

The Established Church of Scotland is also shewing symptoms of renewed life and vigour. Creditable restlessness is felt under the yoke of Patronage; an agitation has begun for extending the privileges of the christian people; and a deepened interest is shown in missionary enterprise.

Our brethren in England are diligently labouring to recover ground lost for two centuries, and endeavouring to hold up the banner of primitive simplicity and parity in the midst of the towering magnificence of a wealthy established Prelacy. While the Prelatic Establishment is a chaos of confusion, a "Noah's Ark," bearing the unclean as well as the clean, unable to free herself from the most outrageous developments of Popery and of Infidelity, the Presbyterian Church is serving herself heir to the grand old Puritans of 1643. Her discipline, like her standards, is pure and scriptural, and the work of the Lord is prospering in her hands. The Presbyterians of Wales are much more numerous than those of England. Indeed the Presbyterian Church is in Wales the Church of the people—the Establishment confining its ministrations almost exclusively to the English speaking population. Nowhere has the gospel prospered more remarkably in connection with the ministrations of our church.

On the continent of Europe Presbyterianism is more than holding its own. The Waldenses are taking a firmer hold in Italy than any other class of evangelists. In Hungary and other parts of Austria the Reformed Church is awaking after centuries of oppression and persecution. Delegates from our brethren in the Austrian Empire have this year visited all the leading Presbyterian Assemblies in Britain and America; calling for help and sympathy; and everywhere they have met with a cordial response.

In France the contest with rationalism is still going on in the Reformed Church. In Germany the evangelical element is prevailing. In Switzerland the "Free Church" is struggling amid the prevailing frigidity of Socinian error.

In the United States we find Presbyterianism developing its native strength with

all its wonted vigour. Its prosperity there is a proof that its success is not dependent on aid from the civil arm. The Church of Christ was intended for every nation and country; and Presbyterianism has proved itself well adapted to every varying soil. All over this continent it is doing the Master's work, from Newfoundland to San Francisco; from the shores of Lake Huron and the banks of the Saskatchewan to the Gulf of Mexico, and the sunny heights of Chili. Home Mission work, Church extension, was never more vigorously attempted than in connection with the various branches of our church on this continent. Over one hundred new churches were established in connection with one branch alone during the past year.

Through the wide extent of the Presbyterian world, Jesus Christ and Him crucified is preached as the only hope of lost sinners. The Bible is held up as the word of God and the only rule of faith and practice. The priesthood of all God's people is recognized. There is no class of sinful men elevated as "lords over God's heritage." Liberty and order, stability and progress, go hand in hand. The age of schism and division is past. Thanks be to God that the breaches in the family are being healed. Union after union is being consummated. Human traditions and the glosses of human philosophy are shaken off and cast aside. Nothing but the love of Christ can conquer the strong prejudices and the partizan feelings of christians:—These are being conquered now; and we need no stronger proof that the glorious Head of the Church is going forth with our armies leading them to victory.

Thank God, there are other true churches besides the Presbyterian churches, that do true work for Christ. His friends and followers are numerous and strong with the might which He gives. But we must not forget for a moment the vast numbers and the great power of the foe. It is in order to be ready for the battle that Christ is removing the dividing lines that used to mar the strength and efficiency as well as the beauty of the church; and it is because the foe is mighty that the church is receiving