

to the lake of Tiberias, they have, nevertheless, full observations of the barometer and the boiling water apparatus from Acre by way of the lake and river Jordan to the Dead Sea.

The Eventful Year.

It will be long before a truthful history of the year 1848 can be written. The excitement of times like these will prevent the historian from taking that calm, unbiassed view of affairs which is essential to impartiality. The effervescence of feeling must subside, and the nations must attain to a state of quiet, order, and settled government, ere it will be possible to furnish such an account of the transactions of this memorable year as will deserve to be called genuine history. Facts may be chronicled now; industrious honesty is all that is needed for that purpose:—perhaps the man is not yet born who will arrange and classify them, trace effects to their causes, and develop the operation of principles.

It has been a year of tumult—of “wars and rumours of wars.” Europe has shook to its very foundations, and its proudest turrets have threatened to fall. The tide of revolution, commencing its progress in Sicily, in January, reached Sardinia and France in February, poured over Austria and Germany in March, and has extended, with more or less effect, to other countries. Important advantages have been already gained to freedom. The chief cause for apprehension at present is the apparent determination, on the part of some infatuated men, to excite a reaction in favor of arbitrary power. Ruinous consequences must follow their perseverance in such an attempt.

How is the cause of God affected by these changes? Some Christians contemplate them with very gloomy feelings. We cannot sympathise with those brethren. The Missionary,

Bible, and Tract enterprise began its glorious career when almost the whole world was in arms—and how blessed have been the results! It will be so again. The nations may be shaken; but that will not prevent the coming of the “Desire of all nations,” to bless and purify mankind, and establish the kingdom of peace and righteousness.

On this subject, Dr. Campbell has written with great force and propriety, in the *British Banner*. An extract is subjoined:—

“No man, we think, who is a believer in revelation, and a student of the Scriptures, can, for a moment, doubt that the hand of God is in this wonderful shaking of the nations, and that it is conducted upon principles most intimately connected with the destruction of the kingdom of ANTICHRIST, and the establishment of the empire of the MESSIAH. As long as these kingdoms, now shaken, remained as they were, at the opening of the present year, they constituted a barrier against the spread of the true Gospel which nothing could surmount; that barrier is now in the way of being removed completely, and, we hope, for ever. The tongue, the pen, the pulpit, the press—all are free! Even the Waldenses, immemorially afflicted and persecuted for righteousness' sake, now rejoice in the possession of complete liberty, both Civil and Religious. Even those hereditary and mind-manacled bondsmen, the Romans, are emancipated and exulting in the immunities of political liberty! In those parts of the Continent, too, where the thralldom of man was most thorough and debasing, there the liberty is the most expansive and complete. Millions of men, without a moment's preparation, have passed—not by successive stages, but at a single bound—as if from the frozen to the torrid zone, both in regard to religion and to liberty. Even in Austria, with her thirty-five millions of serf-born subjects, the suffrage is universal, and every fetter is struck from off the conscience—religious liberty is perfect. Throughout the great regenerated family of Continental nations, Civil Liberty is triumphant, and fortified by Constitutional Government, Trial by Jury, Free-