

Miscellaneous RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Knox's Church, Hamilton.—The following abstract of the accounts of this church for the past year has been handed us for publication, specially with a view to circulation among the members of the congregation. The accounts of which the enclosed statement is a summary, were presented by the Deacons to the congregation at their annual meeting on the 26th ult., on which occasion an unanimous and very cordial vote of thanks to those office-bearers was passed, for the efficient manner in which they had discharged their arduous duties. Several short addresses were made at the meeting, respecting the various objects claiming the liberality of the members of the church:—such as the sustentation of the ministry in the church generally, the Home Mission, the College, Foreign Missions, Sabbath Schools, Libraries, besides the more immediate object of maintaining the edification of the Gospel amongst themselves. It was unanimously resolved that the congregation stand on the Sustentation Fund for £250 during the coming year, and the harmony and right feeling which were manifested on all hands furnish a satisfactory pledge, that under the blessing and guidance of the Great Head of the Church, they will rather extend than fall short of their contributions to this and the other objects of Christian benevolence. It is a pleasing feature in the subjoined statement that the several objects which ought to engage the concern of a Christian Church have not only found a place but have attracted something like a proportionate share in the givings of the congregation—no one object overstraining the efforts of the congregation and overshadowing and dwarfing all the others. It was also very gratifying to have the decided testimony given by the Deacons as to the cheerful and unconstrained manner in which the contributions had been paid throughout the year. The system of pew rents has been laid aside in this congregation during the past year, each family being provided with sittings according to their numbers and left to contribute according to their means. The new place of worship, which in addition to ordinary claims, this congregation is erecting at an expense of upwards of £3000, is rapidly advancing towards completion, and will in all probability be ready for their accommodation about the latter end of March.

Statement by the Deacons at the annual meeting of the congregation of Knox's Church, Hamilton, of the sums of money collected during the past year.

For the Sustentation Fund	£250	0	0
Home Missions,			
collections.....	39	1	3
Ladies' association	92	4	2
	131	5	5
Foreign Missions,			
collections,	22	13	10
Sabbath School,			
Misery Box, ..	15	12	10
	38	6	8
College collections	36	13	0
Bursary from Ladies' Associ-			
ation	10	0	0
Sabbath School and Congre-			
gational Library, collection	20	0	0
Quebec suffered by fire, do..	17	6	3
Ordinary expenses—collec-			
tions	93	0	11
	£596	17	3

J. DAVIDSON, Secretary,
Deacons' Court.

Hamilton, 26th Jan'y, 1846.

The Presbyterian congregation of St. Andrews Church, London have presented a handsome Gold Watch, on Eight-day Clock, and a set of elegant silver plated branch Candlesticks, to John Funnell, Esq., the senior Elder, in testimony of their obligation for his endeavours in procuring ministerial supply, and in conducting their devotional services on the recent days while expecting a stated Pastor of their own. This congregation have sent a handsome silver and a unanimous call to the Rev. Mr. Semmerville of Glasgow; and this additional testimony of their value for the means of grace, augurs well for the comfort of any clergyman, who may eventually be settled among them.

THE CONTRAST.—Saxony, at the period of the Reformation, and until she fell under the power of popery, occupied a lofty position among the states of Germany, and possessed the most important elements of national wealth and power. She has now sunk into insignificance, and has no weight in the balance of political power. On the other hand, Protestant Prussia has arisen from an obscure duchy into a mighty kingdom, is the leading power of the German confederacy, and the very centre of the learning and civilization of the world, though her soil is sandy and sterile, and nature has done for her but little. Again—

Ireland refused to bow her neck to the yoke of his holiness. Pope Adrian stirred up Henry II. to subdue her, that he might wring from her "Peter's pence," and was the first instigator of that "union" of which the Catholics now so loudly complain. Popery is the blight of her prosperity—the withering curse of her children; but—

Scotland, across the channel, is full of churches, and schools, and colleges; the land of learning, liberty, exalted sentiment, and hallowed wealth; the glory of the British Isles. Again—

In Protestant America every man sits beneath his own vine and fig tree, having none to make him afraid; peace and happiness, knowledge and love, liberty and prosperity everywhere abound. But—

In Catholic America, in Mexico, and throughout all the republics south of her, there are despotism, and anarchy, desolation and misery in fair proportion with the universal ignorance and selfishness of the people.

The fiercest portions of the world—Italy, Spain, Poland, and South America—have, in the providence of God, been allotted to popery for its inheritance; these are the broad fields of the wealth it calls its own, and dispute its claims; and yet all these rich and fertile countries have been impoverished, and made wretched by the mother of "abominations." No other countries of the world, ever enlightened by the gospel, have sunk so low on the scale of intelligence, wealth, and moral worth. Popery is their curse and ruin. It is a millstone hanging upon the neck of all that is virtuous and lovely, and of good report in Christendom. Soon may the "mighty angel" take it up and cast it into the sea, "where it shall be found no more at all."

SINCS or PROGRESS.—During the year 1845, several marked events have occurred, which ought to be noted as signs of progress in the work of the conversion of the world. We would glance at some of them, omitting others, and aiming only to give what may be called the titles of those noticed.

1. In India, numerous conversions, in some instances of persons of high caste, and in other cases of communities or classes of people; proclamation of the Governor-General opening stations in the service of the Government to the pupils of the Mission Schools as well as to others, and giving a preference to the best scholars;—concession by the Government of the principle that converts should be allowed to retain their property after conversion; their legal right to do so will probably soon be granted;—the apathy of the native mind giving way to a spirit of opposition and inquiry.

2. In China: increased number of Missionaries and new Ports occupied; success of printing in Chinese with divisible metal types, established; Edict of the Emperor, giving a qualified toleration to Christianity.

3. In Germany: the progress of the Ronge Reformation, not Evangelical, yet greatly hostile to the Papal Anti-Christ, and perhaps leading to better things; a movement that has made a more rapid progress than the Reformation of Luther in the same period.

4. In France: the check given to the Jesuits; particularly, the favour shown to Colporteurs, distributing the Bible, and to Evangelical preachers in many districts and towns.

5. In England: the Roman tendency of Puseyism fully developed and acknowledged, and Puseyism itself rebuked in influential quarters.

6. Among the Jews: an increasing spirit of inquiry concerning Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah; conversions to Christianity not unfrequent;—growing interest among Christian churches for the salvation of the Jews.

PROTESTANT LECTURES.—A Series of Weekly Lectures, on the following subjects, by Ministers of different Denominations, will be delivered in the New City Hall, Toronto, commencing on the 14th January, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

I.—"The Church of God a Witness for Truth"; Rev. Dr. Burns, January 14.

II.—"The Nature of Spiritual Religion, as contrasted with the Religion of Sentiment and of Form";—Rev. R. A. Fyfe, January 24.

III.—"The importance of Young Men—the formation of their Moral and Religious Habits";—Rev. H. Eason, A. M. January 28.

IV.—"Schism: its Nature, Causes, and Remedy";—Rev. G. F. Playter, February 4.

V.—"Selfishness in Individuals and Secs a hindrance to Union";—Rev. W. Rintoul, A. M. February 11.

VI.—"A Union Conference, on the basis of the Liverpool one, Feb. 18th and 19th.

VI.—"The Harmony of Protestant Churches in regard to the great Principles of Evangelical Religion";—Rev. A. Lillie, February 25.

VII.—"The Influence of Protestantism on Literature and Civil Freedom";—Rev. Dr. Willis, March 4.

VIII.—"On Intemperance and other Causes of Demoralization, with Practical Suggestions";—Rev. G. R. Sanderson, March 11.

IX.—"Man's Responsibility to God for the Exercise of his Mental Powers in Search of Religious Truth";—Rev. J. Bayne, March 18.

X.—"The Religious and Educational Aspect of Canada";—Rev. J. Ross, March 25.

IF A Collection will be made at each Meeting to defray expenses.

Toronto, January 1, 1846.

PATRONAGES IN THE MARKET.—We had thought that, so far as Scotland is concerned, the disposal of livings and patronages had been done away with; but it seems we were mistaken, as appears from an advertisement in the *North British Advertiser*, a few weeks ago. It is written in quite a business and attractive style. Here it is, omitting names:—"Patronage for Sale. The Patronage of a parish within twenty miles of —, in one of the most fertile districts of Scotland. The parish is not more than a mile square, and the population is only about 1000. The stipend, at the present prices of grain, is between £300 and £350. The manse is new, large, and convenient. The glebe is of the richest land. The parish enjoys easy access, including railway communication to — and —, and is in the route of the proposed railway to the north. The incumbent is above 60 years of age;—the Patronage is therefore in every way a most desirable one to possess. Apply to Mr. —!" We hope this is among the last of such public transactions. They are a disgrace to religion.—*John o' Great Journal.*

TAX JESUITS.—There are at this moment in Italy 150 houses of the order of the Jesuits, containing nearly 5000 persons, of whom 100 are priests. In France there are 56, containing 873 Jesuits, of whom — are priests. In Germany there are 83, of whom — are situated in Bavaria, 21 in Austria, 3 in Wurtemberg, 7 in Baden, 2 in the two Meines, 2 in Nassau, 5 in the province of Rhenish Prussia, 3 in Westphalia, 6 in Silesia, 2 in Saxony, 1 in Anhalt-Kothen, and 5 in Hanover and the Free Cities. In the Grand Duchy of Posen there are 7; in East and West Prussia, 5; in Pomerania, 2; in Brandenburg, 2; in the province of Saxony, 1. The total number of the Jesuits living in these houses is 1000, of whom 400 are priests. In Spain there are 87 houses, containing 537 Jesuits, of whom 220 are priests; and in Portugal 8, containing 160 Jesuits, of whom 75 are priests.

POPERY IN OREGON.—The Catholic Almanac for 1846 says that in Oregon there are already 16 priests, one religious institution for young men and one for females; also two academies and 7000 of a Romanist population. Such and (says the Advocate) for the propagation of false doctrines and a corrupt religion, need not surprise any one, who calls to remembrance who they were who "compared sea and land to make one promysy" or who remembers that the Mormons are among the most active and zealous missionaries in the world.