

remarkable eminence in their literary articles, the contributors being men of profound thought, cultivated understanding, and conversant with every department of science and Literature. To secure the services of such writers, the most liberal provision was made—Twenty guineas a sheet was the recognised rate of payment, and very frequently fifty and one hundred pounds, we believe, were given for certain articles. It would have been strange if Reviews, sustained by such liberality, and such a wealth of talent and learning, did not produce a corresponding result on the public mind.

A third party in the country, desirous of being represented in the world of letters, led to the establishment of the Westminster Review. The Ultra Liberal or Radical party, being opposed out and out to the Quarterly, were dissatisfied with the middle position, which the Edinburgh occupied, and hence a Radical Review was projected. Disunion in their Councils led to the commencement of two organs instead of one, viz: the London Review and the Westminster Review. Much about the same time, and in consequence of the greater intercourse which prevailed between Great Britain and the Continent, a desire was expressed to possess a first class organ, to keep the English mind informed on the progress of Continental literature. Just as the required organ was about to be commenced, the dissensions of publishers and others led to the appearance of "The Foreign Review," and "The Foreign Quarterly." In less than two years these periodicals were amalgamated, and in process of time the Radical party felt themselves unequal to the weight of sustaining the London and Westminster Reviews. The latter two were united under the name of the London and Westminster Review, and a few years ago the publishers and supporters of the Foreign Quarterly consented that their periodical should be swallowed up by the "Westminster" and thus it has come to pass that four Reviews are concentrated in this single name. The character of the Westminster is well known. Radical in politics as Roebuck, Mill, Bowring, and others would have it, it has been as Unitarian as the Martineaus, and writers of their school could desire. At one time influenced by Germanism, at another by English skepticism, always conducted with talent, and often replete with scientific articles of profound research, it has been a faithful servant of its party, and well worth watching by the friends of revealed truth. Latterly another change has taken place in its management, and now the editors profess their willingness to receive talented articles from eminent men, in advocacy of the writer's views, while the editor does not hold himself responsible for the writer's sentiments. Under this system some very remarkable articles have appeared of late on its pages; among the number we would include an extraordinary paper on John Knox. Even Dr. McCrie is not more pointed in his commendations, nor more eulogistic of the Scottish Reformer, than this writer in the Westminster Review.

The great movement which led the Free Church out of the Church of Scotland, was instrumental also in originating the North British Review. It could not be expected that the Quarterly or the Westminster, under their peculiar management, would take any interest in the movements and objects of the Scottish Ecclesiastical Reformers. The Edinburgh had generally, at the beginning, either eschewed religion, or, when adverting to Scriptural truth, thrown its influence into the adverse scale. So much so, indeed, had this come to be the case, that latitudinarianism and hostility to revealed truth were

often lamentably obvious in its pages, and under the management of the late editor this stage of things had reached a deplorable height. When the disruption took place in the Church, the great leaders of the movement felt that pure religion had suffered much from the manner in which, in the great organs of the empire, literature and evangelical religion had not only been dissociated, but often placed in antagonism, to the injury of both. Hence, a judicious and successful effort was made to establish the North British Review. Our readers will err if any of them consider this periodical to be merely a Theological journal. The object of its founders was to raise it to as high a literary eminence as had been attained by the Edinburgh or the Quarterly; and instead of limiting its articles to pure theology, its staff of contributors were to sweep over the whole circle of scientific truth, and to gather treasures out of all departments of ancient and modern lore. The names of Chalmers, Sir David Brewster, Drs. Hanna, Cunningham, Candlish, Hamilton, Gordon, Buchanan, Isaac Taylor, Professor Fraser, McCosh, and others, are associated with the eminent success of the Review, the appearance and prosperity of which has had a remarkable reflex influence on the Edinburgh of a most desirable kind. For several years past, indeed since the establishment of the North British, the Edinburgh has done vast service to the cause of religion, in so far as the articles of Rodgers, on *Reason and Faith*, the Anglo-Catholic Theory, and other papers on the infidelity which had resulted from the labours of the Oxford school are concerned. In this connection the services of the Edinburgh have been of eminent value, and we are satisfied that the evangelical tone of the North British, and its success in the country, will not fail to lead the Edinburgh less and less to seek to pander to the religiously negative, or positively hostile spirit of what was called the philosophical party.

Of Blackwood's Magazine, known all the world over, read by political foes as well as by political friends, and esteemed by each alike, even when dissented from as to its conclusions, nothing need be said—but that among Magazines it is what the Quarterly is among Reviews, in religion and politics. In classic literature, history, travels, antiquities, biography, poetry, criticism, fiction, philosophy, reviews, &c., it stands, and ever has stood, without a parallel. Even in this country, where its Toryism is opposed to ever political sentiment of a Republican people, yet its sterling talent and seductive pages have always secured for it a large band of admiring readers.

#### CAUSE OF THE RUSSIAN WAR.

Dr. Solger is delivering a series of lectures in Boston on the "Diplomatic and Military operations in the East," which possess uncommon interest. In the course of his first lecture, he stated that the present contest in the East was not confined between Russia and Turkey; but was much more a question of European war and diplomacy. With regard to the pretext for the Russian Invasion, he said there could be no doubt in the mind of any one, who had bestowed upon the subject the least reflection, that the question of the Holy Sepulcher was merely a pretence, got up by Russia, in order to force Turkey into submission. There are in Jerusalem, Latin and Greek Christians, and these two had been contending ever since they had been there for certain rights and privileges—the principal one being the privilege of entering through the chief door of the church, built over the Holy Sepulchre, and as to who should possess the key of that door. The Latins originally