

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Great Britain.

ROMANISED LITERATURE.—A recent writer says:—

"The literature of the last ten years has done far more than the preaching of the ritualism. A whole regiment of writers, Whig, Tory, and Radical, have combined to malign every thing Protestant, and to extol every thing Popish. Miss Strickland has made angels of all our Popish Queens, and almost demons of all our Protestant ones. Mr. Tyler has done his best to whitewash Mary of Scotland, and to blacken the fame of the Scottish Reformers. Mr. Maitland has done the like service for the English ones. The Edinburgh Review, and Mr. Macauley, have lent no small aid; and Mr. Burns, with his series of pretty little novels, has taught our young people that the Reformation was a judgment from God; the death of Edward VI., a providential deliverance; and the glorious Revolution a mere rebellion!"

ROMAN CATHOLICS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

—The following statistics of the Roman Catholic Church in Great Britain are derived from the *Catholic Directory* for 1848. The total number of Roman Catholic churches and chapels in England and Wales is 545; in Scotland, 85, besides 22 stations where divine service is performed; making a grand total of 630 churches and chapels. Of Catholic colleges there are in England 10, and in Scotland 1. Convents 38, of which 12 are in the London District. Monasteries, 4. Of missionary priests in England and Wales there are 707, including priests without any fixed mission; in Scotland, 99; making a grand total of 806 missionary priests in Great Britain, including the bishops.

POPERY AND MR. NEWMAN.—The correspondent at Rome of the *Daily News*, under date December 8, says, Mr. Newman leaves Rome to-morrow for England. He is the bearer of the Pope's Bull "to sweep away for ever the power of 'vicars apostolic,' and to substitute twelve bishoprics with an Archbishop in England.

France.

Strenuous efforts are continually made by the Romish clergy to exalt Popery and depress Protestantism, and there is evidently a

disposition in the Government to favour their views. In some places persecution is inflicted.

"In a village of the diocese of Montauban, called *Lachapelle*, there was some years back a curé named *Bruitte*, who was less superstitious than his colleagues. He had studied the Holy Scriptures; he read them daily with more attention than his Breviary, and proclaimed to his flock not the lying traditions of Rome, but the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. This first step led him to make a second. The Abbé Bruitte thought that he could no longer remain conscientiously within the pale of the Romish Church. Having consulted some pious pastors of the Reformed communion, he openly declared his belief in Protestantism; then he passed some time in the *Seminary of Theology* at Geneva, under the superintendence of MM. Merle d'Aubigné and Gaussen; he was afterwards ordained to the evangelical ministry, and now exercises the functions of a pastor in a village near Paris."

Some of the inhabitants of *Lachapelle*, having received the truth through their former curé, declared their intention to leave the Church of Rome, and applied to the Protestant Consistory for a pastor. When the Roman Catholic Bishop heard of it, he repaired to the place, and exerted himself, but in vain, to induce them to change their minds. Foiled in the attempt, he published against them the sentence of the *greater excommunication*, ordering them to be treated in all respects as heretics. What has been the consequence?

"I have learned," says the correspondent of *Evangelical Christendom*, "from eye-witnesses, that a real *Popish terror* reigns in the district of *Lachapelle*. All the women, without exception, have been excited and infuriated by the priests; they threaten to leave their husbands, if the latter should persist in their intention of becoming Protestants. Their passions are inflamed to a degree that it is impossible to describe. The Protestant pastor has not found a single individual who had the courage to let him a room in his house; the bakers have refused to sell bread to him; the inn-keepers have shut the doors of their hotels upon him; the porters even refused to carry his luggage, as though the mere handling of his property