

has wheeled round towards the east, and has diffused the blessings of enlightenment from China to Peru. East, west, north and south—on all sides we behold the glory of Christ. His Church has been planted in Greenland, British Guiana, the West Indies; West Africa, East Africa, Cape Town, Madagascar; Turkey, Arabia, Persia, India, Tartary, Japan, China; the Indian Archipelago, Australia, Polynesia, and New Zealand. There are now three hundred millions of christians in the world, or three-tenths of its entire population. It has been said, with some truth, that on Sundays Christian service is held every hour of the day in some place or other."

Towards the close he asks:—"Is there a single soul in this large assembly who would scruple to ascribe extraordinary greatness and supernatural heroism to Jesus Christ and him crucified? Was not he, who by his wisdom illumined, and by his power saved a dark and wicked world—was not he who has left us such a priceless legacy of divine truth, and whose blood has wrought such wonders for eighteen hundred years—was not he above ordinary humanity? Blessed Jesus, immortal child of God! For the world he lived and died. May the world appreciate him and follow his precepts."

The learned lecturer is "almost persuaded to be a Christian." His enthusiastic words might certainly bring a blush to the cheek of many a professed christian. He is almost on a level with the author of *Ecce Homo*, and Colenso, and high above Renan. We may fairly hail with admiration language from the mouth of a Hindoo which from a professed Christian would deserve censure for its defects. The extracts we have given do not recognize Christ as God; the lecturer puts himself on a level, in this respect, with the Unitarians of England and the United States. Let Christians pray that the able and candid men like him whose noble words we have laid before them, may be led in sincerity and simplicity to the foot of the cross, and to worship Christ as He is indeed "God over all, blessed forever."

THE POPE.—The present condition of the Papacy excites the deepest interest.—The Pope has now but the most slender claim to be considered a temporal king.—The number of his subjects is about equal to the population of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; but the great majority are well known and admitted to be deeply discontented, and eagerly expecting deliverance from priestly rule and union with the kingdom of Italy. Revolution is kept in check through the influence of the Italian Government, which is anxious to patch up a peace of some sort with the Pope and thus retain him in the Italian peninsula. Should the inhabitants of Rome revolt, the old man would probably seek an asylum in some part of the dominions of the heretic Queen Victoria!

Frail as is the Pope's power he has recently exercised it for the suppression of every semblance of toleration existing in Rome. He forbade the services held in connection with the Established Church of Scotland, and also those in connection with the United States Embassy! What a lesson this in the face of Christendom in this year of grace 1867! Here we have the head of the Roman Catholic Church exercising his authority as king to expel Protestant worship in every shape and form from his dominions. How would Roman Catholics like to be thus treated in return? Thank God! there is little danger of Protestant Governments following the cruel and tyrannous example of the "Holy Father." What is he better than the Coreans who recently murdered his priests? The Pope would, if he dared, have consigned to death those Scottish "heretics" whom he has driven outside the walls of Rome.

There are symptoms that the boasted "unity" of the Romish church is about to be rudely shattered. Gallicanism is awakening to new life in France. The Emperor is strongly in favour of a "French" church; and if the Pope persist in his present policy it is likely that another year or two will put a new face on the relations between the churches on the different sides of the Alps. Italy is rapidly becoming weaned from the spiritual as well as the temporal sway of