

The Coming Struggle—Union in the Camp.

The following earnest appeal from the N. Y. Christian Weekly should not fall on unhearing ears.

"When we turn from the perils of such a work as Professor Haeckel's 'History of the Creation' to a survey of the American religious press, we are filled with ineffable sorrow; but for our faith in God and His Word, we should be filled with a well-grounded alarm.

"We do not assert that the questions which threaten our Protestant sects with still further disintegration are unimportant. What we do assert is this, that their settlement should, by common consent, be postponed till these fundamental questions are settled; that in comparison with the issue whether there be any basis for reverence in God, or virtue in man, they are pitifully trivial; that the old arguments against atheism, however conclusive, are not practically convincing; that Mr. Paley's watch does not satisfy the disciple of Haeckel, who believes that it was never made, but was evolved out of a stone like that which lies by its side; that the argument from the design to the designer, in its old-time form, is inefficacious with the man who accounts for his own origin by Topsy's theory, 'I spec I growed,' and that until this new philosophy, which not only denies Christianity, but denies the reality of religion and the basis of virtue, be effectually and finally laid away to its long rest, the Christian Church has no time and should have no energies for 'doubtful disputations.' While Goliath defies the armies of the living God, the tribes ought not to be contending with each other about their boundary lines."

The Danger of the Age.

I suppose if we could get at the full record of the Assyrian consciousness in the times of the greatest material splendor of the nation, we should find that they were quite confident that they were the greatest people in the world by virtue of their riches, their luxury, their numbers; yet how easily they were destroyed by a people of higher intelligence! Now, when it is held that railroads, telegraphs, and weather reports constitute a beauteous state, it seems to me that we are as much mistaken as the Assyrians were. What connection exists between railways and good conduct? Or between telegraphs and national probity? I hope I do not seem to undervalue great inventions; but I would suggest that honesty is no sense superseded by inventions, nor intelligence by the weather reports. The inventors have not shown us yet how to elevate character by means of a steam lift; nor are any virtues, I believe, fostered by the perforating telegraph. Yet people rely upon these things; they put aside the remark that they are essentially a failure as yet, so far as the more valuable results are concerned, and call it discontent or delatantism, or the "anti-patriotic reaction." Is it neither; it is a much more serious thing; it is a warning not to neglect the spirit of civilization during this era, in which we are so taken up with its forms.—The Galaxy.

Irish Honorary Degree.

Some class or other of Irishmen is always discovering a fresh grievance. The latest which has been found out is the manner in which Trinity College, Dublin, confers its degrees. There are two ways in which such degrees as D.D. or LL.D. may be properly conferred—either as a recognition of acknowledged merit without examination, or as a mark that a very high examination has been passed. A correspondent of a Dublin paper complains that Trinity College frequently grants its honors without reference to either of these conditions. According to this gentleman, it too often thinks, not of intellectual attainment, but solely of the very different question, whether a candidate has a sufficient supply of cash. "I look upon it," he says, "as decidedly degrading to the dignity of such a learned body as the University of Dublin enjoys the world-wide reputation of being, that she should place her highest honors within the easy reach of those who have more money at command than any remarkable literary status acquired by talent or industry." We do not know how far this may be true, but if the facts are as represented, the grievance is more real than many of those with which public time is occupied in Parliament, and the University authorities cannot too soon institute reform. The Scotch Universities are sometimes accused of being rather lavish with their chief honors, but they have never lain under the suspicion of selling them to the highest bidder. At the worst, they have only been thought occasionally to overrate the literary attainments of a clergyman who may have published a volume of sermons, or a philosopher who may have favoured the world with a few misty speculations. Of late years they have immensely raised their standard, and the Dublin Senate will do well to follow their good example, and find other means of securing an honest penny.

The Pest of Rome.

We do not mean the Plague, the Malaria, or other epidemic. We mean the chronic, ever-present, navoryielding attack of the professional beggar. The doorways of churches within and without are lined with beggars. These never assail the priest nor the citizen. But woe to the tourist—he is the victim of the professional beggar. The moans and cries, and grimaces expressive of hunger and want, the eloquent gesture; the positive refusal to "ask no for an answer;" all this awaits the Americans and Englishmen, known as such at sight.

"We learn that the stereotyped cry is:—'I am starving for bread.'" Well, who do something original, but take out no patent therefor. We are driving past the house of Scipio—who lived the conqueror of Hannibal—on the Appian way. We have filled our pockets with rolls of "bread." As the carriage is buset, and hat or hand lifted, with the accustomed cry, we deposit that in lack of which the beggar is starving. There is evident disappointment. But we make our escape.—Dr. Emerson's European Correspondence.

A LAMP-CHIMNEY may be made almost indestructible by putting it over the fire in a vessel of cold water and letting it remain until the water boils. It will be found that boiling toughens in this case.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

Table with columns for commodity names and prices. Includes Wheat, Oats, Peas, Beans, Potatoes, etc.

Official Announcements.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

- MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES. PETERBORO.—In St. Paul's Church, Peterboro, 22nd August, at 2 p.m. OWEN SOUND.—The next meeting of the Presbytery of Owen Sound will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of September, in Division Street Church, Owen Sound.

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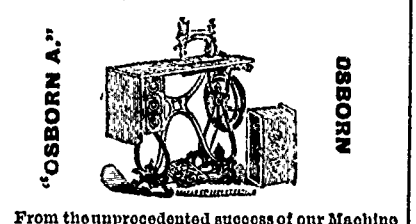
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