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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1878.

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THE WEEK.

IT is not true that "the former prominent grounds of defence and justification of the doctrine of ceaseless punishment in the world to come have been substantially abandoned." The text "These shall go away into everlasting punishment," is as confidently affirmed to declare the doctrine now as at any previous period of the Christian Church's history. The "scriptural argument" in support of the old doctrine meets the Universalists to-day, as it met them a century ago. And the same may be said regarding other arguments against the idea of the final salvation of all men. The doctrine of endless punishment, like the doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture and many other doctrine, may be looked at by many in some new light; but to say that the main arguments supporting it have been "abandoned" is totally false.

Recent storms have by no means been confined to this continent. In Hungary, on Friday night, the 30th ult., the town of Miskalog, the capital of the Circle of Borsod, in Hungary, was almost entirely laid waste on Friday night by a storm. A thousand houses were destroyed by the rainfall, and a hundred persons killed. The population of the place was estimated at about 20,000. Subsequent accounts from Miskolez, Hungary, show that the disaster by the storm exceeds the worst that was feared. Over four hundred corpses have already been recovered and 200 are still missing. At Erlau, 65 miles from Pesth, the River Eyre rose during the storm and broke through the walls of the town. Whole rows of houses were demolished by the flood, and many persons were drowned.

Several weeks ago the U. S. Secretary Evarts addressed a letter to the British Government setting forth the reasons why the five and a half millions fishery award was excessive, but no reply has been received. It is thought the delay is owing to the thorough examination the British Government is giv-

ing the subject. The recent Yankee order directing the collector of customs to obtain reports showing the quantity and kind of fish taken within three miles from the shores of Canada, aims at showing to the British Government the comparatively small value of such fish contrasted with the award. We should have thought it quite as desirable and quite as honourable for the question of the Alabama claims to be reopened and also to be readjusted. More iniquitous claims than those were never advanced, and a more iniquitous payment was never made than the payment of the sum awarded in liquidation of those claims.

The dissatisfaction in British Columbia on account of the non-fulfilment by the Canadian Government of the promises made to that province on its reception into the Dominion, shows no signs of abatement. The following is the closing paragraph of an address to the Queen from the House of Assembly:—"To prevent if possible the repetition in the future of the disasters of the past, your petitioners, with great regret feel compelled, in defence of the interests of the Province, to resort to the unavoidable alternative forced upon them by the conduct of the present Dominion Government, and to therefore humbly pray that in the event of the Dominion Government failing to carry into effect the settlement of 1874 on or before the 1st day of May next, Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to order and direct that British Columbia shall thereafter have the right to exclusively collect her customs and excise duties and to withdraw from the Union, and shall also in any event be entitled to be compensated by the Dominion for losses sustained by reason of past delays and the failure of the Dominion Government to carry out their railway and other obligations to the Province."

The battle between Protection and Free Trade is now raging throughout the Dominion, with the prospect of not a very decided result. The Freetraders contend that under the system of Free Trade, a loaf of bread or a pound of tea will cost less than under that of Protection; while Protectionists reply that a cheap loaf is just as difficult to procure as a dear one when there is no money to buy it with; and that scarcity of money is generally more than proportionate to cheapness of provisions. The most generally received creed on the subject is that every man should aim at self-protection. Our own idea of the normal state of things is the same as that we announced a couple of years ago:—"Free trade throughout the British Dominions and dependencies, and reciprocal trade with all the rest of the world. There may be a certain amount of Toryism in the principle, but we have heard a most decided and uncompromising "Reformer" advocate it.

The Southern pestilence is pursuing its relentless course. At Memphis, the fever continues without abatement. The distress

is very great, and negro disturbances have taken place from dissatisfaction at the way in which the rations are distributed. There were 53 deaths during the day on Monday. Doctors, nurses, and grave diggers are worn out from fatigue, and it is expected that all the whites will be attacked. At Fort Gibson, Miss., there are four hundred cases. At Pickering, which has been exempt from the fever since 1857, the fever has taken entire possession of the city and suburbs. At Grenville, north of Vicksburg, the town is panic stricken. Twenty cases of fever are reported, although it was strictly quarantined, with every road guarded night and day. Complaint is made in New Orleans on account of the persistency of the R. Catholic churches in tolling bells at funerals, to the discomfort and danger of the sick. Fever is encroaching upon localities hitherto entirely exempted. The condition of the streets is better than for years, but high, well drained districts seemed to suffer more than portions not so well favoured.

The news from the East is not very important. Negotiations are said to have been opened between Prince Lobanoff, Russian Ambassador to Turkey, and the Grand Vizier, Safvet Pasha, respecting the war indemnity and the expense of maintaining Turkish prisoners. The Russian demands are said to be moderate. It is further stated that the Porte intends to adopt the reforms in Asia Minor suggested by the British Minister, Mr. Layard. According to the most recent information from Bosnia and Hertzegovina, the Austrians are acting with great energy, but with moderation and perfect discipline.

The decision in the St. Alban's case has excited considerable interest. Not only did the Lord Chief Justice hold that there was no authority in Lord Penzance's Court to suspend the Vicar, but he also said that if any offence had been committed the defendant was entitled to a hearing *de integro*. This is no more than has been contended by other lawyers of eminence. But Sir Alexander Cockburn went further. He attacked and condemned the decisions and the law of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in *Hibbert v. Purchas*, and virtually said that in his opinion the Ritualist contention has a good footing. Nay, he even picked out two particular passages from Lord Chancellor Hatherley's judgment, alleging that they were mutually destructive. And all this he said with much emphasis, reading the while from a carefully prepared document, in the conclusions of which Mr. Justice Mellor agreed, though Mr. Justice Lush dissented. It is said to be unprecedented that a judge sitting in a secular court should express his dissent from the judgment of a court of appeal in ecclesiastical matters, and it is believed that the incident will not close here. It is worth while to note, perhaps, that while the Lord Chief Justice cannot be suspected by