

left to be supplied by the churches. Time is needed to educate Englishmen up to this point, but these two things are gradually becoming plain to them: 1. That the denominational system, in which there is entire liberty of dogmatic instruction, does not supply the wants of the people, and involves the legislature in a maze of interdenominational strifes. 2. That a truly public system, supported by general rates and administered by a mixed board, cannot provide for such religious teaching as will satisfy all parties, and yet offend none.

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The Biblical Revision Movement certainly makes some progress. The subject was mooted in the House of Commons, by Mr. Charles Buxton, but Mr. Gladstone, on behalf of the Government, declined to take up the proposal as a national undertaking, and left it to the religious bodies. The Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, under the lead of Bishop Wilberforce, have issued a very judicious scheme, and have wisely agreed to call in the aid of learned men of other religious bodies, such as Dr. W. L. Alexander, Dr. Ginsburg, and Professor Newth, from among ourselves; Drs. Gotch, Angus, and B. Davies, Baptists, and representatives of the Presbyterians, Wesleyans, Unitarians and Catholics. Even thus widened, however, all America is left out; the Convocation of York stands aloof; and these *collaborateurs* do not stand on the same footing as the revisors proper. We don't think it will work.

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Church Establishments are getting no rest now-a-days. The Radical Reformers are attacking them on all sides, and going ahead so fast, as to compel Mr. Gladstone to take the *role* of Conservative. One day the Episcopal Church in Wales, with its large revenues and scanty adherents, is called in question, the next, private patronage of livings is assailed, and the next, the Bishops are proposed to be relieved of their attendance in the House of Lords. All these things fail, of course, at present, but all the great reforms begin with defeats. The Ritualists rejoice to see the day of "emancipation" dawning upon them.

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Ecclesiastical affairs in Scotland are in a very seething condition. The Established Church has resolved against patronage. The Free Church is divided on the Union question,—a large majority being in favour of amalgamation with the United Presbyterians, but a powerful minority standing out to the last. It seems as if the delay would be the means of sweeping all together into one church. This would be, if the Kirk were disestablished. A consummation nearer than many think.

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The Infallibility Decree moves slowly on, like the Car of Juggernaut, crushing many a victim under its ponderous wheels. Like that, too, it is a veritable idol, the work of men's hands. And like that, again, being made of common timber, it will be easily consumed with fire. The opposition in the Council are playing their part manfully, and we must admire the moral courage of these defenders of a losing cause. They are the best men of the body, and the representatives of the most enlight-