

future of France, when among her soldiers are found men willing to stand and to suffer for their adherence to religious truth and duty. These occurrences created wonderful excitement, and the attention of the government being enlisted, an attempt was made to smooth matters over for the present. This state of matters however cannot last. An influential and able French Protestant writer thus expresses himself: "Must the Papists, implacably hostile to liberal and republican institutions, continue to be treated, ninety-two years after the French Revolution and in the eleventh year of our third republic, as though Romanism were the state religion? And are we to be exposed, next year and the next, we Protestants who hold that God cannot be eaten, that he dwells not in the 'tabernacles' of the Romish priests, and that the 'Heaven of heavens cannot contain Him,' to see our children and our brothers under the flag constrained to kneel and present arms in an idolatrous ceremony, which has no other end than the glorification of the Roman clergy, and that under penalty of submitting to the fate of the Lieutenant of Auxonne or that of the Corporal of Laon? . . . The situation is insupportable."

These are noble words. The liberals, also, irrespective of religion, are loud in their clamors for the repeal of the obnoxious laws.

The action of the Southern Baptist Mission Board in cancelling the appointment of the Rev. Messrs. Stout and Bell as missionaries to China, has again brought the "inspiration of the Bible" before the minds of the Christian public. The brethren mentioned hold loose views in reference to the evangelical doctrine of *plenary* inspiration; hence the Board thought it unwise to entrust such teachers with the work of laying the foundations of their Baptist christianity in the far east, and for this faithfulness to their trust, as well as to their Master, they have been roundly abused by some religious journals, from which better things might have been expected. It is pleasant however to note that able pens are not wanting in defence of the Board in the loyal stand which they took, and hold in reference to the Old Book. Discussion is healthful, specially when the Bible is the theme. It has come through all the fires of the past unscorched, like fine gold seven times purified. Each generation needs to be taught that God has given a correct revelation of his mind and will to men, and those that deny this fact are not qualified to christianise the heathen, however eminent in other respects, and, consequently, must give place.

"Another Indian war! O Lord, how long? It begins with a terrible massacre of soldiers." These are the opening words of an article in a United States journal just to hand, and they indicate the feelings with which Christian people view those Indian wars, the world over.

A sad story comes from the State of Michigan. Forest fires swept over whole townships and villages destroying several hundred lives, and leaving many more homeless sufferers without food or shelter to face the approaching winter. It is pleasant to notice that measures are being taken in other sections to furnish relief.