

## EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

The Alliance closed its sittings on Friday. At the morning meeting, after an address from Dr. Craik, the Rev. Dr. Blackwood gave some interesting statements regarding the state and prospects of Christianity in the East. He had gone to the East as a military chaplain, and, if he had not obtained that appointment, his usefulness in the field which he wished to occupy would have been greatly impaired. No picture could reveal the immense sufferings which took place in the Army Hospital in the East, and in which thousands of men were dying daily without any spiritual instruction. In the great hospital of Scutari, to which he was attached, there were 3000 men confined of sickness, none of whom they might ever expect to see again. In the long corridors, they had but little space to minister to the suffering and dying. At one time he had from 800 to 1000 men under his care, none of whom had the most remote expectation of ever recovering to health. While this awful destitution prevailed, and dangers occurred in these hospitals which were as great as before the trenches, those appeals to England to get men to go out were in vain. Eventually some did go out. When walking in the morning in one of the wards on a winter day, he found 40 new patients brought into a half-finished corridor. He went around them all, and ascertained to what denomination they belonged, to all of whom he either gave a Testament or a tract, and prayed with them. He returned in the morning, and found that, out of 39, 20 had passed into eternity. There was an immense amount of spiritual destitution in the army. The only instruction they received—at least those of them that could be spared being on the Sunday morning at parade ground, was while they were standing on their feet. The whole means for supplying spiritual instruction to the British soldier were most deplorably defective. He had nothing to say against the chaplains to the army, but the whole system of their appointment was defective. Amongst the soldiers and officers there were many men of God, more particularly amongst the Artillery and Engineers—men whose hearts were burning with love to add anything they could to the spiritual condition of their fellow-soldiers. He went out on the understanding that he was to minister to none but those of the Protestant faith. The Presbyterians who came out later in the war found great difficulty in finding Presbyterians here and there; but he was not so much tied down, for he ministered to all, except Roman Catholics, yet even to those he had always kind words or a shake of the hand. He had frequently been asked by a Roman Catholic priest, if he had found a Protestant in his ward, to go in and minister to him; indeed Roman Catholic priests often went out to seek for him, to go in and pray with Protestants. Captain Hedley Vicars, who had fallen in a Russian sortie, was much asked after by soldiers in hospital. He was led to inquire why so much interest was evinced on behalf of that officer, when he found that he had been in the habit of calling on his men of the 97th, in tents and elsewhere, when he prayed with them. Many of these poor men had assured him that the first light of God's Word which they ever received was from the lips of Captain Vicars. General orders from Head-quarters prohibited the chaplains from employing any clergymen but those sanctioned by the War Department. If it was harrowing to the feelings to see men laid low on a bed of sickness, with their limbs rotting from them, how much more so was it to witness the spiritual and moral destitution which prevailed amongst the soldiers' wives who had accompanied their husbands from this nation. In the march from Bulgaria to Varna they were left destitute and helpless; and under those trials they had first taken to drink, and ultimately their moral character gave way altogether. So full were the hands of Miss Nightgale that she could pay no attention to these women, and he with others took them under their notice. In one room he found 57 women lying amongst men and children, with but scanty clothing to cover them, and noth-

ing to separate either sex from the other, unless it might be a rag hung upon a line. The best soldier they had was the married soldier. Colonel Lefroy had said that no amelioration could be extended to the soldier's wife on account of the expense necessary for barrack accommodation; but he had told him that the British people would not shrink to provide for the comfort of the soldiers' wives; and he thought the ladies of this Alliance might do much good in this matter by forming themselves into small committees for the advancement of the cause. Dr. Blackwood proceeded to make some suggestions in regard to the advancement of Protestant Christianity in the East, and the alleviation of the sufferings of those who, though nominally tolerated, were still subject to great persecution. Major Baillie submitted a resolution as to whether it might not be practicable to form a military Evangelical Alliance. The Rev. Mr. Thomson moved that the question of religious freedom in Turkey, the furnishing of the Word of God and the appointment of lay missionaries to the Bulgarians and Mahomedans be considered by the Council. The Rev. Dr. Edgar then addressed the meeting regarding the progress of Protestantism in Ireland. Dr. Edgar also moved a resolution expressing gratification with the discontinuance of bands on Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Jordan stated that there had been thirty-five competitors for the prize for an essay on Sabbath observance, and also that the letter numbered 14 was the one to the writer of which the adjudicators had awarded the prize. The letter was then opened, and was found to contain the signature of the Rev. Micaiah Hill, Manor Terrace, Briston, Devonshire, an Independent minister.

The Alliance resumed in the evening—Lord Benholme presiding. It was addressed by the Hon. Chairman, the Rev. Sir H. W. Moncrieff, the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, and the Rev. Dr. Krummacher. The last in his speech referred to the King of Prussia as follows:—"We have a King who is not only a great Prince, but the deepest expression of his heart is inscribed upon his coat-of-arms—"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." He is a man of decided Christian faith; and his country is aware that he is entirely devoted to the Evangelical Alliance. He, however, has found he could not escape the infliction of that word of Scripture—"All who live godly in Christ Jesus must suffer persecution." Nobody has doubted, up to this moment, that he has a heart which makes him the father of his country. Everybody knows that his matrimonial relations are a perfect model of domestic life. Hence it has been found necessary, in attacking his private life, to choose another side, which is considered vulnerable, and that, with deep regret I must utter it, even English journals. I take advantage of this opportunity to declare that the aspersions thus circulated are nothing but infamous calumnies. (Great cheering.) And, whether these utterances came from *Punch* or the *Times*, in this respect they are nothing but falsehood. (Cheers.)

Devotional exercises were then engaged in, and the audience broke up shortly after ten o'clock.

CHURCH OF THE VAUDOIS.—Mr. John Henderson of Park has subscribed £200, and the Bishop of Worcester £100, towards the erection of a pastor's house at La Tour, to be presented to the Vaudois as a memorial of the late Rev. Dr. Gilly.

GIFT OF BIBLES TO THE REGIMENTAL SCHOOL OF THE 34TH FOOT.—The gallant general Sir Thomas Macdougall Brisbane, Bart. Colonel of the 34th Regiment, now stationed in Edinburgh Castle, has, in addition to his many munificent gifts, presented an ample supply of Bibles and Testaments for the use of the regimental school, the hospital and the several companies of that distinguished corps.

FELICE ORSINI IN BRIGHTON.—On Tuesday this Italian exile rendered famous for his escape from the Austrian dungeon of Mantua, lectured

at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, to a large and influential auditory—the Mayor presiding—"On the Austrian and Papal Tyranny."

DR. LIVINGSTON.—It is with great pleasure that we can announce the safe arrival at the Mauritius, on the 13th of August last, of that most celebrated of African explorers, Dr. David Livingstone, in Her Majesty's ship *Frolic*. This traveller, whose exploits have from time to time appeared in our columns, has at length succeeded in traversing Africa from ocean to ocean.

## MINISTERS' WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Congregational collection at Melbourne, per Mr. David Camelon, £2 10 0  
JOHN GREENSHIELDS,  
Treasurer.

## SUBSCRIPTION RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST PUBLICATION.

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John McNeill, "	1856	0	2	6
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David Downie, "	1856	0	2	6
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Miss Janet Wylie, "	1856	0	2	6
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Alexander Stewart, "	1856	0	2	6
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John Jack, Chateauguay	1856-7	0	5	0
Rev. A. Lewis, Mono Mills	1857	1	2	6
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## FRONTENAC ACADEMY, KINGSTON, C. W.

Mr. H. J. Borthwick, (late Principal, Queen's College School) respectfully intimates to parents that this Academy is now in full operation, under a full staff of efficient Masters. See Prospectus for Terms &c.

## QUEEN'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.

MR. ROBERT CAMPBELL, recently appointed Head Master of Queen's College School, Kingston, respectfully intimates to all whom it may concern that the School is now in full operation under his care.

As it has been newly furnished with the most approved Maps and Apparatus, he hopes with duly qualified assistants to render the School as efficient as it has been under any of his predecessors.

Being himself a graduate of Queen's College, he expects to make the School fully available for the purposes of its establishment as a Preparatory School for that Institution, and therefore hopes that parents, intending to send their Sons to that Institution, will avail themselves of the privileges which the School affords.

For fees and other particulars see the announcement of the Senatus.

## The Presbyterian

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