GLEANINGS FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH ON THE INDIAN MUTINY.

(*To the Members of the Winchcomb Agricultural Association.*)

Gentlemen,—I much regret my not being able to attend your annual meeting to-day, the more especially as I was desirous of speaking to you upon the subject nearest to my heart—the war in India, and of urging you to assist, as you and all country gentlemen and farmers can, most powerfully, in bringing the country through the difficulties in which it is involved.

Not having the opportunity of addressing you otherwise, I now write to you.

As to the war itself, I need say but little. As to the conduct of the Ministers of the Indian Government in this emergency I shall say nothing. I must soon have ample and more proper opportunities of saying whatever I may think upon that subject.

Gentlemen, you may not have looked into all the details of what has taken place in India, but you must know this—that we have there a great war forced upon us by rebels who would deprive all our countrymen of their lives, and England of an empire—that where we placed our confidence we have been met with treachery—where we acted with kindness we have encountered murder; murder, not directed only against men, by whom resistence might be made, and from whom wrongs might have been feared, but extending equally to unoffending, helpless women—to the children at their knees, and to the infants at their breasts—sparing none, and often inflicting death with torture upon the body where it had already more cruelly tortured the mind.

We have seen there, in almost every instance of mutiny, one general, deliberate design, not only to deprive us of the dominion we have so long held with honour, but to place us as a people under circumstances of outrage and of indignity, which, if we submit to them, must render us in the eyes of all living men and of all future generations a despised and degraded race. Will you submit to this? You will say you never will—you will have redress and vengeance. We will say nothing about vengeance, that belongs only to a higher power; but to punish crime so signally as to deter all hereafter from its commission, and to vindicate our sovereign authority, this is, no doubt, our right, and it is our duty; and you will not be found wanting in the performance of it; but, then, what will you do? Depend upon it, it is not enough to sit quietly at home, to pay taxes, nor to go to public meetings and pass resolutions expressive of sympathy with the sufferers and of indignation against their destroyers. You must do more than this, and I will tell you what you can do—what none but those who are in your position can do equally well, and what you now all ought to do, for the honour of the country and for your own.

You have heard of the great reinforcements of troops which have been recently sent, or are now going out to India. You have been assured that we shall have there a larger army than we had in the Crimea, and I dare say you expect from the exertions of this force early and complete success in the war. Everything that the noblest of soldiers can do has been done and will be done by our's in India; and they have now a general who knows well what war is—the lions are at last led by a lion. But be assured that this is not a sudden temporary danger, to be repelled by sudden temporary exertion. What at first was a mutiny is become a revolution; to restore civil authority is more difficult than to repress military resistance, and it requires more force to occupy than it does to subdue. Be assured that the military institutions of this country, managed as they are now, are insufficient permanently to supply the number of men required to reconquer what we have lost, and to hold our empire hereafter in security. It is only through a change in those institutions, which no minister would willingly propose, or through a great practical improvement in the working of them, which your co-operation may supply, that the necessary force can be maintained. I am satisfied that the principle upon which our militia is now founded, that of voluntary enlistment, is the one most acceptable to the people; and I feel assured that a militia maintained at its full complement, as it may be and can only be, by the patriotic exertions of country gentlemen and farmers, is the best foundation of our military system. If you, and such as you, will, by your efforts, keep the militia up to its complement, the regular army will take care of itself. It may cost more to draw the recruit for the army through the militia, but the recruit so obtained is in most cases one who would not have been procured at all unless he had first entered the militia, and there acquired a taste for military service. Employ in the obtaining of recruits for the militia but half the zeal you would display in getting votes at an election, and you will certainly succeed. A hundred recruiting sergeants could not do what each of you can do within the sphere of his personal influence.

When I tell you that you have this power, I speak from my own experience. When the militia, as now constituted, was first established in 1853, I took much interest in the success of the measure, and I earnestly requested several farmers I was acquainted with to do their utmost to obtain recruits. Some zealously exerted themselves, others were more lukewarm; but in every instance in which an influential farmer cordially undertook the duty, the result was uniformly the same; and I am convinced that if all who could have done so had acted as some did, the country could in that year have raised, not between 50,000 and 60,000, but not less than 120,000 men.

No doubt you would be greatly aided in your exertions to obtain recruits if the militia of the county should be embodied. Men will more willingly enlist in a regiment they can see marching with all the pomp and circumstance of war than in a corps which remains invisible, and of which the existence is only to be found in official records. But, let others do as they may, it is for you to do your duty. Where you lead, others will follow; and while you will do much good by your individual efforts, you will do yet more by your example.

I ask you only to do what I know you can do, and what I feel you ought to do for the assistance of the country in this critical juncture of our affairs.

It is impossible to over-estimate its importance. There is nothing man holds dear for which we have not now to fight. If we should not bear ourselves manfully in the contest thus forced upon us, if we should not succeed in it, we must be content not only to lose the noblest empire in the world, but to make the name of Englishman a by-word of shame amongst nations.

The wives and daughters of our countrymen have been publicly violated, their children have been put to death with circumstances of cruelty surpassing all we read of in history as the punishments inflicted by God upon the offending Jews. It has not been deemed sufficient to destroy us. We were first to be dishonoured; and this in a country through which we have proudly—perhaps too proudly—stalked as conquerors for a hundred years.

Do you suppose that, if we could submit to this in India, we should not be threatened with it in England? Do you imagine that the great military powers of Europe, always prepared for war, offended by our pride, resentful of our former victories, and coveting our present wealth, would long permit us to enjoy in peace the luxuries we cling to and the dreams of irresistible strength in which we fatuitously indulge? Be assured that if, under the strongest necessity ever imposed upon a people, we do not rise as one man to vindicate our national honour, and to re-establish our Indian empire, the horrors we read of with shuddering as perpetrated at Meerut and at Delhi will not for ever be averted from our island home.

I counsel you, therefore, to give at once your cordial assistance, as you best can give it, to the country. In the prosecution of this contest which we cannot avoid—the greatest and the most difficult in which we have ever been engaged—it will not do to confine ourselves to a cold compliance with what may be required from us by the law. To succeed in this war the people must make it its own.—I remain, gentlemen, with much regard, your very faithful servant, Ellenborough.

Southam Delabere, October 16, 1856.

A CHECK TO POPERY IN MALTA.

Malta.—The Queen's order in Council, excluding priests from sitting in the local Council of Government, was promulgated on the 2d October. It concludes thus:—

"Now, know ye that we do, in pursuance and in exercise of the power so reserved to us as aforesaid, by these presents appoint and ordain that no prelate, clergyman, or minister, whether secular or regular, or person in holy orders or in minor orders of the Roman Catholic Church, or of any other church or religious congregations, and no Jesuit, monk, friar, or member of any religious order, shall hereafter be capable of becoming a member of the said Council, and that any councillor who shall take such holy orders aforesaid, or acquire any such character as is above designated, shall thereupon be deemed to have vacated his place in the said Council of Government.

"Witness ourself at Westminster the 30th day of July, in the twenty-first year of our reign. "C. Romilly."

India Relief Fund.—The subscriptions already received exceed £130,000.

(*From Willmer's European Times, Oct. 24.*)

INDIA.

It would appear that the rule of the East India Company is any thing but popular at the head quarters of the Government. Towards the end of August meeting was held in Calcutta of the European residents the object of which was the establishment of the Indian Reform League. The promoters of this movement seek for the transfer of all political power in India from the Company to the representatives of the British Crown, the administration of justice on the principles of English law, an improvement in the police system, a revision of the fiscal arrangements, and the throwing open of civil employment to all Europeans without distinction. The committee for carrying out this and similar objects consisted of merchants, barristers, solicitors, newspaper editors, and other persons well acquainted with the country, and old residents in it. To ensure success, funds were subscribed on the spot, and the earnestness of the meeting was intense. Taking this expression of public feeling in connection with a similar movement inaugurated a short time previously by the commercial classes in Calcutta, it would seem that the Indian Government is but little relished on the spot. At the Reform League meeting, a gentleman named Patterson gave expression to some very sensible views. He said,—"One of the most glaring defects in the government of this country is the mode in which the Legislative Council is constituted. Not only is the native excluded (and, in my opinion, properly), but because he is excluded the independent British adventurer is excluded also, on the excuse that you cannot have anything approaching to a popular constitution without admitting the native; and as that is not desirable, it is better to exclude every European not in the service—a splendid mode of reasoning, and one that shows what is to be expected from a body constituted on such principles. . . . . I ask, why should the independent British population in India, small though it be, be deprived of the power of having a voice in the government of the country—a power awarded to every British settlement? Look at what has been done in every British colony when allowed to manage its own affairs on the spot. Look at Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and other colonies. Why should we not have, if not the same representative system as they have, still some system that will allow the State the benefit of the services of those who can best serve it? One is met by the assertion "India is not a colony." My answer is—"Nor is Ceylon." In Ceylon the British population does not exceed the British population here. (Hear.) In that island, with its Legislative Council of independent Europeans, we find public works going on, British capital introduced; and while the Government of India is so poor as to be compelled to open one loan after another, the Government of Ceylon is so rich as to be able to lend money to the Oriental Bank at 3½ per cent. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") There is a proof of what a council having in its composition some of the independent British inhabitants can do for the good of the country. If we as a race are conquerors, is there any reason why we should not be legislators as well? (Hear, hear.) To the conquering race we must look for the development of the vast resources of this country. The natives themselves neither have done nor will ever do anything towards its development. Unless this country is to be a permanent burden on Great Britain, the means of meeting governmental expenses must come from the trade of the adventurer."

Distressing intelligence comes to us through a German source, to the effect that throughout the East the hatred to the Christians is unbounded, and it is even said that the Mahommedans in Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt are arming themselves for the purpose of following the example of the Sepoys. Even in the dominions of the Bey of Tunis the lives of the Christian population are placed in serious peril, owing to the feeling which has been stirred up by the rebellion in India. To such a crisis are matters tending that the French Consul at Tunis has made an official demand for the reinforcement of the naval power on that station. But we are sanguine enough to hope that when the power of our arms is once more felt in India, the danger to which we now refer will disappear. The Mahommedans evidently labour under the impression that now is the time to complete our overthrow, but when the tide turns,—as turn it soon will,—they will pause before incurring the retribution which is in store for the Bengal traitors.

The mails and passengers from India have arrived at Marseilles, and the unhappy persons have all fearfully tragic incidents to recite of their hairbreadth escapes from the dangers which surrounded them. Three lady passengers by this arrival escaped from the scene of a terrible massacre by riding hundreds of miles. They had been confined for a considerable time in a fort, from which by means of horses they escaped. The safety of a Mrs. Graham was remarkable. Her husband was shot by her side in a carriage while they were escaping. She drove on and thus saved her own life. A characteristic incident occurred on board of the steamer which brought to Suez the Bombay mails. On board of the steamer were about fifty of the disarmed troops in the Bombay presidency. During the voyage these men threatened to be mutinous, but the weather becoming rough, they became seasick, and the result was that their mutinous propensities entirely disappeared.

The India Company gave notice of a further rise of 4 per cent. in their rate for Bills on India.

INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.

The late heavy rains are beginning to cause inundations. The waters of the Allier have risen as high as during the great inundations of last year. On the 20th the Loire had risen five feet at Rouenne during the night, but was again falling. The news of the great rise in the waters of the Allier and Loire caused considerable alarm at Orleans. At Tours the engineers are on the alert, and will immediately adopt measures in case of fresh danger. The Prefects of Tours and Angers immediately warned all the public functionaries and all the people residing near the Loire to be on their guard.

Tremendous Explosion and Loss of one thousand Lives.—We have been favoured (says the *Sindian* of August 16) with a translation of a Persian letter received from Joudpore, announcing the explosion of the Magazine at that place:—"On the 10th August, in the fort belonging to the rajah, the magazine was struck with lightning, and some thousands of maunds of powder were exploded. The shock was so great that the walls of the fort and a temple and four ponderous gates were blown up in the air into a thousand pieces, destroying 500 houses and all the people living therein. It was gleaned from the Kotwal of the place that upwards of 1000 had been taken out of the ruins. The explosion was so severe, that for six miles around the people and houses sustained a shock."

Moldavia and Wallachia.—A telegraphic despatch, dated Jassy, October 19, states that the divan had on the day come to a resolution recognising the rights of the Porte, and in favour of a union of the Principalities, under a constitutional soverign chosen from one of the western dynasties.

The Future Prince of the Principalities.—*Paris, Oct.* 22.—Now that the divans of Wallachia and Moldavia are in favour of the union of the Principalities under a foreign prince, the question is who is the candidate for the Roumain Crown that would give the least umbrage to the European Powers. A German prince would be the agent of Austria, or the pensioner of Russia. Perhaps the least objectionable name that could be mentioned is the young Duke of Oporto, brother of the King of Portugal. He will complete his 19th year next week.

Re-fortifying of Sebastopol.—*Warsaw, Oct.* 10.—A letter under this date, in the *Presse* of Vienna, says it is perfectly true that the Russian Government has set apart six million roubles for the reconstruction of Sebastopol, and although the treaty of Paris forbids the building of fortifications, it is supposed that it may be easily eluded.

Roman Catholic Extension.—We have heard a great deal of late years of the extension of the Roman Catholics. Now here is a practical fact on the subject, worth we know not how many theories. For some time past there has existed a very handsome and attractive building in the corner of Leicester-square, a "Catholic Insurance Company." The company had an excellent director, and a commanding situation, but it has been unable to sustain itself; its premises are to let, and its business is transferred to an ordinary insurance office in the City. What are we to say of the boasted extension of the Roman Catholics, when we find them unable to sustain a single insurance office?—*Morning Chronicle.*

Irish Sepoyism.—At a meeting of the subscribers to the New Ross news room, held on Monday, it was decided on a ballot, by thirty-four to fourteen,—that is, by a majority of twenty,—that the *Nation* newspaper should be excluded from the room in consequence of its advocacy of Sepoy barbarities.—*Waterford Mail.*

The efficacy of the *Oxygenated Bitters*, in cases of Dyspepsia, Asthma, and General Debility, has been attested by many citizens who are well known to the public, and whose statements are ample proof that this medicine is one of great value. 27

The Protector & Christian Witness

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1857.

DUTY OF THE CHRISTIAN IN REGARD TO THE PRESS.

The newspaper press has a most powerful influence in moulding the public mind. As we insensibly learn to imitate the conduct of those with whom we habitually associate, so we are very apt to imbide the sentiments of those newspapers which we regularly peruse. Of how great importance, therefore, is it that a sound and healthful literature should be circulated by our periodicals. Should infidel or immoral sentiments be diffused through the community, the result must be disastrous;—the public mind must be poisoned; and if there be not some counteracting influence, the whole fabric of society must be undermined, and the most appalling anarchy and confusion ensue. A country can scarcely be cursed with a greater evil than an infidel and immoral periodical press. Those publications whose tendency is infidel, often present a friendly exterior. They come to us with plausible professions of regard for our welfare. But, ah! they are masked assassins;—they betray us with a kiss;—their words are smoother than butter; but under this specious exterior, the deadly poison lies concealed. Can we be subjected to a greater evil than the loss of sound religious principle? The individual who sought to deprive us of this, would be a greater enemy than he who robbed us of our property. But he who stealthily circulates through the community his infidel sentiments, endeavors, as far as in him lies, to eradicate from the public mind religious principle. Where can we find a greater enemy to society? It is certainly the duty of the christian community to discountenance the infidel periodical. We fear that, in regard to this point, there is a criminal apathy among many professed followers of the Redeemer. They give their support to papers containing sentiments subversive of religion,—papers which make it the subject of ridicule, holding it up as hypocrisy and cant, and representing its professors as fanatics. Is this justifying, by their conduct, their christian profession? Is it not an indispensable duty to discountenance whatever is opposed to the advancement of Christ's cause?—and is not this true of the press, as well as of other things? The christian is bound to withhold his countenance from those periodicals which propagate sentiments subversive of pure and undefiled religion. The true christian will carry his religion into all his conduct. It is not laid aside as soon as he leaves the sanctuary; whatever he does will correspond with his character;—the influence of religious principle will be seen in every part of his deportment,—it will manifest itself in the nature of his reading. He will be very far from countenancing any literature that tends to lower the authority of the bible, or the claims of the christian sabbath, or in any way undermine any of the great articles of our holy religion. We would wish to impress these things upon the minds of the christian public. We are sincerely desirous that they should feel their deep responsibility. When we give our countenance to those who circulate unsound sentiments, we become accomplices with them in their guilt,—we contribute our share to the contaminating of the public mind. But, even although it should circulate nothing objectionable, the want of the religious element in the newspaper press is a great defect. Is not the soul of more value than the body? Are not the concerns of a future world of more consequence than those of this present fleeting state? Shall they, therefore, be excluded from the newspaper press? — shall not this mighty instrumentality be made subservient to the promotion of the highest interests of man? Some persons, we are aware, would entirely exclude the religious element from the newspaper. Politics, agriculture, commerce, and other such subjects are entitled to a place in it; but we must not attempt to introduce religion. Such sentiments as the above have obtained too much currency. Hence, for a long time, the newspaper press confined itself to purely secular subjects;— everything of a religious character was denied admittance. It is, however, pleasing to observe that a great change for the better has now taken place in this respect. The friends of the Redeemer have for some time past employed this mighty agent, with no little effect, for the advancement of his cause. And what right-minded person will say that, in pursuing this course, they have done wrong? Is it proper that an instrumentality so powerful as the newspaper, should be left unemployed in advancing the cause of Christ? Is it right that it should be surrendered up into the hands of the irreligious? This would please worldly politicians; but would it be for the interests of the community? We know that some are ready to tell us that the introduction of religious matters into the newspaper will stir up strife in the community. In regard to religion there is, indeed, among persons a great diversity of opinion; nor is there any subject about which they are more sensitive. When their belief is assailed, their passions are aroused and their resentment kindled. This is the case with those whose religion is nominal. But, suppose they are in deadly error;—are we quietly to leave them in their delusion? Shall we use no means to recover them from their perilous condition? Do not the scriptures say "Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart; thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbor, and not suffer sin upon him?" Shall we not, then, with all christian meekness and gentleness, endeavor to convince him of his error?—and may not this be done through the instrumentality of the newspaper?

The irreligious would like to make a monopoly of the newspaper press. Accordingly, when the friends of Christ endeavor to employ it for the advancement of his cause, they try to throw suspicion over their efforts, by insinuating that, under pretence of religion, they harbor some dark design — they conceal some nefarious project, subversive of the public peace. This is an old device. It was said concerning the apostles of our Lord: "These men, that turn the world upside down, have come hither also." Let not the friends of Christ be discouraged. Having the testimony of a good conscience, that with simplicity and godly sincerity—not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God—they have had their conversation in the world; let them unweariedly persevere in their benevolent work of benefiting their fellow men by means of the newspaper.

What a privilege to enjoy the frequent visits of some Christian friend! How seasonable his warning! how beneficial his advice! how consoling his words of tenderness in the hour of our distress! Such a friendly visitor is the religious newspaper, coming regularly into the family. The truly pious person will sincerely welcome its advent. How does it often beguile the long winter evenings? while it tells us of some conquest of the Redeemer, of some soul won to the Saviour, of the overthrow of some stronghold of Satan, of some backslider reclaimed, while it unmasks some device of the enemies of our salvation, or addresses us in words of warning, of reproof, of tenderness, or of encouragement.

Surely, then, it is the duty of the Christian public to give its hearty support to the religious newspaper. It might be thought that this sentiment would find an immediate and cordial response in the breast of every professed follower of the Redeemer. But we fear that this is not the case. We fear that there are numbers who do not feel their obligations to contribute to the circulation of a sound religious literature. At least, this is the conclusion to which we must come, judging from their conduct, which is the truest exposition of their sentiments. The merely secular paper finds admission into their families, but the religious one is no visitor there. The one that speaks to them of their temporal interests, has their countenance and encouragement; but the one that addresses them upon the more important concerns of their souls, finds no favor. Must not this have a most unhappy influence upon a family? Must it not have a tendency to imbrue them with an exclusively worldly spirit. Let not our readers mistake our meaning. We are no enemies to the secular papers. We wish them all success, so far as they circulate a sound and useful literature. They are very necessary in their own place. Let them have our support; but not to the exclusion of the religious newspaper, which embraces for higher interests.

The following is a Letter from a private soldier in India, to his sister, in Charlottetown, P. E. Island. Its details will be read with interest, having come from one who joined the service in this City, when recruits for the army, then in the Crimea, were eagerly sought after:

Camp Cawnpore, Sept. 1, 1857.

My Dear Sister,—I received a letter from you, dated 4th May, and reached me 4th July, and was very glad to hear you were all quite well. I little thought when I left you that I should have gone through what I have since I left Madras first. My Regiment was ordered off to the Persian expedition; we were about four days from our destination, when orders were sent from Bombay to return to Madras forthwith. We had no sooner returned to Madras, than we were ordered off to Bengal, to quell the Sepoys of that country. We embarked from Madras on the 19th of May, and landed on the 27th in Bengal, and were put on board a country steamer, and sent up the country to Allahabad, about 700 miles up the river Ganges. We were then ordered, with a party of H. M. 84th Regiment, and a party of Artillery, to go to Cawnpore. We marched from Allahabad on the 30th of June. We marched until our commander found it would be dangerous to go any further, as the enemy was gathering in strong numbers at a place called Futeypore; so we halted a day or two until we were strengthened by Gen. Havelock with a large force. We marched on the 12th of July, at 2 o'clock in the morning, and arrived in Camp about 7, a.m. We were just waiting to put up our tents, when we got a messenger, in the shape of a 6-pound shot, to wish us good morning. Right away was the word, and in ten minutes we were pell-mell with the enemy, and by half-past one o'clock, p. m., we had taken 15 guns, and made 15,000 Sepoys retire. We ransacked the town of Futeypore, and halted one day to rest. On the 14th July we came in contact with the enemy, and, after a severe contest with them, took 11 guns. We then halted, had our dram, and rested about two hours, and on again was the word, about 2 a.m. They waited for us over a bridge with two very heavy guns, and, my regiment being Rifles, they played upon us the whole of the engagement. We charged the bridge, and took the two guns from them, and got the highest praise from the General. On the 16th we marched about twenty miles, where the enemy was waiting in an entrenchment with a great many heavy guns, and, after seven hours hard fighting, we had taken Cawnpore and nineteen guns. The same evening the Sepoys murdered a great many European ladies and gentlemen which they had taken prisoners when they had broken out first—and we are at Cawnpore at present. I can assure you, my dear sister, the cholera was raging when we came into Bengal. We have lost about 150 men in two months.

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IRISH CHURCH MISSIONS.

Extract of a letter recently received from the Secretary of the above Society:

"49, Pall Mall, London.

"The work goes on prosperously, thank God. Last Sunday fortnight, one of the most able controversialists on the Roman Catholic side who has attended our classes for 7 years,—disputing in favour of Popery—attended the Mission Church service, and on the following Wednesday evening made a speech on the Protestant side at the discussion class. He has given in and declared himself a Protestant. But the most striking proof of the effect of our operations, is the recent publication of a new and cheap edition of the Douay Bible, to meet the demand for the Scriptures among the Roman Catholics.

Such a step is so foreign to the genius of Popery, that we may well believe they have been forced to take it to meet a changed feeling among their people, and to satisfy a demand which they cannot ignore on the part of their still professing adherents:"

A PICTURE OF IRELAND.

I was travelling, some time since, in a train in Ireland, accompanied by a brother clergyman, who was, as well as myself, connected with the Irish Church Missions. After conversing for some time, I leant back in the corner of the carriage, and began to read the New Testament. My attention was attracted by observing in the seat opposite to me, an elderly and very respectable looking man who was engaged in the same manner, reading from a pocket Testament, precisely similar in appearance to my own. Though the man was a perfect stranger to me, I could not but feel at once the sympathy of a common faith, and rejoiced to believe that he was a brother in Christ. Next to him there sat two young men, who had entered the carriage at a neighbouring station; and in the opposite corner was a priest busily engaged in reading his Breviary. The adjoining compartment of the carriage was filled with a party of sailors, some of whom had returned from the Crimea. I could not help observing the contrast between the clergyman in one corner, reading the pages of eternal truth, and the false teacher in the other, poisoning his mind with the empty fables of Rome; and I was hoping that an opportunity might be afforded for turning the contrast to some profitable account. Just at this moment one of the two young men sitting by the priest happened to recognize me, and leaning over asked me how the mission work was going on. I at once related a few of the most recent events which had occurred, and gave him at the same time a number of controversial hand-bills. At the sight of the tracts the priest fixed his eyes intently on his Breviary, crossed himself devoutly, but never ventured to utter a single word. The young man then told me he was a Colporteur of the Bible Society, and described his work among the Roman Catholics, and how ready many of them were to purchase copies of the Scriptures. This intelligence was very gratifying to every one in that compartment of the carriage except the priest, who only crossed himself more devoutly than before, but said nothing.

After a short pause, for the noise of the train rendered conversation difficult, we stopped at a station; and I took advantage of the silence to address the reader of the New Testament, opposite me, and holding up my book I said, "Our books, sir, are very similar?" "Yes, sir," said he, "exactly alike, and very good books they are." "I never saw you before," I replied, "but I'll venture to say we hold the same doctrines." "That's my creed, sir," said he, very readily, and he at once pointed out what he happened to be reading, and quoted aloud Rom. x, 9. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." "It is my creed too," I answered, "and though we never met before, you see we are quite agreed. That, sir, is the true unity of the church."

Here one of the sailors in the next compartment joined in the conversation, and taking up the defence of his religion said in a loud voice, "Yes, but what's the use of that unless you're in the true church, and the true church is built on Peter, for our Lord says, 'Thou art Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall never prevail against it.'" "Well," I answered, "but if we hold the doctrine of St. Peter, must not we be in the same church as St. Peter was, and we've St. Peter's doctrine here in this book, and I believe every word of it." The train was now in motion, and a few more points were all that could be exchanged with the sailor, who was in a remote part of the carriage; but through the whole conversation not a word fell from the priest in the corner, who only shewed his interest in what was passing by plunging into his Breviary, and reading it with great rapidity and almost audibly, crossing himself all the while even more energetically than he had done before.

This scene in the train, simple as it was, seemed to me to present an exact picture of Ireland, and to exhibit very graphically the present state of society in that interesting country. Here were first of all the clergy awake, I trust, to the importance of Missionary effort, and sincerely desiring, however feebly, to do their master's work. Here were christian laymen, with the Bible in their hands, and its truths, I trust, in their hearts, first searching the scriptures themselves, and then circulating them far and near; a type of a large, and I believe an increasing class of christian laity in Ireland, to whose zeal and fidelity much of the success of the present Reformation movement is to be attributed. Here was the Roman Catholic layman, honest and sincere, ready to argue in defence of a religion which he knew to be every where assailed, and which he believed to be true; and here was the dumb priest, filling his mind with lying legends, rigidly following the external ceremonies of a church whose doctrines he professed to believe, but was never found ready to defend: the universal type of Rome's priests in Ireland, silent in controversy, powerful only to persecute, dumb before the open Bible.

How suggestive is this picture, how much material for thought may it not furnish, how much to encourage, how much to call for exertion, what themes for thanksgivings does it not awaken, and what responsibilities!

THE MISPECK MURDERS.

Two of the murderers of M'Kenzie and his family have pleaded guilty, namely Breen and old Slavin. The trial of young Slavin commenced yesterday, and is not yet concluded. Both Breen and Slavin deny being the instigators of the horrible outrage, the particulars of which are thus stated by the *Morning News*:

It appears, from Breen's statement, that Slavin had been contemplating the murder of M'Kenzie for some years, but he never could hit upon the right man to assist him, until Breen himself came in his way, when they agreed to commit the deed and divide the booty. They had put the evil day off from time to time, until Wednesday evening, the 21st ult., when they proceeded to the residence of Mr. M'Kenzie, there to imbrue their hands in the blood of their intended victims. On entering the house, it being dark at the time, they found Mr. M'Kenzie and his old assistant, Leet, together, in conversation. Breen by way of excusing his visit at such a time, stated that he had come to say that his wife and family would be down next evening to take possession of the house. [Breen had engaged with Mr. M'K. a few days before this to take the place of Leet, as a farm labourer, and the house on the other side of the road was to be his place of residence—Breen is not a married man.] On coming out Breen said to Slavin that he had not the heart to kill Leet as well as M'Kenzie—so that the lives of the family were spared for a few days longer on account of this circumstance.

On Saturday afternoon the wretches repaired to the vicinity of Mr. M'Kenzie's residence at an early hour, and secreted themselves upon a hill where they could watch the movements of M'K., and see that no strangers were present. As soon as the shades of evening had closed upon them, and the neighborhood was wrapt in darkness, they observed M'Kenzie leave his house with a lighted candle and cross the road for the other building, (which Breen was to occupy,) when they quickly left their skulking place and followed him. On approaching, Breen said that he had come to take possession, and that his family would soon be along. Mr. M'K. invited them in. When inside one of them suddenly extinguished the candle, while the other struck M'Kenzie a severe blow on the side with an axe, which felled him to the ground, a lifeless corpse; but to be sure of their victim they beat his head with their axes and left him weltering in his blood.

They then proceeded to the dwelling house, each armed with an axe. Mrs. M'Kenzie was sitting by the fire with a child (about 8 months old) in her arms, and the other three children were playing about the hearth. We may here remark that the ages of the children ranged from 8 months to 6 years. Mrs. M'K. spoke to the men as soon as they entered, when the axe of one of the wretches was suddenly upon her; and now began the work of butchery. They went at it like demons, and cut and slashed among the innocent little children, amidst awful screams, until every one of them was annihilated, and their mangled bodies were left in pools of clotted blood, scattered about the floor.

They then set to work and rifled the house of all its chief valuables, got the key and opened the iron safe, and took out the money (the whole amount we understand did not exceed £100), and afterwards set fire to the building, and also to the opposite building where the body of Mr M'Kenzie was; and they were both consumed. The reader knows what has since taken place—how the murderers were arrested, &c., &c.

We have previously stated that when the three parties (Breen, Slavin, and Slavin, junior,) were arraigned, the former plead Guilty, and refused to withdraw that plea. On Monday last old Slavin was brought into Court and charged in two Indictments—first with killing Mrs. McKenzie, and in the second with killing one of the children.—To the former indictment the prisoner plead Guilty, and to the latter also he gave the same plea, saying "I'm guilty, and this was the only one I done myself."

On Tuesday the trial of young Slavin commenced at the Court House, and it has continued up to the present time—the rendering of the evidence not having concluded until last evening. The Counsel on both sides will be heard to-day, and it is probable that by night the Jury will have determined upon a verdict.

Breen and old Slavin having plead Guilty, were permitted to give their evidence yesterday. The former denied having killed either of the M'Kenzie family, or that young Slavin had committed any of the murders. But the public were completely horror-struck on hearing the revelations of old Slavin, who, we are informed, acknowledged to having *murdered the whole family of himself!!* It is a wonder that the excited crowd had not dragged him from the box, and torn him limb from limb, as he richly deserved. He might have spared the people such a horrid revelation, until the gallows was prepared to give him his deserts.

Although it may be thought that these guilty men would not now have any object in telling an untruth, yet their testimony is not credited, and it certainly does not agree either with the evidence of Slavin's youngest son, (who is the chief witness against the prisoners,) or the statement of old Slavin, who said on Monday that the murder of the child was "the only one he done by himself."

Yesterday the Grand Jury indicted Bernard Hagerty, for harboring and assisting the murderers to escape. He was arraigned and plead "Not Guilty."—This is as it should be, and it is to be hoped that the Crown Officers and the Grand Jury will ferret this horrid tragedy to the bottom, that none may escape punishment who have had complicity in the murder, either before or after its enactment. The public safety demands this course at the present time,—the recent burnings and robberies, coupled with the present tragedy, have put people in the wildest state of excitement,—families huddle together and keep watch all night, instead of taking their accustomed rest,—fire arms are in requisition in every house—and farmers come to town armed with revolvers, to protect themselves from the assaults of the numerous desperadoes who infest the line of railway construction.—This state of things must be put a stop to, and the measure of punishment meted out to the murderers of the M'Kenzie family, and their accomplices, will determine whether it shall continue or not.

The Rev. Mr. Monod has been lecturing in Quebec, on the state of religion in France. The *Gazette* states:—

Mr. Monod commenced his lecture with a general reference to the early history of the Protestant religion in France contrasting the numbers who professed that religion in the sixteenth century with those of the present day. On this part of his subject he argued that the bitter and implacable persecution which was exercised towards the professors of that religion, was the best proof that could be given of its power upon the minds of the people of France; drawing from thence the conclusion that as a people, they could by continuous and energetic exertion be again brought under the same influence, and imbued with the same principles. He dwelt upon the present religious condition of France, declaring with emphasis that it was a nation of infidels, in which were to be found few, very few, of any sect, who deserved the name of Christians. He then mentioned that in 1815, when the continent was thrown open, that one of the secretaries of the Bible Society in London came to Paris for the purpose of establishing a similar society in that city. That secretary, he stated, could not, after a long and persevering search, find in one of the book shops of that great capital, that mighty city, one solitary copy of the Bible or of the New Testament. The Bible Society was formed, and in the course of twenty years, two millions of copies of the pure word of God had been circulated through France.

Some facts connected with the late Bank robbery in Fredericton have come to light. It seems that there were several persons engaged in the robbery, and that Savage and others arrested in this city were merely acting as decoys the real perpetrators of the crime having escaped up the river, and so on to the United States, where they carried their booty, amounting, it is said, to the enormous sum of £25,000. A liberal reward was offered by the Bank for the apprehension of the robbers in the United States, and an active American police-officer succeeded in discovering and arresting the principal or chief of the band. This gentleman, not liking to be lodged in the Penitentiary for fourteen years at least, agreed to surrender all the paper money, amounting to £20,000, and half of the gold for his discharge, and it seems after some negotiation this was accepted.