

GENERAL LITERATURE.

THE GREAT AND FINAL BATTLE.

ARCHBISHOP USHER is said to have had a foreboding of the impending final struggle between Popery and Protestantism. As the anticipations formed by this eminent prelate of the issue of this conflict are of an encouraging nature, and have evidently a bearing upon the subject which has been under discussion, I will submit them to your thoughtful consideration:—

“The greatest stroke upon the Reformed Churches is yet to come; and the time of the utter ruin of the See of Rome shall be when she thinks herself most secure.” One presuming to inquire of him what his general apprehensions were concerning a very great persecution, he answered, “That a very great persecution would fall upon all the Protestant Churches in Europe;” adding, “I tell you, all you have seen hath been but the beginning of sorrow, to what has yet to come upon the Protestant Churches of Christ, which will ere long fall under a sharper persecution than ever. Therefore,” said he, “look you to be not found in the outer court, but a worshipper in the inner temple, before the altar; for Christ will measure all those that profess his name and call themselves his people; and the outward worshippers he will leave out to be trodden down of the Gentiles. The outer court is the formal Christian, whose religion consists in performing the outward duties of Christianity, without having an inward life and power of faith uniting him to Christ; and these God will leave to be trodden down and swept away by the Gentiles. But the worshippers within the temple and before the altar, God will hide in the hollow of his hand, and under the shadow of his wings. And this shall be one great difference between the last and all the other preceding persecutions. For, in the former, the most eminent and spiritual ministers and Christians did generally suffer most, and were most violently fallen upon. But in the last persecution, these shall be preserved by God, as a seed to partake of that glory which shall immediately follow, and come upon the Church, as soon as ever this storm shall be over. For, as it shall be the sharpest, so it shall be the shortest persecution of them all; and shall only take away the gross hypocrites and formal professors; but the true believers shall be preserved till the calamity be over.”

The passage above quoted is taken from the appendix to a scarce Treatise, entitled, “Apocryphical Key,” by Robert Fleming, published first in 1701, and republished in 1809. In this same book is an extraordinary extract from Dr. Goodman’s Exposition of the Revelation, published in the year 1630:

“Whether the wine-press will be brought into this country, He only knows who is the Lord both of the harvest and the vintage.—Only this may be the more confidently affirmed, that those carnal Protestants, in England and other places, who, like the outward court, have been joined to the people of God, shall yet before the expiration of the beast’s kingdom and number, be more or less given up to the Papists, and be made to vail to them; if not all of them by bloody wars and conquests, yet by some base and unworthy yielding to them, as a just punishment of their carnal profession of the Gospel.”—*Archdeacon of Ely’s Charge.*

MERLE D’AUBIGNE.

The following is from a letter of the Rev. Mr. Neale, of the Baptist Church, now travelling in Europe, to the Editor of the *Christian Watchman*:—

“D’Aubigne I cannot better describe than to say, he is like Dr. Wayland, just about his age, looks like him, talks and acts like him.—I called on him about nine o’clock in the morning, but received at the door a note stating that Mr. Merle D’Aubigne saw no company till 3 P.M. At half-past three I called again, and was received with the greatest cordiality. He made an apology for the apparently cold manner in which I was received in the morning, and stated that it was in accordance with a rule upon which he was obliged uniformly to act. It is a good rule, by the way; and a similar one, I am sure, ought to be adopted by the pastors of churches, especially in large cities. It might offend some and make others wonder, but is absolutely necessary, in order to have any time for study. D’Aubigne is President of the Theological Seminary, and Professor of Ecclesiastical History. It is now vacation, and all his leisure hours are devoted to his great work on the History of the Reformation. He speaks with much enthusiasm of his labours, without, however, the least appearance of boasting.—“If the Lord spares me till I’m fifty,” he says, “I’ll have out two or three volumes more.” He has a brother in New Orleans and another in New York, who often and earnestly invite him to make them a visit. It is not unlikely then, that we may yet see this distinguished man in our own country. I spent Monday evening with him at the house of Col. Trochin, the president of the Evangelical Society. The professors of the institution and several of the pastors were present, as also Mr. John J. Gurney, of London, and Dr. Hodge of Glasgow. The latter gave a most interesting account of the present state of religion in Scotland, connected with the late remarkable, and I must say, glorious succession from the Established Church. I wish my sheet would allow me to give you his statements, but I shall have to reserve them for the materials of a long conversation, when I get home. Mr. Gurney is a good, sensible abolitionist, such a one as I know you would like; while uncompromising, he is a man of cool judgment, and speaks the truth in love. He read a portion of Scripture and offered prayer at the close of the interview. Mr. Gausson, author of the admirable work on the Plenary Inspiration of the Bible, was expected to be present, but, greatly to my regret, was absent. I was resolved, at all events, to see him; so I went next day on board of the boat in which he was to sail. I introduced myself, and found him, probably from the circumstance of my earnestness, unusually free and communicative. He spoke in high terms of Mr. Kirk’s translation of his work. He is farther advanced in years than I expected, but looks robust and vigorous, and will, I hope, farther instruct and interest us with his writings. He has written an Exposition of Daniel’s Prophecies, of which Dr. D’Aubigne speaks so favourably. I wish Mr. Kirk would give us a translation of it. It would be well received in America at any time, but especially in 1843.

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATION.

LEADING TO SPRINGS AND FOUNTAINS OF WATER. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor the sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them SHALL LEAD THEM; even by the springs of water shall he guide them.—Isaiah xlii, 10.

The Lamb that is in the midst of the throne shall feed them; and shall lead them unto living fountains of water.—Rev. vii, 17.

The sun shall not smite them, or they should not be subject to what we call a *stroke* of the sun, which is generally mortal. The tender mercy of God to African nations living within and near the tropics, to prevent

their being smitten by the powerful heat of a vertical sun, is conspicuous, though they know Him not.

Their heads are covered with wool, the threads of which are so closely interwoven, that it becomes as solid a substance as that of which our hats are composed, and sometimes grows to more than an inch in thickness, which forms a wonderful protection to the brain. O Lord, how great is thy goodness and thy wonderful works to the children of men!

In both texts they are supposed to be ignorant where springs and fountains of living, or running waters are to be found, but to these God graciously leads them as their kind friend. This simile would come with peculiar force to those who travel in lands where they are often obliged to search for water by digging, as in the valley of Baca, and often without success, especially if long after the rainy season is past. I often experienced the value of a guide to water, but especially on one occasion, in which I could not but notice an especial Providence.

On crossing the boundary of the Cape colony, and entering the wild Bushman country, we met a Bush family. One of them, a young man, expressed a strong desire to see other countries, and asked permission to travel with us, with the consent of his father; to which request we agreed. As none of my Hottentots had ever been out of their own country before, none of the party knew where rivers, or brooks, or springs of water were to be found; of course the young Bushman was a valuable acquisition. We had not seen a blade of grass as we proceeded during the day, and night was fast approaching, while ignorant where either grass or water could be found. On telling the Bushman what we wanted, he immediately led us out of the track in which we were travelling, along a narrow pass between hills, to a small sequestered valley, where there was a fountain of good water and also grass for the cattle, with abundance of fire wood. When I beheld these treasures, which came so unexpectedly, and so completely supplied all our wants, I looked to the wild Bushman as Elijah may be supposed to have looked at the ravens that fed him in the wilderness—as God’s instrument for fulfilling His benevolent will to us;—and the poor lad seemed as unconscious of the greatness of the service he had rendered us as Elijah’s ravens were.—*Rev. J. Campbell.*

THE TRAVELLER,

THE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

[From the Literary Gazette.]

We congratulate the country on the happy return of one of the most memorable expeditions ever recorded in English history—an expedition fortunate in every respect, in the outfit provision made for its success, in the intrepidity and skill of its conduct throughout, in the perfect accomplishment of all its scientific objects, in the continued health and preservation of the human beings exposed to its perils and privations, in the harmony which has never for a moment been interrupted among officers and men by jealousies or misbehaviour, and finally, in its auspicious arrival at home, after four years of brave and unwearyed exertion, in safety; to be crowned with the rewards and honours so nobly earned from an admiring and grateful nation.

Justly may Great Britain be proud of this achievement; and sure we are that its glory will not be felt by Britain alone, but be acknowledged by the whole civilized world, to which, as well as to ourselves, its interesting and important results in science belong. The exemplary human-