

what he believes. Mr. Lucas tell us in the *Tablet* of December 16, 1854: "The blear-eyed and the blind advocates of error are naturally ill at ease in presence of those dazzling splendours. But very lately the Protestantism of England, foaming and disheveled like a drunken sibyl, stammered and mumbled malicious prophecies about the fall of the Church and the Papacy. Now, however, those who have eyes to see can see, and it seems pretty plain after all that the sorceress derived her inspirations as well as her fury from the *Father of Lies*." After those not very gentle or charitable epithets it cannot be unfair to reveal "the dazzling splendours" that have made "ill at ease the blear-eyed and blind advocates of error."

The worst I wish my Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen, to the gallantry of many of whom we are deeply indebted, is emancipation into the principles and liberty of that religion which Mr. Lucas calls "a drunken sibyl," but which we believe and can prove to be the inspiration and force and peace of the best men in our world, and the foundation of their noblest and surest hopes for another.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN CUMMING.

December 26, 1854.

THE SABBATH IN PARIS.

There are in Paris ten Protestant places of worship, namely, three Reformed, and two Lutheran, connected with the state, with eleven ministers belonging to the former, and four to the latter; two churches and four ministers belonging to the Union of Evangelical Churches; and two or three places, one of them the chapel of the English ambassador, in which the services are conducted in English. How many persons are present in all these places of worship on any one Sabbath? We had no means of obtaining accurate information on this point, but believe that four thousand would be a high estimate. *Four thousand* out of a population of 1,200,000. Alas! for Paris and for France, so long as this state of things continues. Before the Revolution of 1788 Paris possessed one hundred and sixty Roman Catholic places of worship; according to Malte Brun (edition of 1842,) there are now only forty-one, but a considerable number must have since been added. The Parisians are not a Church-going people—the great majority being neither Roman Catholics nor Protestants, neither churchmen nor dissenters, but absenters. The vast majority of shops of all kinds are open on Sabbath masons, plasterers, house-wrights, and black-smiths are busy at their occupations, so that trade and business seem to be conducted very much as on the other days of the week. The cafés and restaurants are all open, and along the Boulevards thousands may be seen sitting in the open air around the doors of these houses, sipping coffee, drinking wine, and smoking cigars, like bees when they hang in clusters around the entrance to their hives. The Emperor has caused it to be intimated that all labour shall be suspended on Sabbath, in the offices and works which are directly under the control of the Government; and that while he will not compel any one, it is his earnest desire that the shops should be shut, and a similar course everywhere adopted. Mr. Cochrane, an Englishman, has been labouring in the same good cause, and endeavouring to induce merchants and shopkeepers to come to a mutual agreement, to close their places of business; and, as appears, from him in a recent number of the "Times," not without some measure of success.

P.S. Died at Martintown on the morning of the 22nd instant, after a short but severe illness, the Rev. John McLaurin, in the 42nd year of his age, and the 18th year of his Ministry, deeply and universally lamented by all who knew him.

It is with unfeigned regret that we this day announce the decease of the Rev. John McLaurin, late Minister of Martintown. Mr. McLaurin was cut off in the prime of his days, and in the midst of the vigorous discharge of his sacred office. As a preacher, Mr. McLaurin had few equals in the Church; and the breach caused by his removal will not easily be made up in the respectable body to which he belonged. His largeness of heart, and the generous catholicity of his spirit, commended him to the regard of all with whom he ever came in contact; while the native simplicity of his heart, his glowing domestic affections, and the ardour and steadfastness of his friendships, endeared him to all who had the happiness of being more intimately connected with him. The high esteem in which he was held in this section of the country could not be more clearly manifested than by the immense concourse of persons, of all classes and denominations, who assembled on Monday last to accompany his mortal remains to the grave.—*Cornwall Constitutional, March 29.*

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* N. B.—Correspondents will be pleased to address the Rev. Wm. Johnson at Mount Albion, his place of residence."

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