

the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Every generation is instrumentally responsible for its regeneration. Our responsibilities do not lie a thousand years backward or forward, but to earth's teeming millions of the present. It is ours, by precept and example, to "pray in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

"Us in the stead of Christ, they pray—
Us in the stead of God, entreat;
To cast our arms and sins away,
And find forgiveness at his feet."

To study the progression and apparent retrogressions of religious truth, is both a duty and a privilege. The ebbing and flowing of religious life are from neglect or performance of religious duty. Sad though it may be, the love of ease, and honor, worldly wealth, and pleasure, have often impeded the progress of divine truth. Never was the conflict between truth and error more real than now, and never the triumphs more widespread and signal than at the present. Rome, but recently under the sole control of the Pope, and guarded by French bayonets, is now the seat of a Protestant government under whose benign reign, the Divine Word has unrestricted circulation; and Protestant Churches are ever multiplying. Austria for long under Papal domination, has recently broken from the leading strings of Pope Pious the ix., so far as to assert the right of civil government to rule the affairs of the State. In United Germany the intrepid and invincible Bismarck has rendered it too hot for the Jesuits, and while vindicating the rights of Cæsar, is guiding the Nation on to the disendowment and disestablishment of the Church by the State. In England a justly celebrated ex-Premier has entered the arena of controversy and given such a popular exposure of the unsoundness and danger of Popish principles, and pretensions, as perhaps they never had before; while the Liberation Society is laboring with such energy, and hope that a "Free Church in a Free State" is only a matter of time. In the annexation of the once Cannibal Islands of Fiji to the British Empire we have an omen that bodes good for its population. As in the days of Luther reformation is springing from *within* both the English, and Romish churches, while through the pulpit, platform, and the press influences are being generat-

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