

state of religious affairs. We cannot, however, doubt the deliberate statements of a Nobleman of Lord Farnham's exalted rank and character. But there is another source of information on this deeply interesting subject, to which I would feel disposed to render yet more implicit credence; I mean the private correspondence of well informed and correct friends resident in Ireland. The letter from which I enclose you the following extract was recently written by one whom I have long known and regarded with a brother's love and esteem. From that personal knowledge of the character of the writer, I would willingly pledge my honour for the truth and correctness of every syllable.

“The situation of Ireland at present fixes the attention of the religious and reflecting. The Reformation, deducting for the exaggerations of interested parties, seems to be darting its roots through the four Provinces. The poor and illiterate, as in the days of the first establishment of Christianity, form the majority of the converts;—for *God chooses the base things of this world to confound the mighty*, and the wisdom which he withholds from *the wise and prudent, of this world, he revealeth to babes*—nevertheless, the conversion of some persons of note now and then takes place. The newspapers of one side ring with triumph, while the opposite party endeavor to depreciate the character of the person or to throw doubts on the truth of the fact. Coexisting circumstances are in unison with this state of things. The Church is frequented more than the Theatre. Books of devotion dispute the possession of the toilette table with works of imagination. The Sacrament is no longer considered as an unmeaning ceremony. The young Clergy think less of their horses and guns, and more of the souls of their Parishioners. Charitable Societies increase. Meetings to promote the diffusion of the Scriptures among the poor, take place almost every day;—and finally, the placards, instead of informing us what the Play is to be, announce that on such a night a Sermon will be delivered on the absurd doctrine of Transubstantiation, or the unscriptural practice of Latin prayers. This day's paper mentions the formal recantation of Miss Burke, niece of a Roman Catholic Bishop, and the novelty of an English Mass instead of Latin in many of the Chapels in the north. So that the seeds of that great change which were long ago discerned by the eagle vision of Dr. Magee are beginning now to manifest themselves to many. In particular the prophetic books of Scripture have been treated with singular ability by the first divines of the age;—and men the most removed from enthusiasm of character or precipitancy of judgment, after a sober perusal of these writings, declare themselves satisfied that the present state of things, as well as that of the last five and thirty years, is accurately predicted in the writings of Daniel and St. John. “*Frere's combined view of the Prophecies*” gives perhaps the clearest view of the subject. It is about to be published anew, being run out of print.”

I think, Mr. Editor, you will agree with me that a sobriety and temperance of tone pervades the above extract, sufficient to convey even to a stranger strong *internal* evidence of veracity. But I who am well acquainted with the remarkably fine understanding and exemplary principles of the writer feel not a shadow of doubt on the subject. In addition I would remark that so far from his being influenced by party spirit, his family connexions (which are