COTEMPORARY OPINIONS.

Tarkey in Europe.

From the Scottish Guardian.

his native country under Roman bondage, the mevement of that hitherto obscure barbarian d, before which the Roman world mies, so many prolific tribes? deity whom Britain once worshipped? It was not long after Odin had run his won-

drous career in the North, that a still more marvellous personage appeared in the East, to accomplish a similar change. Need we name the silent meditative merchant, broker, and cameldriver-the obscure man of a tribe among a thousand tribes-Mohammed, the son of Abdal lah? He, too, became prophet, warrior, and conqueror, the founder of a faith, and the object of wership among mighty nations, so that from Druntheim to Bagdad the world seemed to be parcelled out, and shared between the two arch-deceivers. The Eastern creed, of a far more intellectual and permanent character than that of the North, has indeed borne up against the shocks of centuries and the onward march of improvement. But Mohammedanian underlies the same doom as Odinism, strong of heart and tenacious of life though it be; it is passing, and it must pass away. That "still small voice" from the banks of the Jordan that glided through the whirlwind, the earthquake, and the fire, by which the Northern superstition was made so terrible, has pronounced the doom of its: Eastern comor; and in a few generations more the messin will be no longer heard proclaiming to the four winds of heaven, " Mohammed is the

hat of God."

It is interesting also to mark the human in oreed resembled its establishment, for it was efeffected by violence and conquest. This was to the kingdom. The Dissenters' Society, founded Saint Olave proceeded, when his meet common argument to an unbeliever was, "Become a lemagne also, in the conversion of the Saxons. was equally unceremonious, when he charged them at the head of his troops, and hurled them pall mell into the baptismal river. In this way men were summarily persuaded by tribes and whole nations in a single encounter, and the obnoxious creed was annihilated almost as rapidly as it had been established. Not so, however, agas unscathed, it actually appeared a thing of which in point of civilization and refinement, were scarcely inferior to those of Christendom. Here, however, Mohammedanism had done its utmost, and here its votaries were compelled to reer upon which they had newly entered. Thus they have continued till the present day, when violent conversions are no longer thought of .-But the slow process of sapping accomplished the work of destruction as effectually as the sudden cannonade, and this fact the Moslem nations have been compelled to see and acknowledge. They find that their creed has stereoty pod them to the rude civilization of the fifteentl century, so that they can go no farther; and that they can no longer stand their ground against the surrounding nations of Christendom whose military and political skill has kept pace with their improvement in art and science -They find that their creed is incompatible with have just made a public demonstration, for other must be forgone. But which of these shall their views on the subject of National Eduthey devote to the sacrifice? There lies the cation. they devote to the sacrince r There has the cuttors.

difficulty upon which their meditative men are | For the information of our readers, who schools compulsory in the first place—their sound principle of requiring a large amount

try that stands in the fore-front of the rising general system of Education, which is to be We must say, that, on careful period, flood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation its chathreflood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation its chathreflood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation its chathreflood. Even already she receives, as reported, at the mer grand she receives, as reported, at the mer grand she were incompelled, national in its extent, unsectation its chathreflood. Even already she received as the special she were incompelled, national in its extent, unsectation in its chathreflood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation in its chathreflood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation in its chathreflood. Even already she has been compelled, national in its extent, unsectation in its chathreflood. It is specified as the specific particle of the specific parti

while he lived, the lord of the North, and estadeath and. He prepared a people, and estabuttons which the Dance of the North and estapupils of those whom for centuries they have been so that 5,000 persons, at the Evening Meetbranded as "dogs" and "swine?" But what be swept away. Such was the faith shall we give them? for a faith they must of two eloquent M.P.'s,-it will at once apbe swept away. Such was the lath shall we give them ? for a fatta they must be recessary to examine the character and sion by "the printival grandeur" of Egypter of Siggs, whom so many nations have. Or, like a true nation of shopkeepers, pear necessary to examine the character and sion by "the printival grandeur" of Egypter of Egypter of the operation of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by "the printival grandeur" of Egypter of the operation of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the printival grandeur of Egypter of Egypter of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the printiple of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the printiple of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the printiple of the pear necessary to examine the character and sion by the pear necessary to worshipped under the name of Odin. But what are we to send them nothing beyond the market became of that creed of so many victorious ar- stock of cannon and calico, except the bill of la-When the Sun ding? The Turk, especially, has reached that Righteousness arose, it melted away like a point at which the mind rejects the superstitions frost-work, and left nothing in its clace but a of its boyhood, and craves for something more few drops of water. Who would think that on- elevated and spiritual; and while he is learning ly one word to name a day of the week (Wed- from our lessons the wisdom of time, he is in the needay), should remain among us, to indicate a most hopeful mood for admitting those of eternity also. In this way, not only a solemn duty. but a fearful responsibility rests upon us. Wee is unto us, therefore, if we leave them to their shifts! Woe is unto us if ve consign them to the tender mercies of the Italian Priest or the Russian Papa-the infidelity of France or the

The Post-Office Struggle.

Pantheim of Germany!

.From the Christian Times

The Battle of the Sabbath is about to be ought on the field of the Post-office. The coniction has now become general, that nothing but an entire abolition of all secular work, not warranted by necessity, will guarantee the privileges of the Lord's day to all classes of society

nation of the religious and commercial world has now been effected, and plans for the most extensive operations are thoroughly matured.-These will comprehend a series of public meetings, to be kept up from week to week, until the neeting of Parhament; petitions from every town and parish throughout the kingdom, to be addressed to the Queen and oth Houses of the Legislature. Every effort will be made to have these petitions numerously and respectably signed. The Lord's-day Observance Society will strumentality by which these changes have been take the initiative, and at once send out proper The destruction of the northern instructions to all the clergy, mayors, and leading men, in the towns and parishes throughout be expected, not only from its rude unintellection the same principles as the Lord's-day Obsertual character, which could scarcely be assailable by argussent, but from the savage state of energetic course of action, and bring into the jecture what place the teaching of the Bisle field the whole Dissenting interest. The time a northern champion, therefore, became a convert to Christianity, his first step was a refutation of Odinism by fire and sword. In this way ment of the gigantic task which the friends of them. civil and religious freedom have assigned themregument to an unbeliever was, "Become a selves. They will profit, however, by past extheory we find very little allusion made to Christian, or fight me; and these who saw his perience. The question which has been so much the second precepts to be instilled into the stalwart form, and heavy Danish double-bladed agitated, as to the amount of relief to be affordbattle-axe, had no very eager desire to enter the old to country postmasters by Mr. Rowland Hills with their teaching. Hear the said editor plans, is to be laid aside. The Sabbatic rest of the Examiner again.:—
the London Post-office will be safely included in the demand which will be made upon the Legislature for the cessation of all postal work on Sunday throughout the country. The most very laws which they can only thwart to their careful tables have been prepared, with the view own destruction,-can truly chey only for the of showing the amount of work done in the coun- happiness of themselves and them that follow; try post-offices, under the old arrangement and to that end they must be taught." Mohammedanism. Striding on through the dark has been made from returns from 150 post-offices, shows that the relief afforded does not degrous element in schools, Mr. Gibson adducbrightness amidst the palpable obscure with serve the name. For instance, the Post-office mg its mefficiency in the Collegente establishments of the country, where candidates era delusion could still point to communities: and during these hours 168 cross post-bags for ordination were required to attend Diviare received and dispatched; so that the nity lectures and "Chapels;" and Mr. Fox only person who can be relieved is the clerk utging the fact that persons who had been whose duty it is to attend to the public. The Sunday-scholars-sometimes get inte prison. new regulations have sucreased the work of the pause, while the rival nations continued that caon Saturday night for London, and to receive one from the metropolis on Monday, which is art in the British Museum, distributed in our Meadditional work, and for this imposition, they changes Institutions, &c. &c., where lecturers are allowed, according to Mr. Hill's awn statement, to close their offices three hours and a Egypt, in their primaral grandeur, or to the dihalf in the middle of the day, when no one comes on business; but the receipt and despatch of mails continue the same as before.

From the London Walchman, Dec. 19. Great Educational Meeting in Manchester.

The Lancashire Public School Association They find that their creed is incompanion that the purpose of explaining and propagating them a request for its introduction, the best

compelled to ponder, while every succeeding may not be acquainted with the principles support compulsory in the first place—their sound principle of requiring a large amount support compulsory in the second place,— of local contributions as the condition of the

deed, the Koran condemns; but she has ven- out the country, " for the purpose of pro- that was ever palmed on the creditity of the When Sigge, the son of Fridulph, at the head tured upon these changes in spite of the Koran, moting a scheme of national socular educational socular educations. of his Scythian tribe, forsook the shores of the One pressure more, it may be, and the volume stion, under the management of local autho-Colonization Scheme propounded several Engine see, and repaired to those of the Dather, itself will be nung into the Bosphorus, like some fires, elected by the face proposed several professions for the purpose." When we inform our years ago by some of the disciples of the treaders, that this Association boasts of have same school, in which it was proposed to whose day has expired.

In this manner Islamism is silently, passing ingrecured the adhesion to its principle of was the commencement of a new era in the his- away. But what is to succeed? Its votaries extry members of the House of Commons, was the commencement of a new era in the hisaway. But what is to succeed? Its votaries exty members of the House of Commons,—
the se institutions of Chivelry which, in the
tory of the world. Emerging upon his new
are turning to Christian nations for instruction that there were from 150 to 200 gentlemen Middle Ages, contributed to help forward bere in the character of warrior, conqueror, in the arts of peace and war, and becoming the pupils of those whom for centuries they have ing, were excited to a high pitch of enthusi- skin for the lock of a lady's hair was the asm in favour of its objects, by the speeches ciently grotesque, but not more so than that pretensions of this organization.

> It appears, then, that the Schools, which are to be at once spread over the whole face of the country, according to this scheme, are to be exclusively for secular instruction. The ences, and Sunday-school teachers, stand by meaning given to the term " unsectarian" is in utter decemblure at being so curdone, in reality unreligious, -this element being Certainly it may be taken as a presage of carefully excluded. On this point the Rec. such a discomfiture, when we find that the Ww. M'KERROW, one of the Secretaries of Association has already outdone the rejthe Conference, expresses himself thus.

> " Many persons complained that an injustice would be done to their consciences, and that they and tyramy. What better pame does at could not sanction this plan, unless religion were this vapid stuff deserve than cant? We tell introduced; but we could not, as freemen, intro- the Lancashire Public School Association, duce religion; for we were responsible for our that until they have proved, by a much more religious opinions to our Maker alone. Every man had a right to judge for himself upon this subject. and as we could not agree about it, it was utterly impossible for any scheme embracing the religious element to be introduced into this country. Indeed, it seems to be a very important

part of the objects proposed by this scheme, to rescue the education of the country from the influence of the Bible, the prieste, and the religionists. So writes Mr Thornton Hunt, one of the editors of the Examiner :-"I desire general education, as a means of

freeing religion from its baser embarrassments, A powerful and completely organized combiand restoring to it its full influence." What the religion of this gentleman is ap-

nature working for good,—the instinctive re- and liens of rates, and violence to perference of these laws to God, -and the con- sons ? scientious impulse to work in carrying out thore laws." What its " baser embarrassments" are we

learn from the following :

"At present, the influence of religion is lost in the confusion of sec's, and the conflict of prosely tism; -- men are fighting for converts to their own form of creed, and not working to recruit the numbers of the servants of God, following and furthering his own laws, according to his own conduct of the universe, in obedient dove and

is to hold in these projected schools, and shat will be the national effect, in regard to revealed teligion, of the instruction given in

As a natural consequence of this kind of

"Religion must be emancipated from its ignib." struggle. To do that, men must be more intelligent, and must learn to know their duty from the

The two principal speakers at the Even ing Meeting argued atrongly against the relilishments of the country, where candidates

The latter gentleman proposes a supple 44 A selection of casts from the great works of

might point to the enduring monuments of ancient vine ideals of Grecian sculpture, or to the curious and interesting memorials of the middle ages"

All this is urged as a means of preventing erime, which promises to be more successful tonn Sunday-school and day-school instruction in the hands of the religionists. In connection with this, it was argued by

some of the speakers, that as no great desire had been expressed by the working classes for this new system, and it would be hopeless to attempt by agitation to get up from way to go to work would be to obtain legis- well, to listen to the overtures of the specula-

We are reminded of the New Zeahad

apply, for the civil za ion; of the cannible, barbarous to a polished state. The itles of a New Zealand Chieftain trught to rick 'bie of a troop of tagged boys, awed into submisian Monuments, and trained to virtue and religion by "the divine ideals of Grecien sculpture;" whilst the religionists, with their old-fashroned brok, and their priestly infagiomsts in what has usually been held to be their exclusive monopoly,-cant, bigoley, minute and inductive process of reasoning than they have ever yet attempted, that their system of Education will restrain crime,improve society, and make the country prosperous, we shall hold them guilty of using words and phrases without any meaning, simply because they have learnt them from their party. Did ever religious bigotry assert im exclusive claims, and run down all other sects with more intensity than this Association maintains its pretensions? Dees history record an instance of a Church, in im dominancy, cramming religion down people's throats with half the zeal which these men show to puff the public mind with their irrepears to be, " the perception of the laws of ligious crotchets, by force of Parliaments,

> We do not hesitate to say that never were pretensions so lofty backed by such costemptible doinge.

For what have these philanthropic educa-

tionists done? They profess to deplore the prevalence of

ignorance and crime, - they claim oredit for hot zeal in the cause of education, -they are impatient of delay, -the religionists are too slow for them,-it will take, they say, at the present rate of progress, two hundred years to teach the people of England to read

Well, what have THEY done? It is used for the religious bigots to show their s rity by their encrifices. They put down their money to build schools and training institutions, and to pur Teacher's salaries.

But these educational bigots are not such fools ; - their policy is to make other people pay for their experiments.

One of the most enthusiastic speakers said .-

"Besides, he considered it a very unjust thing that-every attempt to improve the com tion of our fellow-creatures should be made simply at the expense of the benevolent part of the community.

Very good ;-hut wmonget the religionist, it is usual to regard practical efforts and pecuniary contributions as the tests of benevelence, and the non-benevolent want at least some examples of this kind to move them. It is a doctrine unknown amongst the sectsries, that benevolence consists in taking other people's money to relieve distre-s.

Such, however, is the benevolence of the Langashire Public School Association. One sample gentleman from the country did, in firs old-fashioned way, mention something about subscriptiona; but be was speedily corrected, and made to understand, that his benevolence was to cost him nothing more than his own proportion of a six-penny raw.

That 60 members of the House of Commons should have voted for the principle of such a measure, can only be matter of satprise and regret.

It should, however, make Methodists look about them, that they may bring to bear upon the masses exposed to the danger of such educational quackery, their own practical, well-tried agency, which they know from "the sure word of prophery," to be divinely sanctioned, and from their experience, to have been divinely blessed.

We venture to hope, that the Government understands the wants of the country toe year becomes more urgent for a reply. Such advocated by this Association, we may state, and the attendance of the children compulsion of the children computed own sid, and as a test of the zeal of school-served in the third place. JANUARY 25.

And we tell the Munchester his condert, that he must be k case than he has yet done, bet try will emesent to try his ti the religious teare to retrong and that, event Lis per seven by acts of Pa limited, it would is operation by the deermined all glasses arming them, who w as one man to the rallying cry -THE BIELE FIRST, and THE THE BIBLE for the youth of En

FAMILY CIRCL

- I am so sorry that i have not liv Life."

These words were among the centences, uttered by a lovely young lady, just then falling a sumption, in the very block of weet had been her disposition. feetionate her intercourse with he and with her friends, that it was e of her, with much propriety, on thou lackest. In her last sickness tisfactory evidence, that the one crowning grace, was no lon , ar died peacefully, aithough in exc of body, ever pronouncing between involuntary throbbings of phy " blessed Jesus! blessed Jesus!" before this event, calling her mot aide, she bid her a very touching eto adieu, asking forgiveness for a she might have shown to her, in and then, with indescribable cmo et, " Mother, I am so sorry that ad a different life."

The sentiment of this dying gir ous and important to be passed b Golden moments of usefulness and are permitted to pass swiftly, and and their value only appreciated opportunities are beyond our gra-parent or teacher! this world is t bour, the night of death will soon tain over thee, and thy work, we will be ended. How much is the plished! and how few the mome main! Many are the immortal upon the faithful efforts. Be not enticed by the passing vanities bour for eternity! "Work on, a The day of discharge, and reward nearer than anticipated. Avoid ean be done; leave no duty uni obligation undischarged. Then come too soon, nor thy soul be harrowing reflections upon thy no yet, looking on the cold unmoved shalt thou say, with grief of he sorry that I have not lived a di but thou shalt exclaim, triumpl now ready to be offered, and the t parture is at hand. I have fough I have finished my course, I have Henceforth there is laid up for righteousness, which the Lord, Judge, shall give at that day."

Dear young reader, have you essary preparation for eternity. dy to receive, at any, moment, nious approach of death, and hea tory summons, "Follow me!" building high hopes of life and h your present health, and smiling And are you not parting off a know to be indispensable? you build upon is already shaken ease is just now ready to remove sone, and the beautiful and a structure must fall into the dust

"If I could have believed it pe young lady, to a minister, who called to pray with her, then in brace of death, ... that I should con, and just when I was so happ should have been in re faithful to

in attendance upon the house of Alas! alas! death cannot be b ty, earthly bliss, or tears of ang han one short year, the deeply buried this lovely young lady, wh mencement, he had joined in he matrimony, to the companion of beart. Do not, then, my friend, factions. It will require all the vine grace, to look, for the last t dear forms of kindred and frier ey to the lovely scenes of like. death and the grave with a cal-Maying, "O death! where is the frave! where is the victory? the source of your chiefest at c E. count, that you have lived thro our having accomplished the gar 15. Leave not as your dying an so sucry that I have not to sailefe ! -- S. S. Teacher.

Family Religion. Family religion is of thosp that Rich in will greatly darent