

teur may introduce truth without exciting suspicion or alarm. He offers for sale copies of the Scriptures, and useful books. An opportunity is thus afforded for conversation on their contents, and the colporteur is not only able to secure the sale of important works, but also to avail himself of the advantages connected with oral teaching. These humble, unpretending efforts have been already abundantly blessed. Their adoption on a much more extensive scale, offers to all Protestants a mode of usefulness worthy of the employment of their combined energies.

We have abstained from all reference to political plans and organizations. Whatever opinion may be formed respecting the probable consequences of the attainment of political influence by Roman Catholics, it is certain that Protestants, as such, cannot form any general combination to prevent it, even were such an attempt regarded as practicable. The endeavour would be precluded by their differences among themselves. It is further to be noted, that in this contest success is only to be expected when spiritual weapons are employed. Our aims are, to preserve the Protestantism of Protestants, and to bring Roman Catholics to Christ. In proportion to the success of our endeavours will be the decline of Popish influence.

In the accomplishment of the objects which have been here specified, organizations will be necessary.—Protestant Unions, or Associations, ought to be formed; partly to collect information, watch the movements of Romanists, and devise suitable plans of action; and partly, to carry those plans into effect, either by direct efforts, or by means of other Societies. The Evangelical Alliance, now fully formed in England, and in process of formation in other countries, has embraced this object, as far as concerns the collection of facts; but

it has other objects in view, and it does not adopt practical measures.

We would therefore recommend the formation of Protestant Associations, having for their centres of operation the chief cities of the countries where they are established, and united by correspondence and otherwise, with smaller Associations, located where they may be most needed. Of the various plans of usefulness which have been enumerated, those may be selected which are best suited to the respective localities, while from the Central Institution communications will be constantly transmitted, tending to guide, encourage, and stimulate the energies of the servants of God.

It now remains that we enumerate, briefly, some of the ADVANTAGES likely to result from the formation of such a Union as we have recommended.

In the first place, it will tend to strengthen the attachment of Protestants to the truths by which they are distinguished. Those truths will be brought more prominently forward than usual, and the attention being more fully directed to them, they will be better understood, and more highly appreciated. We regard this as a consideration of no small importance. Whatever helps to familiarize the Christian mind with the momentous doctrines of the Reformation, produces, at the same time, effects eminently favourable to intelligent and practical piety. The revival of religion among the churches of Christ, as well as the success of evangelical efforts, at home and abroad, is inseparably connected with soundness in the faith. We have no warrant to expect the divine blessing in any other connexion. The work of the Holy Spirit is carried on by means of the truth, and that truth must be jealously guarded by the Church, and disseminated with unremitting zeal. It will be loved and honored in proportion; and, then it will be found