TO DAY. Up, Christian ! up ! and sleep'st thou still ? Daylight is glorious on the hill!
And far advanced the sunny glow
Laughs in the joyous vale below;
The morning shadow, long and late,
Is stretching o'er the dial plate.

And are thine eyes, sad waker, say, Filled with the tears of yesterday ! Or lowers thy dark and anxious brow Beneath to-morrow's burdens now ? New strength for every day is given, Daily the manna falls from heaven.

Link by link the chain is made. Pour by pearl the costly braid, The daily thread of hopes and fears Weaves up the woof of many years; And well thy labour shall have sped, If well thou weav'st the daily thread.

Up, Christian! up! thy cares resign! The past, the future, are not thine ! Show forth ro-pay thy Saviour's praise, Redeem the course of evil days; Life's shadow in its lengthening gloom, Points daily nearer to the tomb.

Christian Register.

THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. From the annual Invitation to united prayer for it, by the Rev. James Haldane Stewart, formerly of Liverpool, now of Godstone, Surrey.

Already for ten successive years have these general Concerts for Prayer on the First day of the New Year been held; and, through the goodness of the Lord, with increasing success.

In addition to the various calls for this devotional union to which reference has been made in former invitations, the peculiarly interesting circumstances in which the new year approaches, press upon us with commanding force. They seem to say to those who look to God both as the Great Ruler of the universe and the Hearer of Prayer, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to thee."

To mention only a few of these circumstances. First. The present very remarkable dispensations scarcity, amounting, in some parts of the United Kingdom, to almost actual famine. This judgment, whilst it was felt by all classes, fell more especially upon the poor-thousands of whom perished either by hunger, or by maladies produced by destitution. When, however, we publicly humbled ourselves before God as a nation, seeking his aid by a day of national prayer and fasting, that God, "who is slow to anger and of tender mercy," was pleased to remove this severe calamity; yea, far more than re-move it-for not only did the Lord favour us with a

not be lessened by demands from other nations,

throughout almost every part of Europe " his paths

dropped fatness," and the year " has been crowned with his goodness.22

To teach, however, how entirely dependent, we are upon Almighty God, and that it is not one day of fasting that will suffice to turn away his just anger, if that day is not followed by departing from our evil ways, the Lord is now visiting the nation by another mark of his displeasure, showing to those in higher stations that his providence can enter their chambers, and visit them as well as the humbler classes-can convince them that " covetousness is abundance of the things which he possesseth; and our work, for which we desire to return our heart-that wriches take unto themselves wings, and fly telt acknowledgments to the great Head of the fallen? but, Who can weather the storm?

Looking at these dispensations of the Most High, must we not feel how urgent a call this is for prayer for the outnouring of the Spirit, that as a nation we may benefit by this wonderful mixture of mercy and judgment?-That the goodness of God may lead to repentance, his judgments to that holy fear of offends ing against his Divine Mujesty; that they may bring us as humble suitors to his throne of grace-put ar end to the open profunation of the Sabbath, to "mak- the liberality with which every call has been met ing gold our trust," to depending "upon an arm of or otherwise provoking him who is " a jealous God, and will not give his glory to another." Let us then, my Christian brethren, as with one heart and soul, approach the mercy-seat, entreating that he with whom " is the residue of the Spirit." will pour out of his Holy Spirit for these important

purposes. A second striking circumstance which is presented to us at the opening of the New Year, is the assembling of the New Parliament. Her Majesty has indeed summoned the great council of the nation to meet before this invitation will have reached you : but this, it is considered, is only for a more special purpose. The great subjects which concern the general welfare of the British empire will remain for legislation when the new year arrives.

At such a crisis, what language can express the importance of Her Majesty's counsellors, and of all the assembled Members of Parliament, being under the special guidance and direction of the Lord?of his granting to them that wisdom which comes from above, prospering all their consultations " for the advancement of his glory; the good of his Church, the safety, honour and welfare of our Sovereign and her dominions."

This is more especially called for from the peculiar activity of the Church of Rome, and from the favour, she has obtained in some quarters.

Surely we who rejoice in our deliverance from her yoke, and count it among our highest privileges to jossess the faith of our Protestant forefathers,surely we are called to earnest prayer for our rulers, that God would raise up a holy of faithful men from among them, and grant to them, by the gift of his Holy Spirit, that firm faith in his written word, that I holy boldness in maintaining our Protestant princi- (of my ministry, and that I ought to endeavour so to ples, and that power of argument in the Senate, that hone shall be able to gainsay or resist; making them by his blessing, the honoured instruments of handing down to our posterity the unsullied faith of our fore-

fathers, without exposing us to those judgments labour as " to be free from the blood of all men." | conscious that your youthful hearts were by nature | crime himself but to denounce to the civil author-

hasten on that glorious season " when the kingdoms of his Christ,37

The last circumstance which I notice as demanding earnest prayer for the outpouring of the Spirit, is the paramount importance in the present day of

instruction given by many of the Lord's faithful slept" are said to "awake, and to trim their lamps." This "the wise virgins" did so effectually that the foolish said to them, "Give us of your oil." For although their own lamps were gone out, having no oil in them, they saw the bright shining of the lamps of their companions, and were attracted by it. Does not this convey to us this important instruction, that as the coming of the Lord draws nigh, the religion of his true followers will be of so attractive a nature, that others will desire to possess the same? It is clear, also, that this attractiveness proceeds from their having the active power of the Holy Spirit granted to them. For the request is, " Give of your orn;"-the frequent emblem used in the Scriptures to express the Holy Spirit. At a season, then, Beloved in the Lord, when the judgments of God are in the earth, how desirable it is for us to be seeking after this attractiveness-this carrying out into ordinary life those graces which are " the fruit of Providence towards our country. This year com- of the Spirit"-How important, not for our own menced, as it is well known, with a grievous glory, but for the glory of God, and the promotion of the eternal blessedness of our fellow-men, that these graces should, in a measure at least, be seen in us ;- Divine confidence, holy boldness; truth, wisdom, knowledge, godliness; faith, hope, joy, peace, love; goodness, meekness, humility; temperance, patience, forbearance, brotherly kindness. These are all the gifts of the Spirit, and can only be expected if cornest prayer is made for a large measure of his sanctifying grace. Let us then, my beloved friends, " forgetting the things which are behind and reaching forth to those that are before," most abundant harvest, but that this blessing might commence the New Year by uniting in this general concert for prayer; that, though our bodies may be distant from each other, our spirits may be in perfect union, our desires one; that God may be glori fied, his Son our Lord Jesus Christ universally honoured, and that happy season soon arrive when the new song of the redeemed shall be sung, and the courts of heaven resound with unceasing hallelujahs " to God and to the Lamb."

A PASTOR'S FAREWELL TO HIS FLOCK.

It is now nearly three years since, in the Providence of God, it became my privilege statedly to idolatry;" that " the love of money is the root of all minister to you in holy things. During that period eril;" that " a man's life consisteth not in the we have had much ground for encouragement in away." For into what straits and difficulties have Church. In opening our labours in this portion of they fallen of whom it might be said, as of ancient the Vineyard, our motto was, " Not by might nor Tyre, "Her merchants are princes, and her traffick- by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." We ers are the honourable of the earth?" For a season set out with the determination of depending on the credit was almost at a stand-a general panic pre- aid of the Holy Ghost, and of giving to God all the vailed - and the inquiry seemed to be, not, Who has glory of any success with which He might be pleased to crown our efforts. And now that we look upon this congregation, increased nearly threefold in numbers and influence; blessed too with a large and flourishing Sunday School,-when we mark the hold which the Gospel has taken upon many who were before in a state of rebellion against God -when we observe how many who attended worship no where have found a home within the precincts of this Sanctuary :- when we reflect upon by this Congregation: their kindness to their Pastor and " Servant for Jesus' sake ;" their ready co operation in all his plans for the good of the Church we do from our heart praise God for his goodness we acknowledge the presence and blessing of the Holy Spirit; we cheerfully give Him all the glory. Yes, our heartfelt exclamation is, " not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake".f In my preaching, I have endeavoured, as far as

God has given me the ability, to hold up a crucified Saviour as your only hope. It has been my aim to keep continually before your minds, the necessity which existed for an atonement in the fall and guil of man. I have pointed out to you the means by which that atonement could be made effectual to the salvation of our souls, by the exercise of a simple faith, the casting aside of all self-righteousness, and the becoming clothed in the righteousness of Christ. I have never ceased to represent this faith, as "working by love," yielding holiness as the fruit, though these good works are not in themselves in any degree meritorious in the matter of justification before God. I have reminded you of a judgment to come, and exhorted you now at once, to make the great Judge your friend. I have endeavoured clearly o point out the change which the unregenerate heart must undergo, before there can be any meetness for the enjoyment of Heaven; the agency by which it is effected, the power of the Holy Ghost and have exhorted the unconverted to make it their carnest prayer, that they might become thus renewed. You will, I think, bear me witness, that I have striven to preach to you the whole truth, and that without respect to persons—knowing that to God only have I been accountable for the due exercise

• See Revelations xiv., xviii, xix.

! Zech. iv. 6. Poaims exv. 1.

these commotions call for prayer, that " the Lord helping you in your Christian course, of preparing who sits upon the flood?" would overrale them to you for the enjoyment of Heaven, or have they had a hardening influence, serving by the opportunities of this world shall be the kingdoms of our Lord and they have afforded you of repentance, to aggravate your everlasting condemnation? Dear Brethren, with joy and gratitude we express our conviction, that to some we have been the "sayour of life unto life." You have been roused to a sense of your cultivating a high and holy standard of personal sinfulness, and have found in a saving knowledge religion.

Solution of Christ, the peace which you had so long sought in vair ;—others who were already communicants signs of the times," all who have attended to the have, we bless God, been spiritually enlightened to behold more clearly the truths of the Gospel, and ministers for some years past, will have heard the have been led to dedicate themselves more unrecry, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to servedly to the cause of Christ. Testimonies like meet him; that is, they have been warned that these have, from time to time, gladdened the heatt the coming of the Lord draws nigh." It is at of your Pastor, cheering him in his work, and ensuch a season that those who " have slumbered and abling him to feel, that his labour has not been al together in vain in the Lord. Yet, alas! this can-not be said of all,—such blessed effects have not in every instance attended the preaching of the Gospel from this pulpit. No, beloved Brethren, the sadness with which we part from many of you, is increased tenfold by the consideration, that as far as man can judge, our teaching has in your case been of small avail. I look around upon some of my congregation, who, notwithstanding all the sermons they have heard, and the Providences which have thickened around them, are still living in impenitency and sin. Intemperance has not been rooted out from among us,-the intoxicating draught is still poisoning the domestic bliss of many in my congregation, -the Subbath is still profuned, the name of God taken in vain, licentiousness is yet rampant-oh! can it be, my friends, that in the face of all the ward them abundantly by giving unto them a double warnings which you have received from God, you portion of His Holy Spirit, that they may be prepared will thus persist in heaping iniquity upon iniquity, to join the song of angels in the glorified Sanctuary will thus persist in heaping iniquity upon iniquity, selling your souls for naught, binding more closely around you the chains of Satan, dooming yourselves to everlasting misery? For the last time, as your Pastor, I urge you to repent of your sins, to fly from the wrath to come, to turn to Christ, that so iniquity may not prove your ruin. Stir yourselves you, but "Jesus Christ and him crucified." In up to call upon God in prayer, realize your danger reviewing my past ministry, I am humbled to the and to save that which was lost," will give you

> some of you to stand forth boldly on the Lord's side, and now we must go without the blessing being granted. For the last time, we stood this morning at the Lord's table, inviting you to come forward and partake of the heavenly banquet, but there was no response. We leave you with sadness, for alas! what more can be said than has been said, what more can be done than has been done, to induce you to give your hearts to God? On! brethren, shall not this night witness the solemn resolution taken, the good work begun? Will you not cheer your Pastor's heart, nay, will you not cause joy to the angels of heaven, by determining now to choose and to follow the portion which shall never be taken from you? Nor will I hide from myself that there are others in this congregation, whose Christian service of Christ. My heart bleeds for the cause of my Divine Master; Christ has been wounded in the house of his friends. What, I ask in a spirit of affection, what are worldly lookers on to think when they witness such inconsistencies in professing Christians? How often has your minister been checked in his efforts to draw others into the fold, by being pointed to the misconduct of those who were counted on the Lord's side! What can we do but again and again reply that religion is not to he charged with the inconsistencies of those who profess to be actuated by its principles! the traitor among the Apostles, nay, the five foolish among the virgins, as well as the pointed declaration of God in his word, teach us that all are not Israel who are of Israel.—all are not vital Christians who are named after Christ. We must expect that there will be false professors in religion—it is nothing strange. But, beloved, we hope better things of you-we do trust that in heart you are all sincere in your profession, and only need "to have your pure minds stirred up by way of remembrance." Let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ. Do not indulge an unforgiving spirit, lest ye be not forgiven at the great day of account. Remember that by every inconsistency you are causing the weaker brethren to stumble--remember that God will not hold you guiltless in the season of retribution. Stand fast, therefore, with one mind

striving together for the faith of the Gospel. To the younger portion of my congregation let me iddress a few words of advice. How is it, my beloved friends, that so many of you have not yet given your hearts to God, that you have been losing this bright and golden, I might almost say, this only opportunity, of securing an interest in Him who is able to afford you real happiness? Oh! why is it that I have been earnest in the Sunday School and out of it, in pressing upon your attention the importance of remembering your Creator "now in the days of your youth ?? Because I have been sensible that your age was in itself no security against the approach of death; that, whilst in the act of addressing you, the deadly messenger might have already received his commission to cut you off from the land of the living. And such has, in more than one instance, been the event. Yes, I have more than once passed from the Sunday, School, where all was life and intelligence, to the grave, where naught you to pay immediate attention to religion, because

so often to urge you to seek an acquaintance with that blessed Saviour who died to redeem you. And, -shall I not give utterance to the feeling?-I have been disappointed at not seeing more of your number affording evidence of sincere love to that Saviour. Will you not all of you resolve this night to give your hearts to God? Will you not from this time forth cry unto God; "My Father! thou art the guide of my youth?"

To the Superintendent and Teachers of the Sunday School, I would add a word in parting. Your's is a noble work. Prosecute it vigorously in the strength of God. It is a very trite observation, but these dear children in the way they should go-You have been preparing for usefulness those who are shortly to become the fathers and mothers in Israel. Your privilege it has been to aid in ripening these precious souls for a happy immortality. May multitudes rise up to call you blessed! We are no longer to occupy the same field;—I trust that we shall still be fellow-labourers in the vine-yard of Christ. Oh! remember him who has laboured among you in the Lord. Let our prayers mutually ascend to the Throne of Grace, that each may be strengthened and blessed. May the Lord prosper

you in your interesting work!
To the Wardens of the Church, for their cordial co-operation and friendship, I tender my warmest thanks. Nor can I forget the kindness of those who have so cheerfully and so acceptably conducted the praises of the great congregation; the Lord reabove.

My beloved brethren and friends, one word more and I have done. I came to you with a sincere desire of promoting the best interests of you all. It was my determination not to know anything among reviewing my past ministry, I am humbled to the make the effort, and Christ who came "to seek dust, by reason of my sins and deficiencies. God in mercy forgive me. But oh! remember that "we have this treasure in earthen vessels." Let not But there are others for whose spiritual welfare any deficiencies which you may have witnessed in we feel deeply anxious. Those who are almost me, bring reproach on the blessed cause I have persuaded to be Christians, but who have not yet sought to advocate. Forgive me wherein I have taken the step which binds them to the Lord. We lave been waiting now for nearly three years for sincerest acknowledgments for all the kindness which my family have received while among you. Pray that the Divine Blessing may accompany us in our removal, and be assured that our humble supplications will ascend in your behalf to him who

is able to supply every deficiency, and to bring you each one to everlasting happiness.
I wish you all an affectionate FAREWELL. - From the Farewell Sermon delivered by the Rev. Charles Bancroft, A. M., in St. Thomas' Church, Montreal,

STATE OF IRELAND,

described by Lord Stanley, in the House of Lords, on the 23rd of November 1847.

October 31, 1847.

My Lords, I say advisedly that the state of Ireland at this moment is worse than a state of civil evacuated; with no further security for this last course fills me with uneasiness; they are to be found among the communicants, the avowed followers of the Lord; those who profess to be aniposite ranks; but the struggle is an open one, and lowers of the Lord; those who profess to be aniposite ranks; but the struggle is an open one, and Duchatel (the present ministers,) as well as the Duc de Broglie and M. Thiers, made on the occa-That is not the case in Ireland at the present time. (Hear, heat.) The best landlords, those who have acrificed all the comforts of civilized life (and they must be sacrificed in certain parts of Ireland) in order to discharge their duty to their tenants and dependents, are at this moment—I could name some Members of your Lordships' House who are in this position-absolutely besieged within their own nouses, incapable of moving from their own domain, fortified, and held prisoners within their own gardens, with the knowledge throughout the country that their names are on a black list, and that they are marked out for assassination. (Hear, hear.) They remain at their post, they endeavour to execute their duty; hoping, by their patient suffering, to enlist your sympathy on their behalf. One ly one they are cut off by the hand of the assassin. They wait till that slow but certain doom, against which there is no protection, shall fall upon them unresisting and unprotected; or, if they be protected at all, it is only by the daily presence and espionage of police walking by their side. One by one, on their way, it may be, to the Board of Guardians with a design of mitigating the sufferings of the poor, do they fall; and, to the disgrace of a civilized community be it said, with the knowledge and connivance of half a country, are the best, the humanest, and the most irreproachable of men cut off by the hand of the assassin. In this country the whole community joins in the repression of outrage, but back the people, in order that no pretext may be that is far from being the case in Ireland. And, my given for Austrian intervention. The first year of Lords, I here approach a very serious and delicate question. I cannot avoid the expression of my pinion, that, however much the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland may, as a body, he desirous of repressing and discouraging offences, they do not, as 1 believe that the sacredness of confession is to a certain degree dangerous to the civil Government and the peace of Ireland. (Hear.) My Lords, I respect the conscientious scrunles of those who con ceal the secrets of the guilty man confided to them in confession; but this I must say, that, although] have heard of many denunciations against informers is himself committing injustice. And then it is in Ireland-and in that country by "an informer" is meant every man who joins in bringing offenders and two morals, or only one—if he is convinced or, to justice, in whatever mode-prosecutor, witness, and judge (hear, hear)-yet I never heard of any statement being made by the Roman Catholic clergy, deny one of two things-either his teaching or his publicly or privately, by pastoral letter, by private communication, or by authoritative declaration in a | ful, or among things possible, to maintain any authochapel dedicated to God, as to the duty of every rity whatever, upon the flagrant and perpetual demember of the community, not only to abstain from | nial of its own proper principles: if there be a man

upon those who have her mark."

A third remarkable circumstance which is presented to us at the approach of the new year, is the disturbed state of Christendom,—the present movements in Spain, Portugal, Italy, and the Roman Catholic Cantons of Switzerland. Upon this subject, however, I can only glance; brevity allowing me no more space than to mention how urgently life." Have these Sermons been the upon the several several and that unless transformed by the influence or corrupt, and that unless transformed by the influence of the Holy Spirit, you could not hope to be guilty of ences of the Holy Spirit, you could not hope to be guilty of whom he might know to be guilty of the bond by which we have been united, let me ask ences of the Holy Spirit, you could not hope to be guilty of youth, because convinced that it is a great deal youth, because convinced that it is a great deal of such a linear to serve God now than when you have been long the slaves of the world; and because every moment of delay has been lessening the probability of treland apply the influence which they possess to the support of the law by second to the support of the support of the law by second to the support of the law by second to the support of the support of the law by second to the support of the support of the law by second to the support of the supp forcing, as a solemn duty, the denunciation to the civil authorities of crimes known to be contemplated, and which may afterwards he perpetrated. There have, indeed, been recent instances of denunciation of individual landlords which could hardly fail to stimulate to acts of violence a too excitable population; and I believe I am justified in saying that in one very recent and most melancholy case the denunciation was followed, within two days, by the assassination of the man respecting whom a priest had asked from the cltar, "whether he deserved to live?" Her Majesty's speech leads to the conclusion that some measures will be asked for the suppression of crime in Ireland. My Lords, no less true, that the young are the hope of the Church. To you along with your Pastor has been entrusted the solemn responsibility of training up the Noble Lord's supporters)—I am sure I may also the Noble Lord's supporters)—I am sure I may also say in the name of humanity and civilization, let those measures be effectual, and they shall have our support. (Hear, Lear.)

> ITALY'S WRONGS, AND HER PROSPECTS. From the Edinburgh Review.

It is a wretched thing to have an interest that any body should be made unhappy through the misconduct of another. Yet this was long the relation of Russia to Poland. It is now the relation of Austria to italy. Russia prevented Poland from improving her constitution, that she might be so much the more easily dismembered and absorbed. From her Loinbardo-Venetian provinces, Austria watches every movement in the rest of Italy, with the same object. She has, unfortunately, a direct interest, that the several members of the great Italian family should be more uneasy and worse governed than the Austrian; and that there should never arise an Italian nationality, or an Italian nation. The instant, therefore, that a spark of life appears in Italy, the hoof of the Croat is set in motion to tread it out. It is true, after the disturbances of 1830 in the Papal states had been put down, that Austria went through the form of joining the other four great powers (May, 1831) in the memorandum to Gregory XVI., then newly elected Pope, recommending certain reforms as essentially necessary. This was, however, a pure formality; for, on Cardinal Bernetti's attempting to give effect in part to the recommendation, Austria interfered. Her interests are so diametrically opposed to those of Italy, that Azeglio assumes it as a fact, of which there can be no question; and he assumes accordingly, that no justice is to be expected from her. But what are we to say to France? That great

country can have no manner of interest in the degradation of Italy. Quite the contrary. But if her government had frankly played into the hand of Austria from the first, its policy would not have been more fatal to Italy than it actually has been; while it would have saved that unhappy country from no end of hopes and struggles encouraged only to be betrayed. The French occupation of Ancona, as explained by Cassimir Perrier to the Chamber in 1832, had two objects : in the first instance, the protection of the Papal states against Austria; but in the next place, the introduction of those administrative reforms, which are a better security to government than the repression of periodical rebellion. Ancona, however, was afterwards sion. And now that the Pope himself has turned reformer, what mist is again poisoning the policy of the Tuilleries? Instead of co-operating to raise up two noble nations in the two peninsulas, the French people—so proud, and justly, of their nationality-are made to look like conniving parties to some secret compact, by which France is to give up Italy to Austria, on condition that Spain is deivered over to the matrimonial designs of the house of Orleans !- a turn of affairs like this, surely, in which France has no more interest than glory. It will be a difficult task for any future historian of "modern European civilization," to reconcile any conscientious sympathy in its progress, with these transactions. Whoever wishes to study severe morality on paper, will do well to read M. Guizot's writings; whoever wishes to study loose morality, illustrated by examples, cannot do better than track him in his late ministerial career.

If ever a nation assumed a moral attitude which ntitled it to the confidence of neighbouring powers, is the Moderate and Progressive party, now happily a great majority throughout Italy, and represented by the Pope himself. The Moderate party is become so numerous as to be the National party; Their great rule of conduct has been, to substitute appeals to reason, in the place of appeals to force. to urge forward the governments, in order that revolution may be anticipated by reform : and to keep the Pontificate of Pius IX., so regarded, would make an annus mirabilis in any history.

A few months before the late Pope was passing to his last account, Azeglio laid at the old man's feet a glowing picture of the terrible effects of his a body, lend themselves to the support of the law. misrule, and of what was his awful responsibility.

1 believe that the sacredness of confession is to a Gregory must have trembled even in St. Peter's chair, as he read of righteousness, temperance, and

judgment to come. " Either my accusations," said Azeglio, "are calumnies—if so, prove it—or, it is true, that one who preaches justice, and sits in its highest charge. reasonable to ask of him-if there are two Gospels, no, of that which he is preaching and teaching to the world? It is then reasonable to ask of him, to nctions : to demand of him, if in our age it be law-

San discours a la la lacal de la lacal