

which we will carry into effect until they exhibit some symptoms of contrition and amendment for their past misdeeds. They were the first to dare this contest, and its continuance or discontinuance depends not on us but on themselves.

GREAT BIBLICAL MEETING.

One of the most abstruse questions in political economy, which has been of late mooted in the newspapers and never satisfactorily answered is

'What becomes of all the Pins?'

They are made in countless millions at the time, and yet they all disappear, no one knows where! The Pin-makers however, give themselves very little trouble about the solution of this problem, for the fate of the pins, for they know this rapid and mysterious disappearance is all for the benefit of trade.

We are beginning to think that the Great Pin question, will be greatly superseded by the Great Bible question, and that every body will begin to ask every other body:

'What in the name of wonder becomes of *all the Bibles*!!!' When we read the Report of Bible Meetings at home and abroad for the last twenty years—the enormous sums of money subscribed—the huge cargoes of Bibles said to be sent to every part of the globe—the millions and millions of copies said to be distributed amongst the army, and the navy, the Poor Houses, and Hospitals, the Schools and Colleges, the Mines and Factories, the Cottages and Fields, the black and white, the Mussulman and Hindoo, 'the heathen,' the Jew, the 'wild Irish' and the 'far Colonist.' We are really at a loss to discern what becomes of *all the Bibles*! The English world at home and abroad has been flooded with them. You meet nothing but Bibles wherever you go. They are quite a drug in the literary market, to be had every where, of all sizes, and at any price, and at no price at all; nay with a *strong bonus* for accepting one. In fact they are much cheaper than the pins, as a certain number of the latter will cost a copper, whilst you can have any given quantity of Bibles for nothing at all, with thanks and donkeys into the bargain. Go through London or any of the great English towns and you will find all the Bookstalls, and old curiosity shops, and Pawnbrokers stores crammed full with Bibles and Testaments, such places being no doubt general Depositories of Books for the various Bible Societies of England, to be thence transmitted to every part of the Globe.

It would seem, however, that Nova Scotia has been sadly neglected in the general distribution. We thought we had more than a Bible for every family and almost every individual in the Province. But there appears to be a great dearth still, and hence there was a Great Bible Meeting held the other night in the Presbyterian Church, and it was attended by Baptist, and Church of England Clergymen, and by representatives of as great a confusion of creeds as there was of tongues at the Tower of Babel, though not one present could prove that the English copy of the Bible is the pure, unadulterated Word of God, faithfully translated from the original. The Speeches were of the usual character, but the 'tittle of the whole' subscribed, amounted to the magnificent sum of Eighteen Pounds, be the same more or less, according to the Report in the Guardian. We confess these Bible exhibitions surpass all reasonable comprehension, and we cannot help asking again and again

'What becomes of all the Bibles?'

The agents and foreign correspondents of the Bible Societies don't care.

HALIFAX IRISH RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The Managing Committee of this christian and patriotic Association have already sent £100 sterling to the Four Catholic Archbishops of Ireland, for distribution amongst their suffering people. At the request of the Committee the money was transmitted by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Walsh to his Grace Dr. Murray. We also understand that the Bishop forwarded £25 sterling to the same distinguished Prelate, being a small token of sympathy from the Catechetical Society at St. Mary's. The Irish Society too have sent their Hundred Pounds Sterling, (the offering of hearts as sterling as the money), and the general subscription in the City has already exceeded Two Thou-

sand Pounds of our Currency. Halifax, ever foremost in the race of benevolence, has nobly done its duty on this occasion.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received the letter of a mere Irishman, and were much amused at its very clever sketches of some prominent mischief makers in Halifax who have thriven by Catholic custom, and made fortunes by Catholic clients. But the time has not yet arrived for its publication. We were not so much in the dark as our correspondent imagines. We knew almost from the beginning the names, and secret proceedings of the cowardly batch of bigots, who have urged and sustained this wicked warfare against Catholicity and Ireland in the *Times*, *Guardian*, et hoc genus omne, and the entire Catholic community in Halifax and Nova Scotia will know them before long. Some of the most virulent of the pack who have been taken from their obscure dunghills and pushed into the world by the aid of Catholics and the patronage of Catholic Priests, are already beginning to take the alarm. Not that the dark-hearted villains repent of their ingratitude; but they are beginning to tremble for the consequences of exposure. We know our men, and we will bide our time. A few signal examples once made, and the community will be saved for a long time from the horrors of religious strife.

Extract of a letter, dated Rome, 14th January, 1847, and addressed by the Rev. Doctor Cui, President of the Irish College there, to his Grace Archbishop Murray:—

I write this hurried line to communicate a matter which, I am sure, will be the source of great consolation to your grace; our good and holy pontiff, Pius IX., filled with compassion for the sufferings of the poor in Ireland, has authorized a public subscription to be made in Rome, for their relief, and has commenced the good work by giving, at his own contribution, one thousand dollars (250*l.*) Millions of the poor will, I trust, raise their voices to the Throne of Mercy to implore the choicest blessings of Heaven on so tender-hearted a father, and to pray for the preservation of so great a Pontiff. His charity knows no bounds—it is equal to that of St. Paul. Only a few days ago he had to contribute immense sums to the relief of his own poor subjects, who suffered severely from an inundation of the Tiber. He is now ready to stretch out his hand to alleviate the misery and affliction of our poor countrymen.

All I shall add is, that God may reward with his choicest favours, both here and hereafter, a charity so vast and so fervent.

Cardinal Fransoni, who is a model of every Christian virtue, was the first to propose a subscription for the poor in Ireland. He has not only promised to contribute to the charity himself, but he has kindly undertaken, at the Pope's request, to receive and to remit to Ireland all the alms which shall be collected from the public.

Your Grace will be happy to learn that the English and Irish here are not looking on with indifference at the distresses of our poor. A very respectable meeting was held yesterday, in Piazza di Spagnat, which Colonel Bryan, of Kilkenny, Captain Pakenham, Mr. Whiteside, Rev. Mr. Hutchinson, the Protestant resident minister, and several other distinguished Protestants and Catholics attended, to take into consideration the sufferings of the poor in Ireland, and to devise means to relieve them. All were unanimous in determining to exert themselves in the cause of humanity, and all will contribute generously to some of the Irish relief funds. These gentlemen deserve great credit for their zeal and benevolence. I am sure their example will produce a great effect, and be the means of making many think of poor Ireland. I hope, indeed, on this trying occasion, Rome will distinguish herself and the world see that she is not only the centre of faith, but also the soul of charity.

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