

by the third chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, especially by verses 14—18, and 35, 36, and recommended him to read Heb. xi.

*December 25th.*—This was an eventful day. Our two Jewish brethren were admitted into the Christian church by the sacred ordinance of baptism. Mr. Davis conducted the baptismal service in the Hebrew language. As soon as the baptism was over, Signor Lanvillia, the Roman Catholic, presented himself, and was interrogated by Mr. Davis as to the reasons why he was about to renounce the errors of the Papacy. Having answered satisfactorily, Mr. Davis admitted him as a member of his Protestant congregation. I then concluded the service, and preached a sermon suitable to the occasion, both as commemorative of the birth of our Saviour Christ, and also of the new birth in Christ of those who have this day avouched their faith publicly. I addressed myself in conclusion especially to my newly instituted brethren in the Christian church in the Hebrew language, exhorting them to be watchful in prayer, so that they might daily grow in the knowledge and fear of our Lord Jesus till they should come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

*December 26th.*—Mr. Davis preached. We administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to a goodly number of Christians, amongst whom were our three new members. I performed the Hebrew service in the afternoon, and preached from Gen. xlix. 10. The Jews who attended the service expressed themselves much gratified by what they heard.

#### United States.

**SECESSION FROM THE CHURCH OF ROME.**  
—On Sunday, November 12, thirty-six families seceded from the Church of Rome, in Rochester, N. Y., under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Giustiniani, who has been labouring among the German population of that city about two months and a half.

**DELEGATION FROM IRELAND.**—The last *New York Observer* announces the arrival at that city of the Rev. Dr. Dill, and the Rev. Mr. Simpson, who have come to obtain funds, in view of the important opening recently made for religious efforts among the Roman Catholics of that land.

Rev. Dr. Dill is General Agent of the Home Mission Scheme of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and has been long known as a valiant champion of Protestantism. Mr. Simpson has formerly visited the States, and is favorably known there.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian Ministers held on the 27th ultimo, resolutions were passed expressive of sympathy, and

cordially recommending them and their object to the attention of the Presbyterian churches in this country.

#### Texas.

The Mexican mind is becoming gradually enlightened, and there appears to be an increasing desire that their children should have an English education. My day-school is opened every morning, by reading a chapter of the Bible, and prayer; and the Mexican children appear to be delighted to read the small books I lend them at the close of the week. We have here at present, a converted Catholic monk, sent here by the Evangelical Society in New York. He is an excellent man, has opened a school for poor Mexican children, and, in a short time, will commence preaching to the people in their own language, he being a native Spaniard. He seems to be especially raised up for the work in this place. He is an intelligent man, of ardent piety, prudent in all his operations, and winning his way to the minds of the Mexican population. The Catholic bishop has recently been here, devising means to prevent his influence. The priests are afraid to manifest the Catholic spirit towards American Protestants, but have not failed to show the spirit of papacy towards the Spaniard, by warning the Mexicans against him publicly and in private. They have become alarmed for the safety of Catholicism here, and have contracted for the building of a large nunnery and school. I have more than thirty Catholic Mexican children in my day-school, who are becoming acquainted with the Scriptures. I consider this a very important point for operating on Mexico. Many of the families who reside here have relations in different parts of Eastern Mexico, who frequently visit their friends here, and carry back with them tracts, and copies of the New Testament in Spanish. There is a large Mexican population in the neighbourhood of the Rio Grande, and when the Americans establish trading points along that river, there will be increasing facilities for conveying religious books into Mexico. I have sent a large number of tracts with traders, and some copies of the Bible. Our population, during the last year, has rapidly increased, both Mexican and American. Our present population is between four and five thousand from five hundred to one thousand Americans; the remainder Mexicans, Germans, and French, and there is a prospect of a continued increase. The Mexican Catholics are not so prejudiced against Protestantism as those of European nations. They are more docile, have a favourable opinion of Americans, and are anxious their children should have an English education.—*Missionary Chronicle.*