

Divine truth. Whether, however, all or even many of his positions be tenable, the address is most valuable in its breadth of view and its suggestiveness: and its delivery at the seat of a Scotch university was appropriate to the theological and speculative spirit of the Scottish people.

Mr. Froude, well known by his history of the times of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, has delighted his Presbyterian spirit of Scotland by lectures delivered before the Philosophical Institution, in which he gives to John Knox a position as high as ever given him by his most devoted admirers. He traced his influence in the events of his time, in preserving the liberties of the people—almost single-handed—and in resisting the most subtle influences of wily politicians to overthrow them. He commended his Presbyterian Church constitution as fitted to the genius of the people, and as the best support of their liberties: and he attempted to show that, to a great extent, through the freedom established in Scotland, he became indirectly the preserver, in after times, of the free institutions of England. No such defence, from a political point of view, has appeared before of the great Reformer, against whom such charges have been made of incivility and barbarism, by those who have been ready to forget that he was contending in a crisis for the life or death of a nation.

The election of Mr. Thomas Carlyle to the rectorship of the Edinburgh University is an event not without its significance. Mr. Carlyle has had more sway over the youthful mind of Scotland at its most important stage for the last twenty years than any other man: large as has been his influence generally, it has nowhere been so great as in his own country, where the *Perseverandum ingenium*, which he was pre-eminently, "ands abundant sympathy. It is not his views or opinions which are difficult to discern, that have produced nearly as much influence as his love of truth, and hatred of mere conventionalisms. Many indeed of his warmest admirers differ widely from his pronounced opinions, and not a few of the most earnest adherents of revealed religion feel that they owe to him a debt never to be forgotten in that love of candour and truthfulness and bravery of spirit, which breathes through all his writings. No honour lately bestowed has received more hearty approbation from many of the best of his countrymen.

ENGLAND.—A correspondent of the *Daily News* says that it is "generally believed that the Pope has determined upon creating another Archbishopric in England, and that Dr. Ullathorne, now Bishop of Birmingham, will be the new Archbishop, and be made titular primate of the North of England. The two prelates will most likely receive the Cardinal's hat together next summer, when there is to be an immense assembly of Bishops from all parts of the world in Rome. Dr. Ullathorne is of an old Roman Catholic family, has been twenty years a Bishop, and was formerly a Benedictine monk, so that his elevation to an Archbishopric will no doubt be very popular amongst his coreligionists in England; besides which, Birmingham has been long the centre of the most Catholic part of England. Monsignor Clifford

an English resident priest in Rome, a near relative of Lord Clifford, is deputed to gather subscriptions in the Holy City for the cathedral which is to be built in London as a memorial of Cardinal Wiseman, I hear that no less than a hundred thousand pounds sterling, to extend over five years in payment, has already been promised, and of this a fifth has actually been paid into the bank."

IRELAND.—An appeal has been made by the Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian Church to raise the annual collection from 2000*l.* to 3000*l.*, and to send out more missionaries. The congregation presided over by the Rev. Dr. Morgan has answered this appeal by contributing over 430*l.*

A controversy between two clergymen of the Presbyterian Church on the nature of the doctrine of assurance, has been terminated by a Commission of the General Assembly, who, after a lengthened hearing, decided that there was no violation of the Confession of Faith.

The Encyclical of the Pope has produced a curious result in Belfast. A Roman Catholic Institute and Reading Room was established there some years ago. The management has not lately been pleasing to the Bishop, whose proposed changes were pronounced by some shareholders to involve a confiscation of their property. On receiving them the Bishop was out-voted, and immediately issued a mandate, resting on the authority of the 48th, 57th, and 22nd propositions of the Encyclical, and requiring four conditions from the directors; that he should decide on the constitution of the Institute, approve of the rules of management, have the right of excluding any member he pleased, and be the sole judge of the books, newspapers, and lectures to be admitted. For any violation of these conditions he would consider it his duty, "to debar from the Sacraments, all and every one who may become a member, or aid in its construction."

FRANCE.—The Reformed Church is still planning campaigns against the Rationalists and Radicals, to which State assistance joins it in awkward union. It has in Paris rejected a new pastor presented to the Presbyterian Council by A. Coquerel, senior, as his assistant, on account of his vague, evasive answers to plain questions on Christianity and the resurrection of our Lord. Nine votes against two excluded him. The Rationalist Pasteur Pelissier, of Bordeaux, who openly spoke against the miracles of the Bible in Calvin's pulpit in Geneva, has drawn down upon himself his exclusion from all the Genevan pulpits by the Consistory of that city.

Yet the clever and worldly popular language of the Rationalist party rather points to the future as theirs. Among the minor events which have irritated sorely the orthodox is the gliding of a chapel near Paris out of the hands of the latter into those of the former, and the name of Evangelical Alliance having been assumed by the Rationalist committee of this chapel.

It is undoubtedly a time of painful expectancy and in many of discouragement; while the Power from on high seems not yet shed on the various churches, while conversions take place individually, no strong influence is