

the Long Parliament and the Westminster Assembly, and whose arm rendered good service in the civil wars.

The Star Chamber and High Commission courts were abolished by the Long Parliament, but it was not till the head of Charles rolled from the scaffold that "the divine right" was overthrown. The Star Chamber was never revived. A lawyer in the Court of King's Bench, in England, was stopped by the judge, in the year 1769, when he attempted to quote from its doings, the judge telling him that it was a court, the very name of which was sufficient to blast all precedents brought from it. The High Commission or Inquisition court was revived after the Restoration, as well as, "the divine right," but they both fell with King James in 1688. Instances of the doings of the High Commission court, before and after the Restoration, will be found in Neal's History of the Puritans. Instances of the doings of the High Commission in Scotland, after the Restoration, are recorded in Wodrow's History of the Sufferings of the Church of Scotland; and in Macaulay's History the "divine right" is shewn in all its enormity. According to Hume and Macaulay, England owes a debt of gratitude to the much abused Puritans, who quenched the fires of Smithfield, and who, says Hume, "ALONE KINDLED AND PRESERVED THE PRECIOUS SPARK OF LIBERTY."

Trans-Atlantic Retrospect.

A NEW MISSIONARY SHIP.—No sooner had the *John Williams* been lost, than steps were taken to provide a successor to her. "*The first offering for the new ship was made by the native youth of Danger Island, while the missionaries and passengers were refugees among them,*" the sum of £3 5s. being sent to London, through Mrs. Williams. "*The children of Samoa, and the native Christians also, began to collect funds as soon as they heard of the calamity which had befallen their old and much loved vessel; and the Christian youth throughout the several colonies of Australia, have for many weeks past been zealously engaged in the same labour of love.*" The British Sunday scholars are also at work. Will not many Canadian schools furnish a plank for the vessel? Five thousand pounds sterling, or twenty-five thousand dollars, are required. There is room for everybody's dollar or dime. We are sure that Mr. A. Christie, agent of the *Independent*, will gladly forward any sums sent to his care.

NEW OUTRAGES BY THE FRENCH IN POLYNESIA.—Our older readers have not forgotten the sad story of Tahiti, the beautiful island where the missions of the London Missionary Society had been so remarkably successful, but which was seized by the French government under Louis Philippe, and, under the name of a protectorate, really annexed to France. Wherever France plants a colony, or seizes a possession, she always aids by force the introduction of Romish missionaries. This was done in Tahiti, and no more Protestant missionaries are allowed to come there. Yet the native Christians, to a large extent, remain steadfast under pastors of their own.

A similar scene has just been enacted in the Loyalty Islands, the largest of which contains 7,000 souls. Twenty years ago, our missions were established there. The Islands have been seized by the governor of New Caledonia, a French penal settlement, on the plea that they