

that in the 149 languages in which the Bible is circulated by this great Society we will get such a fund as to enable the Society to strike out a grand Jubilee Edition in all these languages, and have them emblazoned with a suitable device and inscription; and resolve that not an emigrant shall go to Australia without a copy of the Bible—that Australia, so soon to become an empire; that Australia, a land so strange that an eminent naturalist, unable to account for its geological peculiarities, seemed to think it a small planet drawn by the attraction of the earth and fallen into the Southern Sea; so that the auriferous deposits of Australia, according to him, have come from the immeasurable vacancies of space. So let it be. And then Ireland is included—Ireland, poor, unhappy Ireland! Ah, was it not once a glorious land? What made it glorious? The Bible!—The Bible shone upon it with glorious illumination. Then was Ireland free. And Ireland was the sanctuary, not of scholarship only, but of sanctity itself; so that disciples went to it from all the nations of Europe to learn, and apostles went forth from it to propagate the Gospel among surrounding nations. But in an evil day the man of Rome put his iron hoof upon it, trod down its schools and colleges, and put the Bible either into the flames or the caverns, so that it could not be found. Then came darkness—a darkness that might be felt; until at last, according to the testimony of a modern writer, "It would seem the result has been to transmute the great masses of Ireland into rebels against the Government, conspirators against the landlord, and slaves of the priest." Now, then, what will make Ireland free? The Bible! Send it the Bible, the glorious liberator, and Ireland will rise up in renovated glory and strength; and will ere long vindicate the glorious title it once enjoyed, of being once more the "Isle of Saints." Then why should we not go through the whole world in like manner, and resolve that the Jubilee Bible in all tongues shall be sent to all nations; to all Mission families throughout the world; to all who can read; every pupil in the Mission Schools;

"From Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strand," and throughout New Zealand too? And then if it were so, we should soon solve many problems. And then, truly, this is the greatest of all Defence Societies; because this is a Protestant country; it is pre-eminently Protestant; its strength, its beauty, its glory, its stability, consist in its Protestantism. And we therefore hold it for truth, that it is only when we maintain the Bible, circulate the Bible, and thereby uphold the Protestantism of this realm, that this realm can be gloriously free and gloriously strong. And now that we are blessed by heaven with a Queen, a truly British, a truly Protestant Queen—a Queen whose personal and social virtues, and domestic charities, have entwined her round the inmost heart of every one of her loving subjects—a Queen whose reverence for the Bible, and for the Protestant Institutions of the land have secured to her the homage and reverence of all the wise, intelligent, and good, of our land; under her auspices, then, let us arise and rally round this greatest of our Protestant Societies, and therefore, under the smile and approbation of God, we shall be safe. As in the eastern world one of our most terrible visitants is the circular storm, which moves forward with prodigious rapidity, and is at the same time whirling round and round in a cycle, and levels in its progress whole villages and forests, but in its centre, technically called the eye of a hurricane, is a spot of wondrous calm, where they who enter it can enjoy tranquillity and rest; and so now, when called to gaze upon a sky that is at this moment reddening with fearful omens around the confines of Papal apostate Christendom, and overhead the clouds gather, and the lurid masses seem about to break, let us arise and rally round this great Protestant Society; and in doing so let us be very sure that the tempest which now sleeps, and in those portentous moments will

burst forth, shall leave us still safe—ah! and safe we shall remain under the shadow of the Almighty—safe in the very eye of that hurricane that shall sweep over surrounding nations—tearing up the foundations of corrupt society, shattering all regal and imperial dynasties, and tossing the crowns and sceptres, and the thrones of evil and ecclesiastical despotism, like chaff that is driven of the whirlwind on the summer threshing-floor.

UPPER CANADA BIBLE SOCIETY.

The last anniversary of the Upper Canada Bible Society was held on the evening of Wednesday the 4th of May, in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Richmond Street, Toronto.

The meeting was one of unusual interest. The large chapel was crowded, both on the ground floor and in the galleries. The Report read by J. S. Howard, Esq., Secretary, was of the most encouraging character—showing a great increase of interest during the past year. It appears from the Report that, through the devoted and indefatigable efforts of the Rev. Lauchlan Taylor, there have been twelve new auxiliaries formed—making 116 in all, in healthy and vigorous operation during the past year. There has also been a large increase of circulation, and a corresponding increase of revenue—thus proving that the Upper Canada Bible Society never was in a state of more efficiency than at present.

After the Report, several Resolutions were moved and seconded, in speeches which seemed to tell with great effect on the eager and attentive audience. The speakers of the evening were, the Rev. Mr. Sanson, Trinity Church, Toronto; the Rev. Robert Irvine, Second Congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Canada; the Rev. John McCaul, L. L. D., Principal of the University; the Rev. Mr. Jenkins, Wesleyan Minister, Montreal; the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, D. D., Chief Superintendent of Education; Rev. Lauchlan Taylor, Agent for the Society; and Jesse Ketchum, Esq.

The Chair was occupied by his worship the Mayor of Toronto, in the absence of the President, the Hon. Mr. Baldwin, which was caused by indisposition. The platform represented most of the Protestant denominations in Toronto, in both clerical and lay members thereof, and the collection, the largest ever received on a similar occasion, amounted to upwards of £32.

RECANTATION OF VOLUNTARISM.

Some of the secular papers of the city of Hamilton, not usually giving much space to ecclesiastical matters, have recorded, at great length, the recent proceedings of the Presbytery, connected with the Scottish Establishment assembling at that place. So far, at least, as these bore on the reception into that body of a Rev. Doctor Skinner, who, it seems, has lately come into Canada, together with the various pre and post prandial developments which took place on the occasion—by far the most remarkable—and in the estimation of the parties immediately concerned, no doubt the most important and valuable of these was—the recantation, L. Dr. Skinner, of voluntary principles, made in full form, and with an apparent heartiness that seems to

have been felt as peculiarly gratifying to our Establishment friends. The Doctor appears indeed to have made what, in Scotland, is called "a clean breast"—casting his former idols to the winds and to the seas, without reserve. A great revolution, it appears, has been brought about in his sentiments on the Church and State question, and especially on the point of State endowments, by a somewhat protracted residence in the United States. This does not surprise us very greatly—for we think we have, in several instances, observed a powerfully mollifying effect wrought on other voluntary ministers by the same means.—The similarity, however, between other instances and the present one, is only in kind, not in degree; for, in former cases, coming under our observation, there was only apparent a pleasing mildness and moderation, superinduced without any formal abnegation of voluntarism. But here the change is complete; and Dr. Skinner, some years ago a rampant anti-State Church man, to whom the ecclesiastical atmosphere of Scotland had become absolutely insufferable, stands forth before us, an Establishment man, out-and-out, totus, teres atque rotundus. It is rather a singular coincidence, which, however, we hope, bodes no special harm, that almost at the same moment we were reading the account of the foregoing recantation, we got the intelligence that the Clergy Reserve Bill had been passed by the House of Peers. We stand in a position in which we feel ourselves happily free from any strong or disturbing bias in regard to the question which Dr. Skinner's biographer will have an opportunity of exhibiting in its most diverse aspects, but we are constrained to record our strong doubts whether the proceedings to which we have adverted, do at all tend to edification, or to the upholding of the character of the Christian ministry.

THE 71ST REGIMENT—PRESENTATION.—During the period of their sojourn in Kingston, upwards of 300 of the above excellent corps attended Chalmers' Church. As there was not room for them at the hours of regular service, a special service had to be kept up at nine o'clock every Sabbath morning. The attendance was uniformly good, and the attention evinced most exemplary. Besides the diet on Sabbath, there was one every alternate Thursday evening in the school-room at the barracks, attended by several of the men with their families.

On Sabbath, the 15th ult., the Rev. Mr. Burns preached his farewell sermon to the Regiment—selecting for his text, Psalm cvii. 7.—"He led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation."

On Monday, the 16th, he was waited on by a deputation, and presented with eighty dollars, as a tribute of gratitude. The pocket-book containing the money, bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to the Rev. R. F. Burns, by the non-commissioned Officers and Privates of the 71st Regiment, with a sum of £20, as a mark of esteem for the zealous manner in which he has attended to their spiritual welfare.

George McKay,

Sergeant Major,

R. F. 71st Light Infantry.

Kingston, Canada West,
16th May, 1853."