

under discussion, and forms, alas! a new source of virulence between the church and the dissenters. The Home Secretary is making inquiry through the poor law commissioners, respecting religious destitution in England and Wales. Persevering efforts are made to induce government to withdraw all countenance and support from the idolatrous worship of the Hindoos. Sabbath desecration, by new post office arrangements and running of rail-road cars and stage coaches, is zealously opposed by the church. In this opposition the Presbytery of Edinburgh has taken the lead with success. O'Connell and agitation still prevail in Ireland. The precursor associations, established by the agitator professedly with the view of making a last attempt to obtain justice for Ireland without repeal, are rapidly extending. Orange associations are also reviving. The new law converting tithes in Ireland into a rent charge, to be paid by the landlords, is going into operation, not without violent opposition on the part of those who contend for the entire abolition of tithes. An opinion seems to gain ground that the Romish priesthood are seeking possession of the tithes. Murders and outrages are still of every day occurrence in that unhappy country. The Earl of Norbury, a distinguished protestant peer, has fallen by the hand of an assassin. The discussion of Canadian affairs in Parliament is looked forward to with great interest by all parties, and Canada at present has evidently a more extensive hold of public attention in Great Britain than at any former period. The ecclesiastical questions of this colony are also attracting considerable attention in Great Britain, and are beginning to be better understood. The conduct and views of the Episcopal leaders are generally disapproved of by the British peers. The Imperial Parliament met in the beginning of the present month.

BRITISH INDIA.—Some troubles seem to have threatened British India on the Burmese frontier. The British residents at the court of Birmah had been subjected to a sort of imprisonment on an unhealthy island, and the Indian Government had ordered troops to march to avenge the insult. Our recently acquired territory on that frontier is attracting great attention as likely to furnish an inexhaustible supply of tea, equal to that of China. A deplorable reluctance is manifested by the executive government of India, to withdraw their countenance and support from idolatry. At present they superintend the collection and application of taxes for the erection of Brahminical and Mohammedan temples, and the support of their false and idolatrous worship; and in certain of the religious festivals of the natives, the troops are compelled to attend and offer military honours. The resignation of Sir P. Maitland, commander-in-chief in India, through conscientious objections to these unworthy practices, affords a noble exemplification of Christian principle and self-denial. This example, it is said, has already been followed by some

others. Having once attracted attention, this abominable system cannot prevail much longer. The disputes between the Grand Seigneur and his refractory vassal Mahemet Ali of Egypt, appear to have been arranged, through the interposition of Britain, whose policy seems to require the preservation of the integrity of the Turkish dominions. The Pacha of Egypt is vigorously prosecuting his various plans of improvement. He has taken some effective steps for the advancement of education. The Sultan among other recent changes, has done much to introduce European habits into domestic life, and for the emancipation of the far ~~xx~~ from bondage and degradation. The territories which Russia has acquired, and is endeavoring to acquire, in the regions of Georgia, Circassia, &c., seem not easy to be secured. The Circassians have attacked the Russians successfully, and seem bent on vigorous resistance. Discontent is said to prevail extensively among the subjects and even soldiers of Russia in this quarter. The condition of the East will be very greatly and favorably affected by the completion of the projected routes of communication. The route from the Mediterranean to the Euphrates, and by that river to the Persian gulf, is not to be despaired of, and will open up to European influence the most interesting regions. The route by the Nile to Cairo, thence to Suez, and from that down the Red Sea is already extensively travelled, abridging the journey to India by one half as to time, and also opening up an important and extensive field for Christian as well as commercial enterprise. The overland journey from Cairo to Suez is at present the only disagreeable part of the route; but stations for the refreshment of travellers are now being prepared, and a railroad or canal is projected.

France is extending and securing her newly acquired dominions on the Barbary coast. Great rejoicing has been occasioned in France by the recent birth of the Count of Paris, son of the heir apparent to the throne. The Romish priesthood are bestirring themselves to regain and extend their spiritual power and influence among the people. Protestantism and evangelical religion seem still to enjoy a season of revival in France, and an active but very inadequate instrumentality is in operation for the diffusion of gospel truth. A weekly newspaper called "L'Espérance," is about to be published for the advancement of Evangelical sentiments.

Spain remains in the same miserable condition—torn by civil war. It is difficult to tell which party (Christino or Carlist) has the superiority.

POLAND.—Another conspiracy of the Poles against their Russian oppressors has been detected, and great numbers of the accused are dragged from their country, and exiled to Siberia. In Russia a conspiracy, the nature and objects of which are not very apparent, but evidently of considerable extent and importance, has recently been discovered, and many persons near the court and in the army at various distant points, have been arrested in consequence.