

mon schools, was advocated by Dr. Wilson. This was strongly opposed by Bishop Purcell and the Rev. Mr. Montgomery, Roman Catholics. Alexander Campbell, in a lecture before the College, found occasion incidentally to remark, that the intellectual elevation and intelligence which now pervade the mass of the people in Protestant countries, where the English language prevails, are to be traced, in part at least, to the influence of the Protestant Reformation. Bishop Purcell disputed this position. The discussion was considered out of place before the College of Teachers, and was not prolonged. Mr. Campbell, however, apprized the Bishop of his readiness to meet him on the question at any suitable time and place. He gave a public address, in defence of his position, on Monday evening of last week, in the Sycamore street Meeting House. Bishop Purcell replied in the same place on Tuesday evening. The reply seemed to be a total failure; and at the close, the Bishop declined the overture of Mr. Campbell for a regular and formal discussion of the whole subject. On Wednesday evening Mr. Campbell addressed a very crowded assembly in the Wesley Chapel, and at the close gave notice that he designed to prosecute the subject no further. A very general feeling of interest had been excited by the discussion, and on Thursday the following correspondence took place, by which it appears that Mr. Campbell will return in about two months and take up the subject in a formal debate, if the Catholics please to meet him; otherwise, in a series of lectures. We are inclined to the belief that good will come from this discussion.

CINCINNATI, October 13, 1836.

*To the Rev. Mr. Campbell.*

DEAR SIR—The undersigned, citizens of Cincinnati, having listened with much pleasure to your exposure and illustrations of the absurd claims and usages of the Roman Catholic Church, would respectfully and earnestly request you to proceed immediately to establish before this community the six propositions announced at the close of your lecture, last evening. This request is made under the conviction that the present state of feeling in this city and the critical state of the country, with reference to Romanism demand this, and will fully justify such a course, and also with the expectation that it may result in much good to the cause of Protestantism in the West.

Very respectfully, yours,

[Here follows a great many signatures.]

One half of the city could be obtained, would time permit. Fearing your hasty departure, induces the above persons to hand it in without delay.