

magnitude threw somewhat into the shade our smaller affairs, but the United States were so absorbing that the rest of North America, though "British," had but a brief hearing. What was said on the Colonies, however, we will here transcribe.

#### MR. POORE ON COLONIAL MISSIONS.

At the meeting on behalf of British Missions, Rev. J. L. Poore, being appointed to plead for the Colonial field, spoke as follows :

"The same arguments and motives which have been so forcibly brought before you on behalf of England apply equally to the colonies, because, although we are about to speak of people settled in remote lands, still they are our countrymen, and have all the needs there which our countrymen have at home. If ignorant, they need to be taught the right way of the Lord ; if perverted and fallen into error through the teaching of false preachers, they need to be called to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. If, in this country, they were neglectful of the things which made for their eternal peace, life in the New World, in the woods of Canada, or in the gold-fields of Australia, has no tendency to rouse them to diligence and to zeal ; but they have there multiplied temptation and most seductive influences to drag them down to perdition. We have, perhaps, but little appreciation of what we mean when we speak of our colonies, because we know so little respecting their position and their numbers. It is the pride and glory of Britain to have colonies, and, indeed, we are almost the only country that pretends to colonise. Our people are always streaming forth into all parts of the world. From 1851 to 1861 more than a million and a half of people left England, the majority of them going to British possessions abroad, and still the stream flows on with unabated force, while other countries of Europe, such as Germany and Italy, also send out emigrants to our colonies in vast numbers. The British nation is made up, as we know, of a variety of races, but a new amalgam is now being made in Australia, in Canada, and in New Zealand. What shall the amalgam be? Shall it be honest, earnest, British, Bible-loving, free? Very much depends upon this generation. The only rational ground of hope that we have for these distant countries in coming time is that we now, in the very beginning of things, put into them the healthy, free, vigorous element of our British life ; and then, though they may be mixed races, yet, the substratum being sound, and true to the Bible and to liberty, we may hope to have a reproduction of all that is good and worthy in this grand old land. It is important that we should do our work as lovers of the Bible and of liberty now, because others are active. All the old fights that we have had in this country have to be fought over again in new lands. We have mighty antagonists in these new lands. The priest, whom I loathe as an enemy to mankind, and the Anglican clergymen, who is not very different from the priest in the present day—and I am very sure the Evangelical clergymen are very few and far between in the colonies,—these men only ask for liberty to establish their system and to root their principles in the minds of our young states on the other side of the globe, and then we shall have to fight at a vast disadvantage, and to do our work in the midst of much turmoil and strife, whereas now we can win the victory for liberty and for God's truth in a comparatively short time. Our churches in Canada have mainly established perfect religious freedom in that land. One of our ministers in Adelaide, Mr. Stowe, wrote down the State-aid system there. In the new colony of Queensland the system of State-aid has never existed, and when the Constitution of that State was drawn up, one of our ministers drew a clause providing for perfect religious freedom and equality. Since then, a Roman bishop and an English bishop, bishops of rival Churches, but brethren in one design, have made a journey through that colony in company, and have spoken on the same platform, their object being to establish a denominational system of education, or to bring in State-aid in disguise ; but they have come a day behind the fair. The things that are now being done in our colonies in the name of religion are really being done in the spirit of Churchism. Nearly everybody condemns Dr. Colenso, but