

# The Colonial Protestant;

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## PROTESTANT UNION.

A PRIZE ESSAY.

(Concluded.)

This conducts us to the next branch of enquiry, viz.: the MEANS by which Protestant Union may be carried into effect.

"The Bible, the Bible only," said Chillingworth, "is the religion of Protestants." The only sword we wish to employ in this warfare is the "sword of the Spirit." It is "quick, and powerful, and piercing"—"there is none like it." Even the unlearned man, who is well versed in Scripture, accustomed to meditate on its truths, and habituated to pray for the teaching of the Holy Spirit, is excellently prepared for the contest. But Papists shun the Bible. It is a light that makes manifest the enormities of the great apostacy.

If Protestants would successfully oppose Popery, they must study the Bible thoroughly for themselves, and promote its circulation among the adherents of Romanism. Nor need they fear to employ, in pursuing this course, the versions which are authorised by the Church of Rome. In fact, necessity is laid upon them, for the members of that Church will read no other versions. Imperfect and incorrect as they are, in some particulars, they contain the pure

word of God. It might have been far better translated; nevertheless, it is the word of God, and it is able to make "men wise unto salvation."

No new organization is required for this purpose. Our Bible Societies fully meet the exigency, and will supply any demand.

Next in importance to Bible Institutions are Tract and Book Societies. Their labours, in both hemispheres, have been eminently blessed. In the catalogues of their publications are to be found works of sterling worth and usefulness, embracing all the branches of the Romish controversy, and admirably adapted to convince gain-sayers, and instruct all. Here, also, no new organization seems to be necessary.

Nevertheless, much may be done in this department. The mode of conducting religious controversies must be varied, as the state of society alters or improves. The arguments which were forcible in one age may require to be greatly modified, and perhaps supplanted by others, in the next. Error shifts its ground, and as it abandons one position after another, calls for the vigilant exercise of sanctified ingenuity, that novel objections