

Turning nearer home, we find the audacious infidelity which was quietly developing itself for years within the bosom of the English Church, exposed at last to the broad light of day, and to well merited rebuke and condemnation. Seven members of that Church—four of them clergymen—joined in producing a volume of "*Essays and Reviews*" which contained the most palpable infidelity. It is indeed melancholy to reflect that such is the discipline of this body, that popery and unitarianism and infidelity may be taught unblushingly within its pale and even from its pulpits; but it is gratifying to find that the great bulk of clergy and laity are sound in the faith, and thoroughly earnest in its defence. And it is matter for congratulation that a prelate of influence and talent like the Bishop of London does not hesitate to preach the gospel to the multitude in the streets and lanes of the city. This conduct on his part is but a result and an indication of the fervent evangelistic spirit that prevails in other quarters.

The British Churches still enjoy times of revival. A large majority of the Presbyteries of the Free Church, reported "times of refreshing," and few indeed were those that had no cheering word to tell. Ireland continues to be signally blessed from above. Popery is losing in numbers, wealth and influence, and what there is of it is becoming more intensely ultramontane every day.

Unwonted success has attended the labours of missionaries this year in the various stations that shine as beacon lights amid the wide-spread gloom of Africa and South America. In Brazil there has been of late an unusual demand for Bibles. From a survey of the field far and near we may well be encouraged to pray with redoubled earnestness for the speedy coming of Christ's kingdom in its all prevailing strength and glory. The foe may at times appear to be gaining upon us and our hearts may be discouraged. Our gallant ship has to battle with head winds all the voyage through; let us not be alarmed though her course do not seem direct towards the desired haven, her captain may see fit to make her tack, and seemingly yield to the force of adverse winds, but it is that she may catch the gale more surely, and make better speed onward to port.

Christ's kingdom has advanced and shall advance till He reign King of kings and Lord of lords. Let us help on his cause now and he will remember us when we met Him in the air. Happy day when all the earth shall be the Lord's! No conqueror's car ever rolled unchecked over all the nations. There were limits to the conquests of the boasted heroes of fable and of ancient and modern history, and even where their power extended they could not subdue the unconquerable mind. While they might overcome the body, they could not enthrall the immortal spirit. But the reign of Jesus will extend where the name of the most renowned heroes never reached. His kingdom will find new centres where theirs were shattered. His soldiers have already volunteered far beyond the flight of the boldest Roman eagle. And his empire is in the imperishable and unconquerable mind. He subdues the hearts and wills of his people, and reigns over them by love. Everything inimical to the cause of Jesus, must be taken out of the way—the mountains shall be turned into plains—the valleys shall be exalted, and the Kingdom of Christ shall be established over all, never to be moved!

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