

The third enclosure, raised above the second by fourteen marble steps, formed the Azarah, or court of the Hebrews (Israelites), which contained the altar of burnt offering, ported over from the larger court by a low marble screen, which formed the court of the priest. A separate court, with distinct entrances, and divided from the men by a low wall or partition, was appropriated to the women; so that we see that the complete separation of the sexes, which is still kept up in the synagogue, dates from the temple.

"The whole structure, with its terraces rising in succession, was visible at a great distance, and equally strong and splendid. Its white marble walls, in many places inlaid with gold, towering above the city, reflected the blinding rays of the sun, and, after sunset, gave to the mountain the appearance as if perpetual snow rested on its summit. And so solid was the masonry, that even yet, after a lapse of near two hundred years, and in spite of the rage of man, who exerted every effort in order that not one stone should be left upon the other, but all be thrown down, the whole of the foundation and the basement of the temple still remain entire and uninjured; while a portion of the western walls, erect and attesting its strength, is visited by Jewish pilgrims from every part of the world, whose streaming eyes were raised to heaven with prayers for Israel's restoration."—(vol. ii. pp 385-37.)

Of course a Christian reader of a Jewish history will naturally turn at once to the pages in which the writer treats of the foundation of his own Church, and the revelation of his own creed. On this point Dr. Raphall, though he occasionally refers to the Christian Scriptures among other authorities, is both brief and satisfactory:—

"It was during the administration of Pontius Pilate that the events related in the historical books of the Christian Scriptures are said to have occurred; and it was from before his tribunal that the founder of the Christian faith was led forth to execution. We do not feel called upon to enter into this subject, for at its origin, and during its infancy, Christianity has no claim on the attention of the Jewish historian. It in its day of power, when, full-grown, it chooses to abuse its strength, and to emulate the worst deeds of these varnished Pharisees whom its founder so justly condemns—it is then that Christianity enforces its painful claim on the reluctant notice of him who relates the tear-bedewed and blood-stained events of the Jewish history."—(p. 374.)

However true the reproach in the latter part of this sentence may be, the assertion in the former part is not so. Christianity had much to do with the state of the Jewish nation in the latter years of its existence in Judaea. It absorbed into its own fold the free-hearted, the self-devoted, the earnest and truthful, and holy of the Jewish people, "those who looked for redemption in Israel;" and when these were persecuted and driven out by their more hardened countrymen, there were only left pride, and cruelty, and treachery, like Joabhanan of Giscala and his followers, and Simon with his Zealots; or else courtly insouciance and false liberality, and collectivism, such as that of Josephus the historian.

But this by the way. We hope that these two volumes will be but the first of the history of that fated race who were once "the people of God," but are now doomed by sorrows, and wanderings, and woes, to expiate their sins, until the words of their prophets shall be fulfilled literally as well as spiritually, and the dispersed of the Gentiles shall again be gathered in Zion to bless "him who cometh in the name of the Lord." There are in their own tongue histories of the sufferings and oppressions which the Jewish race have undergone for many long years, which, if they could be told us by a writer so fair and so fluent as Dr. Raphall, would make us at least admire their patience and respect their constancy, while we deplored their self-will,—might make us to blush for the bigotry and cruelty of those who professed the doctrine of the Messias, whom they confessed by their acts of vindictive tyranny against the people of Judah, who had refused Him. We hope that Dr. Raphall is continuing the Post-biblical History of the Jews.

### News Department.

From Papers by Steamer Arabia, July 19.

#### CONVOCAATION.

On Monday Lord Redesdale presented the petition we printed some time back (see *Guardian* of April 15) from members of the Convocation of the Province of York, showing that, while the clergy of the Province of Canterbury have lately deliberated in Convocation, all opportunity of participating in such deliberations has been denied to the Convocation of the

Province of York, and praying the house, before proceeding with any measure specifically affecting the clergy, to—

"Address her Majesty, or otherwise procure that that the same may be submitted to the clergy of both provinces in their Convocation not lawfully in being under the Royal Writs addressed to both Archbishops respectively."

Lord Redesdale thought it unjust that one set of proceedings should be adopted with regard to the province of Canterbury, and another mode of proceeding with respect to the province of York. He entertained a strong opinion that if the Convocation of the Province of York was put upon a proper footing much good might result from it. He thought the manner in which the proceedings in Convocation of the province of Canterbury were conducted showed that all those apprehensions which had been entertained by parties as to their dangerous character were altogether unfounded. Of course, in all public assemblies they must expect differences of opinion, and when discussions took place they were not always conducted in the manner in which it could be wished they should be; but because matters of difference might occur that was no argument against such assemblies altogether. It was very desirable that the Church should represent itself. At the present moment the Church was abused for many things for which she is really not responsible, and it was unjust that it should be allowed to express its opinion as to what should be done in reference to such questions. At the same time some improvement ought, he thought to take place in the constitution of the bodies to which he was referring, and the first and most obvious improvement was the fusion of the two provinces. Nothing, he was aware, could be done now beyond calling public attention to the matter, but he hoped some attention would be given to the subject of the petition, and that the same privileges of the Convocation of one province as were enjoyed by the other.

In the House of Commons, July 4, replying to Mr. Baillie, Lord Palmerston states that Mr. Dallas has full powers for arranging the Central American Question.

Replying to Colonel Dunno, the noble viscount states that the value of the public property taken at Sebastopol is so exceedingly small that if divided among the troops, the share of each officer would not be more than 2s. 6d., and of each man 6d.; and that it was therefore not intended to make a distribution.

The following telegraphic message was yesterday (July 15) received at the Admiralty from Admiral Grey, at Constantinople, dated 14th July, 1856:—  
"Dashed has arrived with Admiral Freemantle. Every person belonging to the army had embarked, and all the ships had sailed from the Crimea on Saturday evening except the *Leander* and *Gladiator*."

The Admiralty have received from Malta accounts of the wreck of the *Spartan*, steam transport, on the south west end of the Cano Rocks, on the coast of Barbary, where she had been found by the *Ednia* transport:—"She had fortunately succeeded in landing the whole of her troops, consisting of ten officers, 796 non-commissioned officers and men, one lady and child of the Land Transport Corps, besides her crew, without loss, on an adjacent very small island of rock, where they are well supplied with provisions from the ship, but in imminent danger from want of water, that of the ship being damaged with salt water. The *Spartan* lies on the rocks, with her bottom stove in, and, according to report, with fifteen feet of water in her hold."

INDIA.—The Roman Catholic hierarchy has succeeded, if the public journals are to be believed, in obtaining, without the long talked of Portuguese concordat, considerable favours in British India. From a despatch of the Court of Directors, it is to be gathered that the four "Vicars Apostolic" of Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and Agra are regarded as the recognized officials of Government for certain ecclesiastical purposes, each receiving a salary of 400 rupees per month. A Roman Catholic priest with a salary of 100 rupees is to be allowed to every station where 100 British Roman Catholics reside. Each military chaplain and each assistant chaplain is to have a like stipend; and if the chaplain has more than one regiment to serve, he is to have 150 rupees, besides the help of an assistant, with allowance for travelling and medicine, &c., gratis. Government is also to make grants for erecting Roman Catholic churches, under certain conditions specified; and concede to Romanists separate burial places.

A letter from Turin states that an important decision in the case of a persecution for an offence against religion has just been given by the Criminal Court of Florence:—

"A prisoner, who was accused of having changed his religion from Roman Catholicism to Protestantism, was defended by the Advocate Salvagnoli, who proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the civil code of Tuscany does not provide for such a case, and, therefore, that though the fact of a man receding from the established religion might be offensive to the discipline of the Church, it could not be tried by civil court."

The fears of a collision between Austria and Piedmont, which continually repeat themselves in the papers, would probably be inaudible but for the tranquillity that reigns through the rest of Europe. The accumulation of troops on the frontier, and the uneasiness of the Duchy of Parma, which writhes under a protection it cannot refuse, are the current sources of alarm. The knowledge that England and France would revenge any aggression committed on one side, and would not countenance it on the other, will probably preserve peace for the present. But accidents will always be possible whilst you have two Powers armed to the teeth, hating each other, with fifty things to quarrel about, and nothing but a river between them.

"I hope and wait," the young Count of Paris writes; "I have only one object in view, to render myself worthy of a possible future." His mother, his brother, and he, have been "absolute strangers" to the fusion. "It belongs to France to choose." Happy France, with such abundant means of choice! If she wishes for constitutional government, here is a young gentleman educating himself for the purpose if for legitimacy and the older Bourbon traditions, there is the Comte de Chambord. Republicanism "hopes and waits" in lodgings at Brussels. In possession she has despotism and the Empire.—*London Guardian*.

#### UNITED STATES.

DEADFUL RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—Upwards of One Hundred Persons killed or wounded.—A serious accident happened on the Northern Pennsylvania Railroad on the 17th inst. by the explosion of the Boiler of the Locomotive. The cars were filled with the teachers and children of St. Michael's Church Sunday School, bound on an excursion.

The excursion train contained 1100 children, with their parents and teachers, and came in collision with a down train on the curve near Fort Washington, while the latter train was going slowly and the former rapidly endeavoring to reach the stopping place. Both locomotives were crushed, and three cars of the excursion train rushing together, caught fire and were consumed. Beneath their ruins were a number crushed so that extrication was impossible. The scene was of the most heart-rending character. Seventeen bodies were counted beneath the ruins of the cars, mostly consumed. Eleven men and women and two children were consumed in one car. The total killed is 30, and wounded, 69.

The scene of the accident is 14 miles from Philadelphia, in the neighborhood of two curves, so that approaching trains cannot be seen 500 yards, and the track is a single one. When the locomotives came together, they rose on an end, their fire boxes nearly touching one another, and fell over across the road. The fire being scattered about the wreck of the first excursion car, it caught fire and extended to two of the other cars piled upon it. Most extraordinary efforts were made to extricate the mutilated beings crushed amid the wreck, of whom some were still alive when the flames reached them. The groans and cries that rent the air were awful.

Two engines from Chestnut Hill forced water through a hose to the wreck, and after working for several hours the human remains beneath it were removed. Nineteen bodies were removed to the blacksmith's shop, 3 of them supposed to be females. Under another shed were eight bodies so charred as to defy recognition. The body of Father Sheridan was recovered and brought to the city.

All the human remains were gathered up and brought to the city. Twenty-seven bodies have not been recognized, and they are so badly burned that it is feared they never can be.

Further particulars from Philadelphia, July 19th, state the number of dead as fifty-six, including six unrecognised bodies; the wounded, as far as known, seventy-eight. The death of many of them is hourly expected.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCES.—We learn by telegraph, that about one o'clock, yesterday, a house in Cockfish, in the county of Kent, was struck by lightning, and two young girls were killed. One, a French