

alienated from the Gospel or totally regardless and ignorant with respect to it. The British Isles however contain far more of "faith" than any other European country. Instrumentalities of immense influence are constantly and vigorously at work on the side of the truth. The Infidelity of Oxford Professors, Natal Bishops, and materialistic scientists has not extended as in France to the heart of the nation. The freedom and intelligence of the British people are a mighty bulwark against the rising flood.—But on the continent the outlook is so dismal as to compel the most learned and eloquent Roman Catholic layman of the age, Montalembert, to declare his belief that Paganism is coming in again with resistless force, and that it will sweep away all the established institutions of Christianity.

American Infidelity is bolder and more insinuating than that of England and the continent: though in truth it is only an Americanized edition of the latter. Every month our Provinces are flooded with Infidel Magazines published in Boston or New York. Our bookstores are full of the Harvard virus, and it finds its way in some shape or other to the most distant corners of the land. Junitarianism, Socinianism, Universalism, Theodore Parkerism—these *isms* and many more, are doing their evil work on this side the sea. Thousands of Germans come from the "Fatherland" with all the recklessness of religion so characteristic of them, and thus increase the volume of the Infidel flood which threatens this continent.

Thus it will be seen that the two great foes of the Gospel are at work all over the world with unwonted energy and with alarming success. Popery has been to a large extent the parent of Infidelity: but when the two are full grown—cruel daughter and ruthless mother—they happily wage against each other a relentless war. How or when their present development and influence in Europe may end it is not for us to say. Let us look to the field committed to our charge. Among us Popery rears its head defiantly; and Infidelity creeps along like a poisonous vapour blasting many a beautiful spot of our beautiful

land. Both are the enemies of the Cross of Christ, to be watched against with all vigilance, and to be bravely fought in any field they may invade. Unless we keep ourselves pure, unless we plant the standard of the cross and maintain it all over the land, God may visit us with the sorrows and woes that are yet to be poured out upon the "beast" and the "false prophet," upon Antichrist and all who bear his mark upon their foreheads.

The only safeguard against Popery and Infidelity is a believing reception of Jesus Christ, and the thorough evangelization of the country. A Presbyterian who does not believe in Christ is as sure to perish eternally as a benighted Papist or a proud Infidel. First then let us prepare for the future by giving ourselves to the Lord, and then by doing all in our power to advance His Kingdom in the earth,—especially in our own country. Thus, and thus only may we expect to escape the doom pronounced upon those who come not to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, 1868.

The committee to whom has been entrusted the management of the Presbyterian Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, beg leave to report that on the whole they have reason to congratulate the Synod on the progress of the scheme during the past year.

At the date of their last report there was in fund, including invested funds and balance on hand, the sum of \$6438.34, to which there has been added, during the past year, as follows:—

By Donations.....	\$962.19
" Payment of members dues.....	1082.68
" Interest and dividends.....	369.73
" Fines.....	23.76

Total.....\$2438.36

Against which there has been only a trifle of \$2.20 for incidental expenses, leaving a balance of receipts for the year of \$2438.36, to which goes to the credit of our capital fund, making the whole \$8864.70.