

They call thee wizard and monk accursed,  
And lead thee with dispraise;  
Thou'rt born five hundred years too soon  
For the comfort of thy days,  
But not too soon for human kind;  
Time hath reward in store,  
And the demons of our sires become  
The saints that we adore.

*The blind can see, the slave is lord;  
So round and round we run;  
And ever the wrong is proved to be wrong,  
And ever is justice done.*

Keep, Galileo, to thy thought,  
And nerve thyself to bear;  
Thy gloat over senseless words they wring  
From the pangs of thy despair.  
They veil their eyes, but cannot hide  
The sun's meridian glow;  
The heel of a priest may tread thee down,  
And a tyrant work thee woe.  
But never a truth has been destroyed.  
They may curse it and call it a crime;  
Pervert and betray or slander and slay  
Its teachers for a time;

*But the sunshine, ay, shall light the sky,  
As round and round we run,  
And the truth shall ever come uppermost,  
And justice shall be done.*

CHARLES MACKAY.

#### TO GREAT BRITAIN.

WHILE men pay reverence to mighty things,  
They must revere thee, thou blue-rinctured isle  
Of Britain—of to-day, but the long while  
In front of nations. Mother of great kings,  
Soldiers, and poets. Round thee the sea flings  
His steel-bright arm, and shields thee from the  
guile

And hurt of France. Secure, with angust smile,  
Thou sittest, and the East its tribute brings.  
Some say thy old-time power is on the wane,  
The moon of grandeur filled, contracts at length;  
They see it darkening down from less to less.  
Let but a hostile band make threat again,  
And they shall see thee in thy ancient strength,  
Each iron sinew quivering, lioness!

#### SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

**A** MOST shocking Railway disaster at Chatsworth, near Chicago, caused death to over 150 persons, besides 300 wounded badly. "Be ye always ready." "Lo, He cometh."

PRINCE FERDINAND of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has accepted the request of the Sobranje to become King of Bulgaria. Russia seems indignant at this bold step, in spite of all her threats.

THE latest advices from Europe seem to indicate that an alliance is being formed between Germany, England, Austria and Italy against France and Russia. Bismarck appears to be busy strengthening his position on all sides. Italy has evidently been assured that Bismarck means her no harm. Denmark is suspected of

having a leaning towards Russia, and is to be neutral. The war of tariffs and other commercial regulations is to be kept up between Russia and Germany; and the attitude of Germany towards France is threatening. The occupation of the throne of Bulgaria by Ferdinand without consulting Russia, is not without significance. It is hardly to be expected that that Prince would openly defy Russia if he had not an assurance from some powerful quarter that he would be secured against foreign aggression. Altogether, matters in Europe at the present moment look serious. Peace may possibly be maintained, but no one need be surprised if the relations between some of the great powers become so strained as to make war in the very near future inevitable.

THE IRISH LAND BILL is most favorable to the Irish tenantry. The concessions which it extends to the tenants are so many and so great as to excite the anger of the Irish landlords, while they have gone a great way to appease the Home Rule party and to make the Coercion Act unnecessary. It is in very deed a remedial act to all honest tenants.

BRITAIN AND RUSSIA have at last agreed on the boundary line of North Afghanistan. The Premier, Lord Salisbury, says that England's and Russia's concessions were equal, each side showing a desire to maintain peace, and to proceed with the work of civilization, in the prosecution of which there was ample room for both England and Russia in Asia. He said he was confident that all dangers to European peace had passed away.

DELITZSCH's Hebrew translation of the New Testament continues to be a wonderful missionary agency. It has now found its way to the Jews of Siberia, and has seemingly entered there also on its mission conquering and to conquer, as it has done in the eastern provinces of European Russia, where no less than 30,000 copies of the work have been scattered among the Jewish peoples. The Jews of Siberia are reading the translation with avidity, and a movement has been inaugurated among them that much resembles that in Kischeneff, in Bessarabia. These Jews are but little acquainted with the Talmud, and are, for this reason, thought to be more open to gospel influences. The Testaments are sold and distributed from the city of Tomsk.

MR. RUSKIN has sent the following letter to a student of Edinburgh University:—"Whit Tuesday, 1887.—My dear Sir,—You hear a great deal nowadays of the worst nonsense ever uttered since men were born on earth. Best hundred books! Have you ever