

What means that ubiquitous influence of the press, which discusses all questions, whether pertaining to Church or state, before the people, and which brings out the verdict of the people as freely upon prince, pope, or prelate, as upon the most obscure of the people? It shows the advancing influence of Protestantism.

What mean these railways, and telegraphs, and ocean steamers, that are converting seas into straits, and that are bringing Canton and London, Liverpool and New York, within speaking distance, and that are bringing nations the most distant into acquaintance and brotherhood? They show the advancing influence of Protestantism.

What means the vast enterprise, skill, and industry of Britain—her extended commerce—her empire, upon which the sun never sets—her laws, extended over millions of India—her protection of the right wherever her flag floats? What mean the opening of China—the granting of liberty of conscience by Turkey—the payment of a Protestant ministry from the treasury of France? They show the advancing influence of Protestantism.

What mean those white spots on the moral map of the world, scattered along the western coast of Africa, and all over British India and Burmah, and rapidly multiplying on the sea-coast of China, and almost as numerous on the Pacific as are its islands? They mark the advances of Protestantism.

What mean that expulsion of archbishops from Sardinia—that noble address of the Roman people to the pope, in which they tell him that his claim of sovereignty for the chair of St. Peter reminded them "of the fable where Jove gives a log to be king of the frogs"—the rapid reformation progressing in western Ireland the yet growing influence of the Ronge movement in Germany—the collecting of large churches in some of our own cities of abjuring papists—the growing inquiry among papists in all lands as to religious things and truths? All and each show the advancing influence of Protestantism.

What mean the rising cities of these free states—those national grants of land for the education of the people—those rapidly-multiplying churches for the worship of God in every direction—those missionaries that track the Indian through the wilderness, and that follow the tide of emigration in every direction—the bringing under our influence in a few months the papal states of Texas, New Mexico, and California—the building of cities and churches by the waves of the Pacific, and where, until recently, nothing in the way of religion dare be lisped save popish mummeries? They mark the advances of Protestantism.

And, now that the power to make thunder is gone, what mean those grumblings and mutterings of the Vatican, coming in the way of rescripts and pastoral letters against Irish colleges, and