

Go fearless, then, my soul, with God
 Into another room,
 Thou who hast journeyed with Him there
 Go feast with him at home.
 View death with a believing eye,
 It hath an angel's face;
 And this kind angel wilt prefer
 Thee to an angel's place.

My dearest friends—they dwell above;
 Them will I go and see;
 And all my friends in Christ below
 Will soon come after me.
 Fear not the trump's earth-rending sound,
 Dread not the day of doom;
 For He that is to be thy judge
 Thy Saviour has become.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

The Wesleyan Conference completed its series of meetings about the middle of last month. The most remarkable feature was the report by Dr. Jobson of the state of the churches in the Australian Colonies. Methodism has shown itself to be well adapted to the virgin soil of Australia, by the rapidity with which it has spread out its roots in all directions—Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, the Gold Fields, and even the thinly-populated districts of the large sheep-farms. It has grown up perhaps more rapidly than any other form of Protestantism, and it still continues to make steady advances. The home-reports were generally favourable. The most important movement at home, discussed at the recent meeting, was for the building of a number of new metropolitan churches. It is now determined to give increased and very special attention to London. The death of the Bishop of Durham has been deeply mourned, by both evangelical Churchmen and Dissenters. None of the bishops was more generally known and beloved than he, and many years of faithful labour were expected from him in the important diocese to which he had recently been elevated.

In Scotland it has been determined not to appeal to the House of Lords against the recent decision in the Cardross case, but to await the trial of the last issue, which regards the contract.

The sudden death of Dr. Stahl—one of the great leaders of the High Church party in Germany, and one of the most able speakers of the day—has created much sensation in the Prussian Church. He was a Jew by birth, always an earnest and devoted man; after his conversion to Christianity, an exceedingly clear, quick, logical speaker. In the Kirchentag, as long as he remained attached to it, he was the ruling mind, bringing the deliberations to a point in a moment when other speakers were floundering on in mist or darkness. Though a professor of law, he devoted much attention to theology, and was

more determined in his defence of the plenary inspiration of Scripture and of purity of doctrine, than almost any other of his German contemporaries. He opposed strenuously, and exposed with great ability, the *Bibelwerk* of Baron Bunsen, so full of the worst elements of scepticism, however well-intended it may have been by its author. His views of doctrine were ultra-Lutheran, and his politics most despotic. A great man in Israel has, however, passed away, who contended much for the defence of truth against the levelling and material scepticism of the age.

The state of things remains unchanged in Italy. Rome is not evacuated, and Naples, though greatly improved under the rule of Ciadini, continues to be disturbed. The reactionary party are also attempting to send bands of brigands into Tuscany. It is high time that these crimes, committed under the protection of the so-called party of order, should be brought to an end. The Pope is sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of the encouragement of these abominable plots. Our correspondent draws attention to a fact too much forgotten, that the mass of the people of Italy are still attached devotedly to many superstitions of the Papacy, however much they may detest the politics of the upper clergy. Many of the church observances, especially in Italy, have an æsthetic attraction which binds them to this imaginative people. As the ancient Greeks crowded heaven with the gods and goddesses of a cultivated imagination, the Italians have peopled it, by the aid of their painters and other men of genius, with beautiful images of the Virgin and the saints, of the Lord himself, and even of the Father; and they cling to these sensuous images. No reformation can take place, except by the blessing of God on the study of His word, in raising the spiritual above the sensuous, and destroying such degrading materials of a corrupt system. Care must be taken to substitute the true for the false, and not, by a mere work of destruction, to drive the people from bad to worse, to materialistic infidelity.

We continue to receive the most encouraging accounts of the progress of the American missions in Turkey. The letters of Dr. Dwight, especially, describe most vividly the changes effected in many of the cities. Large, earnest, Christian communities are springing up in all the important cities of Asiatic Turkey. The Nestorians have come forward nobly to the help of the Society in its emergency, and have contributed very largely in proportion to their means. Whole villages seem to have been affected by this spirit of liberality. We would again press upon our readers the importance of at present giving liberally in support of these missions. A correspondent of the "Patriot" suggests, that "by a united and strenuous effort the churches of this country might take up this mission,