

Of these qualifications the first is, a knowledge of the Gospel. Our Lord commanded his apostles to "teach all nations, baptizing them" in the name of the Holy Trinity. With adult persons, teaching must precede baptism; and he who is taught must learn and understand, since this is the end of teaching. Those who were baptized on the day of Pentecost were "they that gladly received the word" of Peter. The Ethiopian eunuch had just inquired of Philip the meaning of Isaiah in a certain prophecy of the suffering Messiah; and Philip had "begun at the same Scripture, and preached to him Jesus." Saul, before his baptism had been taught by the Lord himself; taught more in one moment than we can learn from the study of volumes on the doctrines or evidences of Christianity. Cornelius declared that he and his friends were "all present before God to hear all things that were commanded" the apostle; and they heard before they were baptized. Lydia "attended to the things which were spoken of Paul" before she was baptized, and her household. The jailer at Philippi, though, after the earthquake which released his prisoners, "he was baptized, he and all his straightway," yet was not baptized till they had first "spoken unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house." The twelve disciples of John the Baptist at Ephesus, heard from Paul how John had testified of "him which shall come after him;" and then "they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." Simple and brief, in all these instances, must have been the instruction. Much more has been placed before every child who has learned his catechism. Whatever truths were taught by the apostles at such times are preserved for us in their history or their epistles. They are known to you and to all who have read the New Testament. Very indistinct, it is true, are often the religious ideas of those who must yet be quite familiar with the words of the Scriptures. But when the heart is but awakened, the very truths which had been so indistinct at once stand forth as if in letters of living light. They have long since been presented to the understanding, and locked up in the memory. Nothing is needed to make the meaning clear and decisive, except that attention which is always given by those who ask indeed what they must do to be saved. This attention made the hearers of the Gospel such rapid scholars. Where this attention has been awakened, that knowledge of the Gospel which has been gathered from childhood upward, is at once sufficient to guide the soul to its Redeemer and its duty. You can have no doubt that you have, or that at least in a few days or hours you could obtain so much of this knowledge as is required in a candidate for Christian communion. It is well that every such candidate should employ himself diligently in the study of the Scripture, as a special preparation; for his knowledge can not be too clear or too abundant. But it is not well, it is utterly wrong, that he should wait till on every question of Christian doctrine he has arrived at conclusions founded upon his own inquiries, and perfectly satisfactory to his own understanding. Such an one would cease to be a learner, a disciple, before he takes upon him the character of a disciple. That knowledge is enough to prepare for baptism, which is enough to show the way to Christ and to heaven.

(Conclusion next week.)

News Department.

Extracts from English Papers by the Arabia.

ENGLAND.

A report has been made by the Board of Health on the progress made by the various companies in carrying out the Metropolis Water Act. The provisions of the act, the report states, have been complied with in every essential particular, and, as a consequence there is a palpable improvement in the London water. Its hardness is a little less, and the amount of organic matter much less. The West Middlesex Company's water now contains only 0.96 grains per gallon of organic matter, the New River Company's is nearly as pure, while the largest amount of organic matter mentioned as found is 1.42 grains per gallon. The result has been obtained chiefly by going higher up the river for the supply, three companies who used to take their water from Kew, Barnes, and Battersea, now get it at Hampton; the Lambeth Company, which formerly dealt out Thames water from Hungerford bridge, now get their supply from Thames Ditton. Several companies however, who have not changed their source, have effected great and perceptible improvement by filtration and general management. £2,282,824 have been expended by the several companies in carrying out these improvements. The daily water supply of London amounts now to upwards of eighty million

gallons per day: in 1850 the consumption was 164 gallons per house: it is now 246 gallons per house.—The total length of water pipes in the metropolis, exclusive of the private service pipes, is estimated at 2,086 miles.

An inquiry has been opened at the Greenwich Police court, under the Merchant Shipping Act, into the recent loss of the mail steamer *Tay*. Her captain, Mr. Strutt, attributed the disaster to the influence of an extraordinary current running southward, the said current having been caused by a heavy hurricane which it was subsequently learned had blown on the 27th and 28th of August on the north side of Cuba. Such a hurricane would produce what was called a "storm wave," which would continue until it broke upon some shore, however distant. The *Tay*, passing a dangerous part of the coast exactly at the time the "storm wave" was approaching, felt the effects of its current without warning, and struck. The same opinion was given by the other officers of the vessel. The inquiry stands adjourned.

NAPLES.

The correspondent of the *Times* furnishes a detailed account of the circumstances attending the departure of the Legation:—

"On the 16th of October M. Dessaux brought despatches from the French Governor to Baron Brenier. Mr. Brown arrived on the 17th with despatches from Mr. Petre. On the 18th the two Ministers called on Sig. Carafa, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and having informed him of the object of their visit, requested an audience of his Majesty. It is said that a telegraph message was sent to Gaeta that the King was not disposed to see them, and referred them to Signor Carafa. (On this point rests some little doubt, some authorities say that Baron Brenier saw his Majesty.) On the same day, after a consultation in the house of M. Brenier, the contents of the English and French despatches were sent to his Majesty, with a view of ascertaining the resolution of the King. At this meeting were present, separately and for a few moments, General Martini, the Austrian Minister, and M. Katschinski, the Russian Minister. On the 20th the answer from Gaeta arrived, that his Majesty had no answer to return to the despatches. On the 21st M. Brenier and Mr. Petre presented themselves to M. Carafa at the moment when the Ministers were sitting in counsel. Almost the whole of them on their arrival left the room, the President Troja, Sig. Carafa, and Signor Cassini, Ministers of the affairs of Sicily alone remaining. Carafa received the Ministers of the allied powers, who demanded their passports, and an intimation of it was sent to the King. I may assert on indisputable authority, that his Majesty has not made the slightest advance to conciliation; he has taken his stand, *ruat cælum*. The Papal Government has counselled conciliation; so has the Russian Minister, and the Austrian also recently I am told; but he fully persuaded that there is an under current of diplomacy going on between the Imperial and Royal families, and that there resistance is counselled. I believe that several of the members of his own family counsel conciliation to his Majesty, but with no effect. On the 26th, to pursue my diary, the Ministers of the allied Powers left, as I informed you. Great apprehensions were entertained for the peace of the capital; the low police and their dependents had wished to hiss M. Brenier, but the good sense and energy of M. Bianchini suppressed it. Where the road goes off to Leprano on the right, and to Terracina on the left, I am told that gendarmes were placed on the route of the French Minister. The Prefect of police had for several nights remained at the Prefecture to be ready for all eventualities. One of the first acts of his Majesty after the Ministers had left was to send a rescript (private) to the Minister of Police, announcing that the subjects of England and France were now under his protection, and enjoining every caution to guard against their being insulted. It was as follows:—

"NAPLES, Oct. 27.—I must engage you to be extremely vigilant in the places of your administration, in order to prevent the origin of even the slightest question with French and English subjects, and in case such cases arise it is desirable that you should endeavour to arrange them in the best mode—defending to the utmost the rights, persons, property of the French and English. In fine, you must absolutely prevent the occurrence of any incidents, anticipating them with all the means which are at the disposal of the authorities, and should they take place, terminating them directly. You are too prudent not to perceive how much care and diligence are needed on your part scrupulously to carry out such a determination. How great a responsibility will rest on those authorities through whose supineness and neglect the above mentioned incidents, wherever they arise, are not terminated immediately.

"Acknowledge the receipt of this order."

"On Wednesday, the 29th, his Majesty came in from Gaeta, and entered the palace after dusk by the gates of the arsenal. On the 30th of the month a council, some say of general officers, was held (many certainly paid their respect), and there was a council of Ministers, of which, of course, there is nothing to report—all councils of Ministers being solemn comedies. As soon as the council was over, his Majesty galloped and steamed back to Gaeta, being accompanied, it was observed, by Prince Iuchitella (formerly Minister of War, and who was so insultingly dismissed) as far as the railway. Such is a correct report of events, I think, up to the present time. With respect to the national troops, I may observe that a portion of them are indisposed to fire upon the people in the event of any disturbance. Another portion appear to wait the opportunity of measuring themselves with the Swiss; others look forward to such a sack as took place in 1848; and others again to return to their homes. There is a report, which I cannot confirm, that Mezza has been to Gaeta, and that he presides at meetings where are present the notorious Campagna, Merenda, Manolta, Criscuolo, Barone, Checco, and others. My impression, on the contrary, is that the Government now exerts itself to keep these, once its chosen instruments, in order. But how infamous must have been the system pursued where all men of rank, character, or education have been set aside, where the dregs have come upwards, and the entire control of the country placed in the hands of men whose dreaded excesses may now compromise the safety of the Throne itself. All regular business is, of course, interrupted; every class is loud in its maledictions of a Government which is the sole cause of this disorder; nor are the Western Powers spared by reason of their weak, vacillating, and ill-conceived measures. On Thursday night a French steamer and an English gun boat, the *Wanderer*, came into port; the latter with despatches for the captain of the *Centaur*, which it expected to have found here. As the *Wanderer* had come from Malta, she was put into quarantine for some days, a quarantine from Malta having been put on the last week. It is curious that, unlike the usual practice, no reason is assigned for this—it is a simple order. During the last three days two manifestoes have been circulated widely, translations of which I send you. The longest proceeds from the most moderate party, who, while they ask for the Constitution as their right, still appeal to the King. The second proceeds from a more advanced party, who make no allusion to the King, and stand upon their rights alone. I am informed that they have been widely circulated."

"At an early hour on Tuesday morning the Commissary of the Liviera di Chiaja made his appearance with perhaps fifty of his men, and dotted them about in the neighborhood of the French Legation. These again were supported by spies in all directions, and still more effectually by patrols of gendarmes placed within sight of each other, and extending full two miles through the Toledo and down the Foria. Altogether there could not have been a display of less than 2,000 men in the employ of the police. The Government, therefore, made the demonstration, not the Liberals, and it is a proof of the arbitrary system which is practised in Naples that so great a force was deemed necessary to suppress all expressions of respect for the Ministers of two great nations. Baron Brenier left the legation at about 10 o'clock, in a carriage drawn by six horses, with an outrider, and followed by a fourgon with his attendants and his baggage. What is that paltry little one-horse wagon which follows in the train of the Minister of Imperial France? That hired carozza holds a Commissary of Police and a well known spy, whose name I forbear to mention. This guard never deserts him until he arrives at the Capo di Chino. It watches to see whether some poor Neapolitan may not address some *ultima verba* to the baron; and having seen him safely beyond the barrier, it returns. On arriving at the entrance of the Toledo and throughout the city there was the same display of the civil force. Many gentlemen were in the streets, and many had retired within the shops, but there was a general raising of hats as M. Bernier passed, and in the Largo di Mercatello I am told that flowers were thrown from the windows. In the afternoon of the same day, at 3 o'clock, the British Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Petre, accompanied by Mr. Plunkett and the First Secretary of the French Legation left Naples. There was the same display of force as in the morning, and pretty nearly the same incidents took place."

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The present condition of this province affords, we think, to every lover of his country, cause for sincere