly conducive to the general effect of the architecture, and the following extract from a letter which I had the pleasure to receive from one of our most eminent architects (Mr. Cockerell), I think goes far to remove all doubt as to the architectural part of the question. Referring to Winchester Cathedral, and the fact of the organ having been displaced formerly, by a "casting vote," he observes:—

"The abandonment of the old English practice of placing the organ over the screen, and the determination, by one vote only, to place it in the north transept, was, architecturally, most unfortunate. It was probably induced first by the ambition to display the longitudinal magnificence by which our English Churches generally surpass the foreign, and secondly by the Gallican taste and practice in leaving the vista of the ceiling open, forgetting, however, that the existence of our Anglican screen made all the difference in the proportion of that vista, since, in France, it is seen to the pavement, while with us it is truncated by the screen. Forgetting also that the apsidal termination, common in France, is vastly superior to our eastern terminations, which are commonly square, especially at Winchester, where the eastern window is truncated, and of very unhappy proportion,—indeed, deformed and painful to the eye accustomed to consider proportion."

"Under these objections, I can never doubt the good effect and the judgment with which Sir C. Wren and all the old masters agreed to place the organ over the screen, thus fulfilling the architectural effect of scenery and the antiphonal use of the organ at the same time. Any new organ, or enlargement of the old, should, in my mind, be restored to the west screen."

As I do not recollect the appearance and design of the organ-case at Salisbury Cathedral, or what the organ is, I can only now speak of the general merits of the question; but, if either the organ or the screen, or both, are unworthy of that most beautiful Church, surely there can be no difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds to perfect and wholly re-arrange these important portions of the Cathedral; or, if their be a difficulty it does not arise, I venture to say, from any defect in the abstract claims of Music and Architecture—for these, I do believe, possess a vitality which will make them endure even so long as the world lasts—but rather in the way in which these subjects have been handled during the last century or so.

Cathedral Architecture seems popular enough, if we may judge from the liberal contributions, by which the sad disasters of fire, in two recent cases at York Minister, were met; but Music is certainly the far more difficult question of the two, and much less understood. It is, in truth, comparatively a new art,—the efforts of modern times so greatly exceed all that was done formerly; and whether this art, in its connection with religion, is done justice to at the present time, is a question requiring a more serious treatment than it is any part of my intention now to enter upon, or than may now, perhaps, at all be desired; but such a question forms no inconsiderable part of an inquiry like the present; for upon the merits of the musical effects of this Cathedral must in some measure depend, it would seem, the raising of funds sufficient to carry out a work of such magnitude and importance as that of furnishing so exquisite a Church with a new west screen and a new organ.

STONE ALTARS AT OXFORD.—The Lord Bishop of Oxford has directed the removal of the stone altars erected in the several cemetery chapels at Oxford. They have since been separated from the walls to which they were attached, and made moveable according to the rubric.

IRELAND.

MORE RIBALDRY AND IRREVERENCE OF THE JOURNAL WHICH ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND PRIESTS DELIGHT TO HONOUR, PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY.

The following is the title of, and an extract from, a leading article in last Saturday's *Tablet*—the chosen and special organ of those who claim for themselves the character of superior reverence, and the possession of the only system which is Catholic and Christian, and which duly cultivates the chastened and subdued spirit appropriate to this Holy and Solemn Season—

A NEW CANDIDATE—THE SLAVE OF PONTIUS PILATE.

* * * * * Sir Thomas Redington has ventured to put himself forward as a candidate for New Ross. Sir Thomas is son-in-law of the sitting member, Mr. Talbot, and is to have all his interest. Sir Thomas, as our readers know, was a Catholic member of the anti-Catholic and persecuting Whig Government; a man whom no amount of outrage and insult upon the religion he professes could drive from his Whig connections; who is now out of office only because the Whigs are out of office; who is on the left-hand side of the Speaker's chair only because his friends and allies, the persecutors of the Church of God, are fallen from place; but who still retains the intention, on all occasions, and under all circumstances, of backing up, even against Almighty God Himself, the political friends to whom he owes the greater part of his respectability.

Mr. O'Connell once derived for the present Chancellor of the Exchequer a very unsavoury pedigree from the impenitent thief, Sir Thomas Redington, we are sure, is of a family quite as old and much more decorous. Through what particular veins, filled with life eighteen hundred years, he draws the moisture that languidly permeates his frame we are not informed; but his spiritual genealogy is very clearly marked; and nothing would surprise us less than, on that great day when the secrets of all hearts shall be known, to find standing, side by side, like Siamese Twins, Sir Thomas Redington and the slave who handed water to Pontius Pilate, when that eminently Whig crucifier of the Son of God washed his craven and loathsome fingers, saying, 'I am innocent of the blood of this Just Man.'

If anything were wanting, in addition to plain historical facts, to shew that those who leave the English Church for the Roman Schism, are under a gross delusion, it would be the circumstance that they leave the Church of Ken, Herbert, Wilson, and Taylor, to unite themselves with Bishops and Priests who, by donations subscriptions, flattering epistles, &c., openly patronize and encourage, the journal which is constantly putting forth such diabolical irreverence as the above.

Again we ask, what can the Maskells, Mannings, and Dodsworths, think of such facts as this?

ENGLAND.

DOMESTIC.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW PLANET.—To the Editor of the Times.—Sir, I have received this morning a letter from Professor de Gasparis, of the Royal Observatory at Naples, announcing his discovery of another small planet on the evening of March 17. The following are its observed places:—

Mean time Naples.	Right Ascension.	North Declination.
h. m. s.	h. m. s.	deg. m. s.
March 17, at 9 52 33	9 57 56.7	12 51 10
March 19, at 8 20 19	9 56 54.2	12 58 19
March 20, at 9 25 27	9 56 21.2	13 1 41

The planet is stated to be equal in brightness to a star of the tenth and eleventh magnitude. I have little doubt that this planet is identical with an object which I entered upon a chart for the 10th hour of right ascension on the 29th of January last in R. A. 10h. 32m. 40s., and north declination 8° 59', and noted as of the eleventh magnitude. This chart was placed in the engraver's hands soon after, but I did not receive a proof until March 18. On the evening of that day I missed the above object, and immediately commenced an examination of the heavens in the vicinity of my bright star Regulus, where I expected to find what I felt certain was a new planet; in fact, I expressed my conviction of having seen one to Mr. Bishop on March 19. My search has been sadly interrupted by thick weather and moonlight; but on the 20th ult. I did enter a star of the eleventh magnitude in R. A. 9h. 56m. 30s., north declination 13° 4', which agrees so closely with the above description by Dr. de Gasparis on the same night that it appears highly probable this was really the new planet. I have waited for the absence of moonlight to renew my search, which, in a week or two longer, could hardly have failed to lead to the re-discovery of the missing star. I mention the above facts without intending to interfere in the slightest degree with the claim of my friend Professor de Gasparis to the honours of this discovery; but simply to show your readers that, had not circumstances occurred to prevent it, which were beyond my control, I should have been able to add this also to our list of English planets. Future calculation will prove whether I am right in identifying our missing star with the planet of Gasparis. I entertain very little doubt of it myself. During the last four years several other planets have escaped me through long continuance of cloudy weather. These remain to be re-discovered. Yours respectfully, J. R. HIND, Mr. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, April 3.

It is not generally known that Lord Derby has written a little book on the "Parables of our Lord," in the form of "Conversations between a Mother and her Child."

ROMANIST TOLERATION.—A young Lady, a native of Lewes (whose name has, in confidence been given to us) this week returned from Italy, where she has been staying some time. She states that when she arrived there the custom officers, in searching her trunk, took away her Bible—the parting present from her father—and during the whole of her stay there she was unable to obtain another copy or even the loan of one, so that she was wholly precluded the use and consolation of the sacred volume! This is Papal toleration!—*Sussex Express*.

The Drapers' Company of London has sent the liberal contribution of 100 guineas, besides an annual subscription of £25, to the Irish Church Missionary Society; and a sum of £50, to the Eanis Fishing Society, which has been established for the employment of converts to Protestantism.

CONSUMPTION OF TEA.—There has been an increase in the quantity of tea entered for home consumption, as appears by the trade and navigation accounts just printed. In the month ended the 5th ult. the quantity chargeable with duty was 4,358,222 lb. In the like period of the preceding year the quantity was 3,975,265 lb. and in the month ended the 5th of March, 1850, the quantity was 3,692,004 lb.

SLAVERY.—A return to the house of Commons has been printed, shewing the number of slaves embarked on the coast of Africa, and landed in Cuba and Brazil for the last ten years. The largest number in one year landed in Cuba was in 1844, when the number was 10,000. The largest number landed in Brazil was in 1848, when the number was 60,000. Last year 5000 slaves were landed in Cuba and 5287 in Brazil.

EXPORTATION OF WHEAT TO PRUSSIA.—A very large quantity of wheat and flour has been shipped from the ports of London and Hull for the ports of Prussia, which will be admitted at only a nominal duty, in consequence of the great scarcity which prevails in that country of every description of grain. Large contracts are stated to have been entered into by some of our leading contractors for that country.

REMARKABLE AND SUCCESSFUL APPEAL TO THE QUEEN.—At the last assizes, at Bury St. Edmunds, a farmer named Baldry, was left for execution, having been found guilty, on the most conclusive evidence, of administering arsenic to his wife, with intent to murder her. Since his condemnation his wife has forwarded a petition, containing a strong appeal to the Queen in his behalf, in which she says, "that your petitioner was not aware that the prisoner's conviction would involve the forfeiture of his life, or your petitioner would, at any risk to herself, have declined to be a party to the prosecution. That your petitioner would learn with more composure that the prisoner was doomed to a long term of transportation or imprisonment, even for a period of his life, that she might be saved, therefore, the misery of knowing that she had destroyed her husband, and that he may be spared for repentance and amendment." On Friday an order was received from the Home Office, respecting the execution of Baldry until the 8th of May. It is understood that his sentence will be commuted to transportation for life.

IRELAND.

DOMESTIC.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* pays the following tribute to the public and private character and conduct of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, during his official sojourn in this country as commander of the Dublin District:—

"Every class of her Majesty's subjects in Ireland will learn with regret that the Duke of Cambridge has resigned his command of this garrison, and will leave our shores this evening, to enter upon his new post of Inspector-General of cavalry in the United Kingdom. During the years that his Royal Highness has served in Ireland, he has won golden opinions from all sorts of people, his frank and courteous bearing having made him peculiarly acceptable to the gentry, whilst those of inferior station have had the best and most substantial reason to appreciate his generous qualities. In his professional capacity he has proved himself

eminently worthy of the confidence of his Sovereign, while his vigilant and uniform attention to the discipline and moral improvement, as well as to the physical comforts of the troops, have earned for him the honourable designation of 'the Soldier's Friend.'

REMITTANCES FROM AMERICA.—The *Galway Mercury*, speaking of the wholesale emigration of the peasantry from that country, remarks that the parties who left within the last two years are now sending home in small sums "an amount of money beyond all former example."

SCOTLAND.

DOMESTIC.

We have much pleasure in having received authority to contradict a paragraph going the round of the papers, copied from the *Leeds Intelligencer*, giving the day when, the place where, and the person by whom the Duchess of Buccleuch was received into the Roman Catholic Church; it is, we are assured, entirely false and a correspondent remarking upon the report says; "Mr. Oakeley told us, in the case of Mr. Pollen (see *guardian* of March 3.), that members of the Church of Rome 'consider it to be of the highest importance to the cause of truth that the progress which the Roman Catholic Church is now making amongst the intelligent educated class should be extensively made known.' Hence, we suppose, these paragraphs."

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

HOLLAND.

RATIONALISM IN HOLLAND.—We borrow from the *Record*, as an unexceptionable witness on a point of this kind, the following description of the state of the Reformed Communion in Holland:—"The Reformed Church of Holland, like the Protestant communities of Germany, is the prey of Rationalism. Free thinking has penetrated every department of Church and State, and its effects are of the most lamentable kind. Not a few of the clergy, in pursuit of this modern science, if it is to be so dignified, have arrived at the conclusion that there is either no God, or that everything is God. Men who regard themselves as philosophic theologians, are on this matter almost united in their views, and are proud of this extreme result of their investigations. Their next step, and one of highest importance, is to make out that man has no soul. With these two great discoveries they think to render invaluable service to humanity, overlooking, in their successful polemics, the fatal consequences, social and moral, which inevitably flow from their theories—that man, without a soul or without a God, cannot be the subject of sin or virtue. Praise and blame are therefore indifferent terms, having no just application to the conduct and actions of mankind. In the presence of such an ethical deliverance, political and social rights are without foundation. But the terrible effects of this free-thinking do not end here. There is no need of a redemption, and, consequently, the new science is quite sure, in the face of all history and evidence, that everything the Bible affirms of the Divine nature and redeeming work of Christ is a cleverer fiction, an artful fabrication. Thus, according to Professor Oproemer, of Utrecht, all that the intolerant party of the orthodox—the 'slaves of the formula,' as they are disdainfully called—in harmony with every age, has been wont to call the Gospel, is, in the view of the men of higher and progressive science, nothing more than a wasp's nest of fables. The divines of Groningen call the recognition of the Bible as God's word, *bibliolatry*; the reception of the doctrine of the inerrability of the apostles, *apostle-deification* (*apostelvergoding*); that of the atonement, *blood-theology* and, finally, to maintain orthodox sentiments is to break the great command of Christianity—that is, love. Such are the sentiments now prevalent in the higher circles of Holland; boldly taught from its pulpits, and controlling the actions of the State. It is, however, to some extent consolatory, that they are not very generally held by the body of the people."

ROME.

ANGLICAN PERVERTS AT ROME.—A portion of the old Palace of the Spinal family, at the foot of the Vatican, is about to be formed into a special establishment to prepare for the priesthood such Protestant clergymen as shall after their perversion to Popery desire to take Popish orders. Cardinal Castaldi, in the seventeenth century, bequeathed this Palace as an asylum for persons who had sacrificed their position by embracing the Popish faith, whence its name, "Palace of the *Convertiti*." The Pope has taken the expense of the proposed establishment on his private purse.

Colonial.

On Wednesday, 14th inst., the beautifully situated town of Cobourg presented a most attractive appearance, occasioned by the marriage of the daughter of the Ven. Archdeacon Bethune, D. D., to the Rev. Walter Stennett, M. A., one of the Masters of Upper Canada College.

The Parish Church of St. Peters, in which many a happy pair, now resident in Cobourg, had been united in the solemn bonds of matrimony, was the place where was "given away" the fair and accomplished daughter of the worthy Rector.

Three o'clock in the afternoon was the hour at which the ceremony took place; and long ere that period the church was crowded, with not only its own members, but also others of different denominations, who took a deep interest in the happy event.

With the punctuality which has long been one of his most prominent characteristics, the Venerable Dr. Bethune, with his lovely daughter leaning on his arm, entered the church followed by the bridal train.

At this peculiarly interesting moment, the countenances of all who thronged the sacred edifice, exhibited feelings of respect, commingled with delight; respect for their honoured Rector, of which they from time to time had given him so many proofs—of delight on seeing his only daughter, endeared to them all from childhood, by her many virtues, about to be united to a Clergyman, distinguished as a scholar, admired as an exemplary character, and one in every respect worthy of her hand and affections.

The bride was attired in white silk, without her bonnet. Her ringlets were interwoven with orange blossoms, and from them flowed o'er her graceful figure the nuptial veil.

The bridesmaids, seven in number, wore white muslin dresses; and the whole bridal party, as they stood around the altar, presented the same appearance of neatness and correct taste.

The service was performed by the Rev. J. Wilson, of Grafton, assisted by Rev. H. Brent, of Kingston. Immediately after the ceremony, the whole party