

FRANCE.

Nor have they left to the married faith. ful the Saviour's instituted medium of needful grace, by which is sanctified and blessed the general state of mankind.

In all this, I would ask again, what spiritual advantage is afforded to the Christian believer?

They have taught their people to abhor all things sanctified by prayer and the word of God, 1 Tim. iv. 5, and consecrated to religious purposes.

Likenesses of the Saviour and his Saints, and every external sign, or sensible memorial of him or them, are accounted by such a grievous evildoer, and held out to their flocks as objects meriting their utmost abhorrence and detestation. The cross, above all things, they cannot bear to look at. It seems as odious an object to them, as it must be to him who was conquered by it, with whom in this and all the rest, they appear to have a common sympathy. The statues, busts, and pictures of the worldly great, they keep and cherish, and introduce even into their places of worship, as into St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London. How dear to them are also the portraits and relics of their deceased or absent relations and friends! But the relics and resemblances of our heavenly friends, the Saints, they cast from them with horror; and every thing exhibited, reminding us of the incarnate God, our dear Redeemer, whom, notwithstanding, they pretend to worship.

They refuse all honor to his most blessed mother, the woman destined from the beginning to "crush the serpent's head," and to repair, in fine, the fault of Eve. It seems their delight to traduce upon all occasions; and, if possible, will fly in human estimation, that purest of creatures, and most honored by the Deity, by daring to compare her (saluted by an archangel *the most blessed of womankind*) with even the most common and worthless of her sex. Whence all this dislike and antipathy borne towards her, if not from the original tempter, whose haughty head she was bid to crush?

No wonder, then, that they should rail against virginity—her peculiar and transcendent virtue—the one so particularly recommended by the Apostle St. Paul, 1 Cor. vii. 34—a virtue so lauded by the holy Fathers, and practised in all ages by the most illustrious servants of God.

We say nothing at present of their demoralizing doctrines. We merely show the faint outlines of a picture, which, the nearer it is inspected, the more disgusting it appears. Without, therefore, stopping to exhibit its deformities in detail, we shall conclude, as we began, by observing, that all the substantial advantages of the reforming scheme remain, as at first, on the side of its teachers; and all the ideal and imaginary gains, if spiritual privations and losses can be deemed such, on the side of the people, their deluded adherents.

The reforming scheme, however, by authorising every one to expound the word of God, according to his own notions, and to commence as sure and lawful a teacher as the best among his protesting brethren, has this peculiar advantage in it, adapted exclusively to themselves by its cunning and unprincipled contrivers—that it furnishes a ready support to all whom misfortune or misconduct has reduced to poverty, and put upon their utmost shifts to find themselves a living,—such if they can but boldly act the prophet or the preacher, are sure to be listened to by crowds, and amply provided for by their admirers.

JAMES ROCHE, Esq., is the first Catholic magistrate appointed for the city of Cork within the last 150 years.

We read in the Protestant Journal '*Le Semeur*,' that the Anglican Church is about to give a bishop to Jerusalem. A Bill, passed in the last session of Parliament, allows her to invade in this manner foreign countries in which she cannot set up a regular national establishment; and it is by instigation of the King of Prussia, who has intrusted this business to a diplomatist previously charged with the conduct of some difficult negotiations with the court of Rome, and who has agreed to be at half the expense of erecting the new bishopric, that she is preparing thus to make use of the right accorded to her by the State. The intention of Frederick William IV is said to be to provide in Palestine for the members of the different Protestant communions, a protection which has not as yet been ensured to them, by grouping them together without confounding them, and forming them into a '*corps d'église*,' under the inspection of recognized ecclesiastical authorities. The matter in hand is ostensibly, by a more official organization, to secure for them the same position as is occupied by the other Christian communion. Out of gratitude for the initiative assumed on this occasion by the King of Prussia, and also to give the Protestants of Germany an additional motive of confidence in the new bishop, it is proposed to nominate to the Anglican Episcopal See of Jerusalem, Mr. Alexander, a Prussian subject who has long resided in England, and who is looked upon as belonging equally to the two nations, and who by his Jewish descent, and his being Professor of Hebrew Literature in the University of London up to this time, belongs to Palestine at once by his birth and his studies.

Far from being blind to what is generous in this scheme, we believe that the King of Prussia has been actuated chiefly by motives of religion; but has the agreement of England been the result of a like disinterestedness? The bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre, looking to the spirit of the Gospel, seems to us as ill calculated to prepare the erection of a bishopric at Jerusalem, as present war in China for the benefit of the opium trade, would be to open to Christianity the gates of Canton. The present measure is besides still more calculated to surprise, inasmuch as absolutely nothing calls for it at this moment. To justify the presence of a bishop, there is need of inferior pastors to whom his jurisdiction may extend; what then? far from there being pastors to direct, there is not even a flock to keep. A few travellers constitute all the faithful; and, except a small number of missionaries among the Jews, we may say that the future bishop of Jerusalem will have for diocesans those only who will be brought to the Holy Land in the same vessel as himself. But were there protestants to protect (for of the avowed motives, it is protection alone with which we have to do), we do not see wherein the protection of an ecclesiastical dignitary could be better than that of a consul. Far from having been protectors, the religious settled in the holy places have been constantly persecuted; and M. de Gb. teaubriand has, in his journey, been

careful to call attention to the fact, that it is to the protection of France that the fathers of the Holy Land are indebted for the only alleviation of their sufferings, which they have ever obtained. 'How much was I moved,' says he, 'by finding ceaselessly repeated in the register of the firman of the Fathers, '*Copy of a firman obtained through the solicitation of M. the French ambassador*.' The part of France is still the same, and were England willing to act in like manner, she could do so only through her political representatives. Is it not then highly probable that in the nomination of a bishop, she has much less at heart the sending to Palestine of a spiritual protector, than the creation of establishments there which she may afterwards give herself the duty of protecting? in other words, that she busies herself about the interests of the church with the only view with which the State can do so, namely, the interest of the State.

We feel no sympathy for such efforts, and we do not share in the hopes of those who imagine that Christianity may re-enter Jerusalem by any other path than that by which it went out to spread afar. By its own power alone, and without the protection of the powers of the world, it was that it overcame the false gods, and that it began the subjection of the world. We may then feel assured, that when the time shall arrive for it to resume possession of its cradle, it will re-assert its ancient glory,—that of having been able to dispense with all extrinsic aid. The more force kings and nations have uselessly thrown away upon the holy places, the better ground is there for supposing that they will be entire strangers to a deliverance, which will be holy and lasting only if it shall be the work of the Church exclusively.—*Univers*.

Paris.—The festival of All saints was strikingly observed at Paris. It is computed that 80,000 persons visited the cemetery of Pere la Chaise on that day, to offer up their prayers for the repose of the souls of their departed relatives or friends.

TOLEDO—December 16.—The process has terminated, and the forty three ecclesiastics are free, the ministerial proceedings against them being reversed, with costs, by the Audience of Districts. The decree is dated the 14th ult. It declares the right of the priests to decline the authority of the political chief in matters ecclesiastical, adding that it is competent to that personage to set through the Vicar Capitular or Ecclesiastical Governor of the province.—The Toledo correspondent of the *Eco Commercial* is furious!—*Et Catholic*.

AUSTRALIA.—A Sydney paper declares that a whole tribe of blacks had been murdered by the colonists, at a station about 150 miles from Melbourne; that, much nearer, eight blacks had been killed and thrown into a creek; and that one person not named, had stuck the heads of forty-two natives on as many poles round his house.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ENGLAND.—There are 487 Roman Catholic chapels in England and Wales, and 69 in Scotland,

beside 24 stations where Mass is performed. In England there are eight Roman Catholic colleges; in Scotland one. There are 23 monasteries in England and 624 missionary priests, and 86 priests in Scotland.

It is stated that in consequence of Queen Victoria having expressed some uneasiness that her son the Prince of Wales should have, during her lifetime precedence of his father, it has been resolved that Prince Albert shall be immediately created King Consort, by the title and rank of his Majesty King Albert.

EXTERMINATIONS.—Tuesday evening witnessed a most heartrending scene in this neighborhood. The sheriff and his bailiffs, with an escort of military and police, marched to Killongford for the purpose of turning out of their holdings twenty-one of the unhappy and miserable tenants of the late Robert Charles Welsh, whose life had been sacrificed a few weeks since on the altar of extermination. These poor people were honest and industrious, and at all times were inclined to pay a reasonable rent.—*Dungarvan Correspondent of the Waterford Chronicle*.

A correspondent assures us that the soldiers at Charlemont are in the habit of sharing in the Orange riots in that district, and that some of them were recently very severely reprimanded for proceedings of this nature. Are they tampering with the army again?—*Belfast Vindicator*.

A half-starved man, with six children, has been committed for trial at Hertford, for stealing three potatoes. Two poor householders, strangers to the prisoner, became bail for him, or he would have undergone an imprisonment of two months before his trial would have come on, and the parish would have had to keep his family.

LONDON POST OFFICE.

A London paper, describing the extent of business in the Post Office of the "Great Metropolis," states that there are 824 letter receivers, and 724 letter carriers. Including clerks and others directly employed, not less than 1,903 persons are connected with the London Post Office. The letter receivers pass about certain districts of the city, and receive letters in a bag through an opening similar to the one at the Post Office. For each letter, the receiver gets a penny, and the bag cannot be opened, except by those authorized by Government. The postage on a letter weighing half an ounce, is one penny. Every additional half ounce is charged with an additional half penny. This is the rate of postage, to every part of Great Britain. Newspapers are not subject to postage, provided they are mailed within eight days after they are printed. The franking privilege is entirely abolished, as it should be in this country, or materially restricted. The average number of letters daily posted in London is 80,370. The same of news papers is 85,510. The number of Post Offices in the United Kingdom is 3,638. The mails for every part of the country leave the General Post Office in London daily. Sundays excepted, at 8 P. M., and are all expected to arrive at 6 A. M. The London Post Office is not open for the delivery of letters, or the reception or delivery of mails on Sunday.—*Montreal Messenger*.

The Paris papers consider the tone taken by the American President as decidedly hostile, and many of them contend that a collision between Great Britain and the United States is nearly inevitable.