

save souls and promote the interests of religion, so that our whole people may be evangelized.

*Such a work is calculated to do much good* it is catholic in spirit, exciting no denominational prejudices, but uniting the minds and efforts of all who love our Lord Jesus. Its object is single, seeking only the glory of God in the salvation of souls. The means used are simple and most appropriate,—religious truth in the form of books and tracts, the best uninspired works, carried to the homes of the people, accompanied with the prayers and efforts of humble, self-denying Christians, making direct and personal appeals to families and individuals, warning and beseeching them to be reconciled to God.

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#### NOTES OF THE MONTH.

Political affairs, both in Europe and America wear an aspect decidedly uncomfortable. All over the world appear the ominous signs of unrest, so beautifully depicted by the ancient prophet under the figure of an ever moving—ever heaving ocean. "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace saith my God to the wicked." Russia is plotting in Persia with the view of settling down dangerously in the rear of British India. At the same time she is strengthening her force in the north-west for the purpose of gaining possession of the Danubian principalities, and possibly the entrance to the Bosphorus. Austria is quiet and watchful,—as the prevalence of wars of nationality threatens her empire with dissolution. Italy is in extreme commotion, Garibaldi has been imprisoned by the Italian government, which at first professed to represent the revolutionary movement as trifling. France however, has strenuously interfered in behalf of the Pope. We fear that the worst government upon earth will be preserved a while longer. The conduct of Napoleon in the case of Rome is unjustifiable. Italy is kept in a state of chronic weakness by the Papal Government, and Napoleon by his policy contributes to this. It would not be surprising if the revolutionary tide in Italy would sweep them all away—the Pope, the King of Italy, and even extend to France. If the present crisis passes, however, without Rome becoming the property of Italy, many things may occur to enable the pope to perpetuate his reign. Popery has suffered many reverses of late in the uprising of the Protestant Empire of Prussia, the total abolition of the Concordat in Austria, the destruction of the Mexican Empire, and lastly the danger of Rome—for all which she receives consolation in England by the success of Puseyism and Ritualism. France and Prussia are mutually suspicious; and their suspicions disturb the world and

injure trade. Millions of men are under arms, hundreds of millions are spent upon war material, which becomes every two or three years useless by fresh discoveries in the art of murder, the labour of millions of able-bodied men is lost, men, who, if they don't fight, scare people from trade and work, and if they do fight, murder and destroy the fruits of labor and among other things, set fire to the sixth commandment. And this is christian civilization!

In Britain the large concessions made to the people obviate the danger of revolution. An upheaval in Europe would be met in Britain, as securely as in 1848. The only trouble at present is Fenianism, and it derives all its power from its secrecy and ruffianism. It can never do more than mischief. There is loyalty enough in Ireland alone to deal with the wretched conspiracy. Miserable as the movement is however, it will produce probably changes in Ireland by hastening the downfall of the Irish establishment. It will produce Irish reform.

In America we see our new members hastening from every quarter to the new Dominion Parliament. It is to be hoped that the passions of political canvass will subside into the order of patriotism in our legislative halls. Governor Williams has left our shores with a great demonstration of respect, worthy of such a distinguished Nova Scotian. In the United States the most awful confusion prevails, venting itself in such terms as repudiation, impeachment of the President, treason and plots with a view to despotism. It is certain that there is no reconstruction in the South, and that acts of Congress for that purpose are worthless, while they irritate. The South is at present no part of the United States in a constitutional sense. The army preserves order.

The modification of patronage has been moved by Dr. Gillan in the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr and carried by an immense majority. The modification of patronage is impossible, though its regulation may be maintained. A minister must either be presented by the patron or the people. How can you combine them. If the patron agrees to the people's man then the people present—while if the people agree to the patron's man, it is the patron who presents. People never reflect that, though such harmonious settlements occur, the difficulty lies in embodying in any statute a principle of modification in two things by their own nature incompatible. The Church must just use every means to legalise the call. The Duke of Argyll has delivered a lecture in Glasgow, on the relations between the bible and science, which in the pulpit would be considered a very dull sermon.

The Pan-Anglican Synod has issued a pastoral, which must have overwhelmed with rage and despair every true friend of the Church of England. It consists of a series