

bably the last president of the *United States*, is dead.

The newspapers inform us that a powerful English, French, and Spanish expedition is about to be sent out against Mexico without delay. The conduct of this government has become intolerable, and such as to place them beyond the pale of modern civilization. English and French citizens have been openly robbed and murdered with the connivance of the state officials, state debts repudiated, the houses of consuls violated, and even that of the English Ambassador broken into and plundered by order of their chief officer. Utter demoralization runs riot every where, and the strong arm of power must bring these organized robbers to reason.

The South Sea Mission Field of our brethren of the Presbyterian Church has met with a very serious misfortune. A fearful hurricane has devastated the island of Aniteum; the church and school house have been burned, and a large proportion of the population has been carried off by measles. Mr. Johnston, one of the missionaries, died suddenly, and in several of the islands the inhabitants have been quite hostile and dangerous. In these trying circumstances it is encouraging to learn that Mr. Geddie is as devoted to his post, and as full of hope and energy, as ever.

Religious liberty has gained a great victory in Austria. In spite of the *Concordat* of the Pope, the Protestant subjects of that empire have, by a rescript of the Emperor, been placed in every respect on an equality with those of the Roman Catholic faith. The number of Protestants in Austria is considerably upwards of 3,000,000, who are now permitted not only perfect religious freedom, but are made eligible to the highest civil and military offices. This noble act of Francis Joseph will do much to endear him to the people of England.

The Free Church do not intend at present to appeal from the decision of the Court of Session to the House of Lords, in the *Cardross* case. It will, therefore, go again before the same Court *on its merits*, that is, whether the Free Church has violated its contract with Mr. Macmillan or not.

The congregation of Dr. Guthrie, the eminent Free Church clergyman, has adopted the standing position during praise in church.

The Bishop of Durham, a younger brother of the Earl of Clarendon, is dead. This see is worth £10,000 a year.

The richest living in England is Dodding-ton Rectory, worth £7,300 a year, with a population of 9,000 souls.

The subject of Revivals continues to excite much interest in Scotland. We refer our readers to a very interesting notice of Richard Weaver by our Scotch correspondent.

The Rev. John Macleod, a son of Dr. Macleod of Morven, has been inducted into the parish of Newton-on-Ayr. Mr. Macleod

is of the same standing as the four young ministers who lately arrived among us.

The Duke of Argyle has presented the Rev. John Alison, of the Middle Church, Paisley, to the fine parish of Bonhill. Mr. Alison is one of the many rising young clergymen belonging to our Church, and we are happy to claim him as an occasional contributor to the *Record*.

The Rev. Mr. Downs, assistant to Dr. Maculloch of Greenock, has received a call to Wishaw, in the presbytery of Hamilton.

The Rev. Mr. Fraser, of Aberdeen, one of the ablest and most popular ministers in that part of the country, has been presented to St. John's, Glasgow, once the church of Dr. Chalmers.

Affairs in the South of Italy continue in a truly deplorable state. The most inhuman and barbarous cruelties being committed on both sides. The insurgents or reactionists, murdered 40 Piedmontese soldiers in cold blood, and in retaliation a village of 6000 inhabitants was destroyed and every thing living it contained. Such things are a reproach to the age we live in. It is evident that the common people are altogether under the influence of Rome, which is as hostile as possible to the Government of Victor Emmanuel. The complications in the Roman States are as great as ever.

There is not much of great public interest in England at the present moment. The Queen has had an ovation on the lakes of Killarney, and is now luxuriating in her Highland home.

Two dreadful Railway accidents have taken place, resulting in the loss of 23 and 13 lives respectively. Both were excursion trains.

A Baron de Vidil has been sentenced in England to 12 months imprisonment with hard labor for a deadly assault upon his son.

The Channel Fleet having visited the Frith of Clyde, and its principal officers being hospitably entertained by the town council of Glasgow, Admiral Smart issued a general invitation to the citizens to visit the ships—which was accepted by 130,000 of their number, to the great delight of all parties.

The British Association has had a very successful annual meeting at Manchester. Fairbairn the great engineer, delivered the inaugural address, on the progress of science during the present century—a most masterly performance, an abstract of which we will probably give in our next.

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