

the religious, the Alliance still thrives and is no doubt doing a good work, if not so great as its projectors fourteen years ago anticipated. As the Dean of Carlisle pleasantly remarked in his inaugural address—

It has been said, though not unkindly, by secular writers, that they, the members of the Evangelical Alliance, were simple-minded, harmless people, who met together once a year to say how much they loved each other. Now he accepted the soft impeachment—even if the Christians only met to shake hands and say how much they loved each other, the *Times* might write till Doomsday before it persuaded him it was not a good thing to do so. He held that this alone was a great object, to meet together for the purpose of softening down the little asperities and roughnesses of each other's character. Another objection he had heard was this. A friend said to him, "You are a Churchman, and you go to this Alliance and meet a person who is, perhaps, a violent opponent to a State Church. Well, you shake hands with him and say how glad you are to see him, and come away and continue to uphold the church whilst he, perhaps, is using all his efforts to pull it down." Granted, but what then? Would not both go about their work in better spirit for having met? Would they be any the worse for having ascertained how many points there were upon which they agreed? But they did not only meet to say how much they had loved each other. They met for an additional purpose, to call out and enjoy that which could not be enjoyed except among true believers—the communion of saints.

Yes, if it is only to shake hands and say how much they love each other, good is done. The presence of one not unknown to us in Canada—Father Chiniquy—was greeted with "immense cheering." A special meeting was held on the evening of the third day of the session, at which he delivered an address on the present religious condition of Canada. The chapel was densely crowded, and a collection was made in aid of the Rev. Pastor's work in America. Prof. Gibson—whose "Year of Grace" is just now being read with so much delight by thousands on this continent—gave a paper on the present aspect of the Irish Revivals. We may add, in passing, that his statements are borne out fully by Mr. Scott, the Chamberlain of the City of London, who writes a couple of letters to the *Nonconformist* on the same subject. Prof. Gibson says—

"The Physical phenomena that attracted so much notice at the outset were now but little heard of. The revival work had passed into a different phase from that which it exhibited in 1859. The mighty gatherings that were then commenced had by a common resistless impulse all but disappeared, and had been succeeded by the more unnoticed but not less edifying assemblies for social worship; the agitation upon the surface of the waters had abated, but the undercurrent ran on with deep and steady flow, laden with blessings. The speaker then referred to the existing evidences of the continuance of the good work. These he gathered mainly from official sources. It was in the first week in July last that the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, representing several hundred congregations which had been visited twelve months before, held its annual meeting. Reports upon the subject were then adduced and discussed, and a more conclusive testimony could not be borne to the reality and extent of the moral and spiritual revolution that had occurred in Ulster. The communicants of the Church had been increased in unprecedented numbers; in some cases, within a brief period, 100, 150, 200, 250, and even 300 having been received into fellowship, while individuals who had lived for years in utter neglect of all church usages had come forward and made voluntary confession of their sin. Meetings for prayer abounded, and, in one instance, one presbytery had 120 meetings every week. Other equally interesting illustrations were given by the professor. There was a great reduction in the number of criminal cases in the court of assize and quarter sessions, and judges and barristers on the bench had once and again adverted to the improvement observable in this respect. At a public meeting in Belfast, the Rev. H. Ward, a devoted and esteemed minister of the Episcopal Church