

## KIRWAN'S REPLY TO BISHOP HUGHES

TO THE RIGHT REV. JOHN HUGHES, D. D., ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF NEW-YORK.

**My dear Sir**—In my last letter I concluded my analysis of the principle you assert, that the Bible has no authority save what your church gives it, and that it must be understood and received as your church interprets it. A principle more untrue, more absurd, more suicidal has never been asserted. It cannot be more absurd, but it is infinitely more dangerous, than your doctrine of transubstantiation. Although the doctrine of that principle says the foundation of all that you have written, yet there are other principles mixed up with your postulates that require notice. Among those is the principle involved in your theory of the church. As the paragraph which you mark 5, contains the great outline of your church theory, I will here quote it entire.

"5. But twice apostles, invested with equal authority and power, were sent to the Gentiles, and the object which their Lord hath appointed them to establish and secure. This kingdom was to be one; united in itself. His sheep were to be gathered into one fold; and under one shepherd, not twelve. Accordingly, out of the twelve, being all Apostles, and of equal dignity, and authority, He selected one, Peter, and in addition to the Apostleship which he enjoyed like the others, conferred on him special, singular, and individual prerogative and power, which has not been conferred on any other single Apostle, or collectively, and, as our Lord had said many things to the multitude, at large, and some things to the Apostles, and also, He gave Peter, and some things to Peter alone, in which the others had no direct lot or part. Satan he said desired them, (Gal.) that he might sift them as wheat, and he prayed for Peter, that his faith might not fail; and that being once converted, should confirm his brethren. The efficacy of the prayer, should manifestly have been realized in the Church, the days of Cephas himself, through the whole line of his successors, down to the exercise of the chief Apostleship in our own times, by the great and illustrious Pius IX."

The great paper idea here asserted is the placing of Peter over the other Apostles as your superior, and as the "Vicar of Christ," and as the head of the church, and the perpetuation of this office in his successors, down to the present day. Do you know, Sir, that these claims set up in behalf of Peter have been proven, very many times, to be without the shadow of a foundation? And yet you assert them as confidently as if they had never been questioned, and quote Scripture to prove them, just as if we had a right to form any opinion adverse to yours on the subject! Before attempting to show what has been said upon this subject, there are one or two ideas I wish to suggest just here.

Do you not think that your church made a mistake in selecting Peter for the vicar? Would you not have succeeded better with some of the other Apostles, one of the "sons of thunder," for instance? And how paper claims that Peter is the son of thunder, "thundering from the Vatican." Would you not have succeeded with John better than with Peter? You could have urged in his behalf that he was the beloved disciple—that he was often in the bosom of his Lord—that Peter on a certain occasion sent him to ask of the Saviour a question which he feared to ask himself—that he did higher service to the church by his writings which form a large part of the New Testament—that he outran Peter, and reached first the sepulchre—that he outlived all the other Apostles! And this would save you all questions about John the beloved disciple, the inspired Apostle, the only one who remains subject to a successor, Peter, who probably had never seen Christ, nor, perhaps, Peter. If John were your candidate you could not say so much about "the rock," nor about "the keys," but then you would not be as pressed as now about "get thee behind me Satan," about Peter's swearing, and denying his master, and your opinion succeeded better with John. I would advise you to correct tradition, for I have no doubt she has erred, and substitute John for Peter. You will find it a wonderful relief.

The use you make of the text you quote in the above paragraph strikes me very singularly. Satan desired that Peter, and he once did John—that he might sift them as wheat. Knowing Peter to be most in danger of them, he prayed especially for him; and from this passage whose only object is to show that poor Peter was more in danger of falling under the influence of the devil than any of his brethren, you deduce an argument for his supremacy. I have no doubt, if I had pressed, that like some acute critics of former days, you could find the history of the children of Israel in the life of Homer! What bounds you could confine the power of a man who can create God out of a water.

Consider well the following sentence in the above paragraph: the efficacy of this prayer of the Man-God, has been realized in his church, from the days of Cephas himself, through the whole line of his successors. . . . Considering all things, this is a most extraordinary assertion. That is, Peter's faith never failed, nor has the faith of a single Pope from Peter to Pius! Notwithstanding the prayer of his Master, Satan sinned Peter. In the hour of severe trial his faith failed. When accused in the palace of Pilate of being one of the disciples, "he began to curse and to swear saying, I know not the man." And it is in this way that the efficacy of that prayer "has been realized through the whole line of his successors." And yet, Sir, Peter, cursing and swearing, was an angel, in comparison with many in "the line of his successors!" I know not how you could make an assertion more historically false; and the truth of which your own writers, yes, and John Hughes himself deny.

to testify to his own supremacy, which could not be admitted. But supposing you admit the common sense meaning to bear on the case, which every body not a papist is willing to do, where would you commence?

Would you cite the very pertinent passage in Luke (xvii. 24-30) where the Saviour so sharply rebukes his disciples, because there was a strife amongst them as to which of them should be greatest? or that in Mark, (ix. 34), where again reproving them for their contention about pre-eminence, he says: "If any man desire to be the first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." Would you not judge say, "Bishop Hughes, these texts are not to the point; for if Peter were placed over the disciples, why contention amongst them for pre-eminence? Would not Christ have settled the matter at once, and say, content no more, I have made Peter your master?"

Driven thence, would you next cite the passage in Ephesians (iv. 11) where Paul commemorates the various kinds of teachers which Christ on his ascension gave to the church as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers for the perfecting of the saints,—and the parallel passage in Colossians (i. xi. 28)? Would not the judge again say, "Bishop Hughes these are not to the point, as they say nothing about a pope, nor a word about the supremacy of Peter."

Followed again here, would you next cite the passage (I. Cor. i. 12) which informs us of pastors in the church of Corinth, one claiming to be Paul, and another of Apollos, and another of Peter? and then would you turn to the passage in Galatians (iii. 14) where Paul most sharply rebukes Peter for dissimulation? Would not the judge reply, "Bishop Hughes, what do you mean? If Peter were pope, why did he not communicate the parties of Paul and Apollos at Corinth, those early protestants against his supremacy? If he were pope, why, for a moment permit Paul at Antioch to dispute his right to dissemble when circumstances required him so to do? These passages, Sir, are against you, instead of proving the position you assert."

Followed again, would you not cite the passage in Acts (vii. 14) where the apostles in Jerusalem sent Peter and John to Samaria to assist in carrying on the good work there; and to that other passage in the 15th chap. of Acts, where James declares the decision of the council at Jerusalem called to consider some ceremonial questions started among the churches of the Gentiles by Judaizing teachers? The judge would again reply, "These passages are not to the point; for if Peter were pope, would he bear to permit James to preside in Jerusalem, at that first council, and to declare its will; duties which devolved on him by right of office? These passages, Sir, are sadly against you."

You now with some little excitement, created by the replies, quote the passage in Matthew (xvi. 18, 19): "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven." This you do with an air of assurance saying that you have trapped the judge at last. But he replies, being at once a Christian and a sound lawyer, "Bishop Hughes, these are disputed texts as to their true import; and the point that you wish to establish, being one of transcendent importance, should have something to sustain it besides texts of controverted meaning. You so explain this text as to make Peter the foundation of the church; but Peter himself denies this, by asserting that Christ is its foundation. (1 Peter, 2nd chap.) Paul also denies it when he says that Christ Jesus is the only foundation that has been, or can be laid; (1 Cor. iii. 11) and when he re-asserts (Eph. ii. 20) And Jerome, Chrysostom, Origen, Cyril, Hilary, Augustine, make "the rock" to mean, not Peter, but the faith, or confession of Peter. And as to the gift of the keys, that avails you nothing as to the supremacy of Peter, for they were given equally to the other apostles as to him. And besides I do not see how Paul could be gained by placing the church upon Peter; as, for all interest concerned, it is better that it should be built upon Christ."

This repulsed on every hand, I hear you ask, in an excited tone, rather wam for a bishop. If these evidences are rejected, what will your homely calmness becoming a judge, he replies, "Bishop Hughes, I want proof beyond question, that Jesus Christ made Peter pope. I want clear proof of the fact that he ever exercised the power of the pope in any one case. I want proof that even one of the apostles or any other contemporary could be gained by placing the church upon Peter; as, for all interest concerned, it is better that it should be built upon Christ."

## A WANT FOR THE TIMES.

The crying want of the Christian Church at the present time, is a widely-spread and sound knowledge of the Bible amongst her own members. While, on the one hand, a cunning infidelity is denying the Divine origin of the Bible altogether, and while on the other, hand, a spiritism and superstitious form of religion is tending to overlay the Bible with human traditions, it must be confessed that in the professing church of Christ herself there is a lack of that thorough Scriptural knowledge which would prepare her to present a sufficient strength from moral resistance, either to save her own children from a post-apostasy, or to conquer the hearts of her enemies. Nothing but this Divine word, "dwelling in her richly," can make her really strong. In the visions of Patmos when John saw the church of Christ victorious, he first of all mentions the word of God, which ended in his conversion to God. David spoke to his fellow slave about Jesus, and his love in dying for poor sinners. God who despises not the lowliest instruments, blessed the efforts of this poor negro, and in a short time, about thirty on the estate began to pray, and at length built a small hut, in which, after the labors of the day, they might assemble and worship God. Tidings of these things reached the ears of the white persons employed on the estate, and David was summoned before his attorney, and asked whether he was teaching the slaves to pray. On replying in the affirmative, the hut was demolished and burnt, and David was stretched upon the ground, and flogged with the cart whip till his flesh was covered with blood. Next Sunday I missed my faithful deacon at the house of God. His afflicted wife came and told me the sad tale of his sufferings, and informed me that his hands were bound, and his feet made fast in the stocks. Often did I enquire after him, and for him, and the same answer was returned, "Massa, him in the stocks;" till one morning, as I sat in my piazza, he appeared before the window. There he stood—I have image now before me—he was handcuffed, bare-foot, unable to wear his shoes from his yet unhealed back; his wife had fastened some of her garments round his sacrated body. I called him in, and said,

"With a look of resignation I shall never forget, he replied, "I have had my punishment, and I will not complain, except when he has some refreshment, (for in the state I have described he had walked thirteen miles under a burning sun) and followed him to the work-house. He was chained to a fellow slave by the neck, and sent to work on the public road. The next day I went to visit him again, when I was informed by the supervisor of the work-house, that he had received orders to leave him flogged again, as soon as his back was well enough to bear it. In those chains David remained for months; frequently I saw him, but never did I hear one murmur or one complaint, except when he had some refreshment, but if trouble came for his food, he would say, 'I have no fault to find with my master, but I must pray, and I must teach me brother to pray too.'"

At the end of three months he was liberated, and returning to the estate, was asked, "Now, sir, will you pray again?" "Massa," said the persecuted disciple, "you know me since that partner of mine, and I do not fear to pray, and I must teach me brother to pray too." Again he was immured in a dungeon and his feet made fast in the stocks.

And yet there never was a time when it was more needful that the interest of the church in the study of the Bible should rise to the intensity of a religious revival. There never was a time when this Holy Book was more boldly attacked, more learnedly misinterpreted, more strangely misunderstood. There never was a time, and there never was a land, in which higher obligations devolved on individual Christians to be apt in the Scriptures; for here it is a question of life or death, and of the souls of millions, that are at stake. If we are to be Christians, or at least that they aim to be Christians themselves! And if such foes of our blessed religion come upon us, and find the great mass of the professing church unskillful in the knowledge of God's word, and uninterested in attaining the riches of Christ, what will be the result? Will his blood be like that of the ark, and cried in bitterness of soul, "O Lord, what shall I say when Israel turneth her back upon her enemies?" If men of anti-Christian spirit are strong in their organizations, in their priesthoods, in their worldly ambition, in their enmity to revealed truth, and in their opposition to the spread of the Gospel, will they be the followers of Christ, who are in the use of their appointed weapons, whatever we may be here as to the last grand issue, the contest in our own time will turn out as it did in the days of Eli, when the ark of God was taken, when the sons and daughters of Philistia prolonged their shouts of triumph.

It becomes, therefore, the imperative duty of every member of a Christian church to be well to his personal studies, and to the study of the Scriptures, and to form them so as to be gaining through life an increasing skill in using the "sword of the spirit." It becomes every church member's duty to make it his business to study the Scriptures, to encourage Bible Classes, both youthful and adult, as well as to sustain an infidelity to the service. The church was instituted for these ends as far as her own members are concerned, not merely to form agreeable associations, and to while away Sabbaths, but to establish souls in knowledge, to cultivate the interior graces of the Spirit, that each may "excel to the edifying of others." The highest interests depend on the church's progress, which her foes will never see; here lies the source of her power and the secret of all successful battle for the cause of Christ, Truth, and of Humanity.—*Ref. & Watchman.*

REV. R. PENNINGTON.—It may not be generally known that the author of Pennington on Tyne is at present living at Newcastle upon Tyne, in England. He has reached a very advanced age. His little work has become hundreds of thousands. Recently it has been issued in two new languages, and other tongues to the Baptism of the Lord. The influence of this little work is incalculable. It is plain, simple and cogent. Few can peruse it without confessing that there is a very strong array of Scriptural evidence for the Baptism of believers, and for this alone.—*Christian Chronicle.*

## THE PRAYING NEGRO.

Mr. Knibb relates the following circumstances relative to David, a deacon of his church: A few years ago, one of the slave members belonging to the Baptist church at Montego Bay, was banished from his home and sent to the estate where David lived, to be cured of his praying. By the pious conversation of this exiled Christian negro, David was brought under serious concern for his soul, which ended in his conversion to God. David spoke to his fellow slave about Jesus, and his love in dying for poor sinners. God who despises not the lowliest instruments, blessed the efforts of this poor negro, and in a short time, about thirty on the estate began to pray, and at length built a small hut, in which, after the labors of the day, they might assemble and worship God. Tidings of these things reached the ears of the white persons employed on the estate, and David was summoned before his attorney, and asked whether he was teaching the slaves to pray. On replying in the affirmative, the hut was demolished and burnt, and David was stretched upon the ground, and flogged with the cart whip till his flesh was covered with blood. Next Sunday I missed my faithful deacon at the house of God. His afflicted wife came and told me the sad tale of his sufferings, and informed me that his hands were bound, and his feet made fast in the stocks. Often did I enquire after him, and for him, and the same answer was returned, "Massa, him in the stocks;" till one morning, as I sat in my piazza, he appeared before the window. There he stood—I have image now before me—he was handcuffed, bare-foot, unable to wear his shoes from his yet unhealed back; his wife had fastened some of her garments round his sacrated body. I called him in, and said,

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## SIXTY MILLIONS—HOW TO SAVE IT.

While listening to the sad accounts given at the meeting of the Congregational Union, at New York, of the funds of the British Missions, and the extreme difficulty of raising the few thousands which are required for their effectual working, I thought of the great things which could be done with the sixty millions which this country annually expends in strong drink, and I made this calculation:—

The money thus expended every year would provide:—

200 hospitals, at . . . . . £20,000
12,000 chapels, at . . . . . 2,000
10,000 schools, at . . . . . 600
2,000 Mechanics' Institutes and
Lecture Halls, at . . . . . 2,000
25,000 almshouses, at . . . . . 200
1,000 baths, at . . . . . 2,000
2,000 libraries, at . . . . . 500
200 public parks, at . . . . . 5,000

Give 400,000 poor families £10 each, and present a new Bible to every man, woman, and child in Great Britain.

Or it would support every human being on the globe with a Bible. Or it would support 200,000 missionaries, which would be about 1 to every 3000 adult heathen, at . . . . . 200 2,000 superannuated labourers, at 100 100,000 schoolmasters, at . . . . . 10 2,000 Build 2,000 schools, at . . . . . 2,000 Give to 50,000 widows each 5s. a week. Issue 50,000 Bibles every day, at 1s. 6d. each, and 100,000 tracts every day, at 4s. per 100, and present to 192,815 poor families £10 each on Christmas-day.

So that the money spent in Great Britain alone, for strong drink, would, as far as the outward ministry is concerned, evangelize the world, besides providing largely for temporal distress. Christians! can you, after reading the above, look forward to the day of judgment without alarm. The experience of millions has already proved that they have, become the solemn duty of the moderate use of the drinks upon which this fearful sum of money is spent. The testimony of our judges shows that three-fourths of the crime in our land results from these liquors; and the history of our Church presents a lamentable list of backsliders they have occasioned. Do it not, therefore, because the solemn duty of the moderate use of the drinks upon which this fearful sum of money is spent. The testimony of our judges shows that three-fourths of the crime in our land results from these liquors; and the history of our Church presents a lamentable list of backsliders they have occasioned. 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after his long journey by railway, and probably a fatiguing walk across the country to the prison, however, deeming that some refreshment was necessary for his prisoner, had tea, &c. got ready, and brought up to him. Mr. O'Brien paraded of it, and the officer for his opportunity. He then slept uninterrupted until nine o'clock, when he was served with breakfast. He breakfasted heartily, and as we could learn, appeared self-possessed and cheerful during the morning. In the course of the forenoon, several gentlemen called at the prison to get confirmation of the still half-doubted fact of Mr. O'Brien's apprehension, and to obtain access to him, if possible. This latter was, however, found, (as might have been expected) entirely out of the question. The strictest orders had been issued that no person whatever, for any reason, or on any pretence, should be admitted to see or converse with Mr. O'Brien. It appears that a gentleman requested an interview with him in the early part of yesterday, stating that he was Mr. O'Brien's solicitor, and wished to see him on business, but his request was peremptorily refused.

**MR. W. SMITH O'BRIEN.**  
This gentleman complains bitterly of the treatment he has received from his followers. Even the *Freeman's Journal* attributes to him the utterance of such sentiments as the following: "I entered upon my course with my eyes open to all the consequences; but those whom I expected to sustain me for the sake of their country did not do so. I know I shall be hanged; but so, I am ready—and I have only to say, I have done my part for Ireland."

**THE HEBEL LEADERS.**  
A correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Dublin on Tuesday, says:—  
"A gentleman from the neighbourhood of Golden, told me that on Friday night last, Messrs. O'Connell, Dillon, called at a farmer's house in Clonoulty, imploring food and shelter. They were in a most miserable condition—wet, cold, and starving. The farmer, however, would not receive them, and reminded them of the cautionary proclamation that was everywhere through the country. Dillon said he could hold out no longer, and would give himself up once if he could rest nowhere. Altogether they were in a wretched plight."

**AMERICAN AND FRENCH SYMPATHIZERS.**  
The government has received information to the effect that large supplies of arms, ammunition, and food, intended for the use of the rebel army in Ireland, have been shipped from America and France, have taken effectual measures to prevent the landing of these mischievous consignments. In addition to the fleet at sea, and the sea and coast forts, the government has received orders to cruise off the Irish coast. It is felt to state that the governments of the respective countries from which these supplies are coming, are in a state of connection with the proceeding. These supplies are the substantial tokens of private sympathy. We learn that the British Ambassador has expressed the American government that all persons, whether subjects of the States or otherwise, taken in the attempt to all the insurgents by such supplies, will be forthwith hanged by the British authorities.

"We have never been alarmists, but have ever, to the best of our belief, laid before our readers the plain and simple truth. We regret to say that our present duty is to give rather an unfavorable account of the potato crop, upon which the hopes of this unhappy country are now set. In many districts of the south the disease has assumed an apparently virulent form, while in other districts the disease seems to have been checked. However, one thing seems at this moment most painfully probable, that the crop on which so much depends is, to say the least, in danger. This is the opinion that we are compelled to arrive at by communications from correspondents on whose accuracy and credit we can rely.—*Cork Examiner*."

**FIGHT UNDER THE WALLS OF MILAN.—CHARLES ALBERT MOBBED.—REMOVED FALL OF MILAN.**  
The *Swiss National Gazette* of the 8th has the following under the head of Lugano, the 6th: "Piedmontese refugees who had arrived at Chas, have announced that the Piedmontese Gen. Oliveri, had seized on all the powder in Milan in the name of Charles Albert, and had put an end to the measures of defence of the Republican Committee, declaring that the communications in the interior of the city, where barricades are being raised, should remain free, in order that the artillery should not meet with any obstacle. He added that the King would deliver battle outside of the town. On the evening of the 4th the advance guard of the Austrians appeared before the Roman gate; they were received with cannon shot and driven back to Malgano. The Italians made 800 prisoners and took two pieces of cannon. This advantage was much encouraged. The Austrians, that they declared traitors to their country whoever should speak of capitulation. But Charles Albert was of a different opinion, as on the night of the 4th he capitulated on the following conditions: That the Piedmontese army should retire; that life and property should be secured to the inhabitants. The positions then retaken, and a number of buildings outside the walls, which might impede the defence, was demolished. In the morning of the 5th the enemy did not appear. Suspicions were conceived: a crowd collected in front of Charles Albert's hotel, and he declared from his balcony that the capitulation had been refused by Radetzky, and that he would defend the town to the last extremity. Soon after Oliveri came, and declared that the King could not hold the town any longer, and arrived at the conclusion of the capitulation. The people in fury, wanted to seize on Charles Albert. The man in attendance on him was cut to pieces; Charles Albert, on his side had the people fired on by the Piedmontese, and two of the inhabitants were killed. The people would not submit. Charles Albert had the cannon removed from the walls. Every one was allowed to quit the city; several were seized. At the end of his report the *Republican* adds: "The rumour prevails that the people at last seized on Charles Albert, but that does not agree with the following postscript: At half-past six General Zucchi arrived at Lugano with the news that Charles Albert had surrendered to the Austrians, and had withdrawn, passing the Tessino. On Sunday the Austrians entered Milan; the Republicans Garibidi and Mazzini were still at the head of 40,000 or 45,000 men near Mozzano, within some leagues of Milan."

**ENGLAND.**  
During the last fortnight the weather has been very unsettled, in the southern counties especially, not a day has passed without heavy rains. As the wheat has been out in various parts, this unreasonable weather not only retards harvest operations, but must, if it continues a few days longer, materially affect the yield all over the country. At first, however, no tendency to speculation has exhibited itself. If the potato crop should

prove seriously injured both in England and Ireland, and statements to this effect are rapidly multiplying, the consequence would be very serious.

From the reports which have come out within the last few days, we are inclined to believe that at length there is to be a change in the Ministry. Rumour has it that at the close of the present session, Lord Russell intends resigning the Premiership—that Lord Clarendon, with a view to the more vigorous concentration of the Whig party, has consented to accept the post of First Lord of the Treasury, and that Viscount Harcourt will remain in Ireland, not as Commander-in-Chief of the forces stationed in the Southern District, but as Lord Lieutenant. Lord John Russell feels that his growing unpopularity with the English people, may endanger the very existence of the Whig Ministry should he remain in the capacity of Prime Minister, and hence the desire evinced to secure the services of Lord Clarendon, whose recent conduct has wonderfully raised him in the estimation of the aristocratic and middle classes.

**FRANCE.**  
The Sardinian ambassador at the Marquis Albert Clouch had another conference with Gen. Cavaignac, at which they made an explicit demand for the immediate intervention of the French army in Italy. It is understood that Gen. Cavaignac replied that the French Government have resolved to join that of England in offering their immediate aid, that the basis of their proposals has already been settled on conditions, which, while they would satisfy all rights, would omit no means of saving Europe from the evils of a general war.

A courier from London arrived at Paris yesterday with the usual assent of the English government to the basis of the mediation in Italy.

The *Messenger* says:—There is at this moment among a certain minority an active demand for the return of the Emperor, and in case of refusal to announce the intention of the Hungarians to crown the Archduke Francis Joseph (son of the Archduke Francis Charles), who would reside at Paris.

**A KING OF HUNGARY PROPOSED.**  
A deputation from the Hungarians to demand the return of the Emperor, and in case of refusal to announce the intention of the Hungarians to crown the Archduke Francis Joseph (son of the Archduke Francis Charles), who would reside at Paris.

**THE BLOCADÉ AGAIN.**  
Advices from Hamburg, of the 4th instant, announce the fact that Denmark had given notice that all German ports would be again placed under blockade, dating from the current. It was hoped that this decided step might bring about a settlement of the Schleswig question. This decision was not expected, and has caused great consternation.

**ENGLAND FOR SICILY.—WALKER'S APPEARANCE.**  
The English squadron to the surprise of the Neapolitans, anchored on the 29th ult. in the roadstead of Naples. The British fleet, under the command of Admiral Walker, only arrived with an ensigns-of-war of the two former powers anchored before the City. This was always observed, it is said, by the Princes de Joinville, and is now recognized by Admiral Baudin. The English have now ten vessels in the roads. The forced loan from the English residents being 2,000,000 leaves no ostensible ground for the appearance of the force, so that it is surmised England aspires to the protectorate of Sicily, and is determined to interfere with the king's projects.

The *Bien Public* of the 6th inst. announced that the commandants of the English and French squadrons have jointly intimated to the Neapolitan commandant of the citadel of Messina that he must immediately evacuate that fortress. In fact it would appear that it is already in possession of the Sicilian troops.

**THE CHOLERA.**  
Four cases of the cholera have appeared in Berlin, and the epidemic is spreading in Galicia. The Princes of Prussia has been attacked by the cholera, a mild species of cholera. The Ministry in Bavaria is taking active preparatory measures in the event of the appearance of the cholera in Bavaria.

Great surprise is manifested at the difference of the Belgian government in the adoption of such measures as would tend to mitigate the scourge, should the cholera, which proved so fatal in 1832, again visit these parts.

Our Malta correspondent, under date August 2, writes that at Cairo the number of cases of cholera were 140 daily, with about 40 deaths. In Yassy upwards of 300 were dying daily. The cholera was diminishing at Constantinople the number of cases becoming every day fewer and less virulent.

**St. Petersburg, July 31.**—From a late number of the military medical Gazette, it appears that since the appearance of the cholera in Russia there were seized at St. Petersburg, from its first appearance, the 20th June to the 21st of July, 15,772 persons, of whom 4,824 recovered, and 12,068 died. In the whole of Russia, since the first appearance of the cholera, the 28th October, 1846, to the 5th July, 1847, 290,318 persons were seized with the epidemic, and 116,638 died.

**THE CHOLERA.**  
The Emperor of Russia has established a committee, under the patronage of the Governor of St. Petersburg as president, charged with furnishing supplies to those persons who have been deprived by the cholera of their natural supporters. The committee commenced operations on the 6th of July. On the 8th there were under treatment in St. Petersburg, 3,790 cholera patients. In the course of the day 833 other cases occurred; 172 recovered and 871 died. On the 9th there remained under treatment 3,897. The physician of the Court Hospital, Dr. Charles Witt, died on the 7th. In the government of St. Petersburg the cholera spread greatly, and was on the increase. At Moscow the epidemic attained its highest degree of intensity on the 19th of June; it then decreased slightly, and from the 6th to the 23rd of June there were 2,007 cases of cholera and 975 deaths. Accounts from Jassy give the number of deaths there one to four. It is estimated that not less than 20,000 of the inhabitants of the mountains. At Bucharest the cholera carries off from a thirty to forty victims per day. At Constantinople on the 6th, cases continued to increase. Within the week previous there have been 896 deaths. In Asia Minor also, and in the Dardanelles, the pestilence was rife.

sources, while in France the thoughts of the military—that is to say of the Government—are divided between the prospect of a movement toward Italy for the protection of Charles Albert and the unremitting necessity for vigilance at home, to maintain the despotism of the Republic. Each nation is torn and distracted by its individual cares, while at the same moment it is over head and ears in the affairs of all its neighbours. Each is thinking only of its own preservation, and each from this very cause, is in danger. The common guiding spirit of fraternity which was evoked by the French republic throughout the world was never so wholly smothered as at the present hour. In the wild, purposeless babel only one point of common feeling can be found, and that is the terror with which the steady march of the one common enemy is watched and waited for. The cholera is approaching day by day, and with a rapidly and violence that should equal the experience of 1832.

**REMARKABLE EXPLOSION OF GAS.**—An extraordinary explosion of inflammable gas occurred in London on the 7th inst., occasioning the loss of one or two lives, serious injury to several other persons, and great destruction of property. The explosion took place in a building occupied both as a shop and dwelling house. A strong smell of gas had been experienced several days, and the pipes had been examined without discovering the cause. On the night of the explosion, the smell was observed to be stronger than before. On the night of the 7th inst., after the shop, where the gas used, had been some time closed, an inmate of the house had occasion to go into the shop, and immediately upon the door being opened, the explosion took place. There were three persons in the house, two of whom, a man and woman, were blown across the parlour back of the shop, through the window into the garden; the other, a woman, being blown completely across the street, striking the door being opened, the explosion took place. The floorings of the adjoining houses were lifted up—the walls shattered to the foundation, and the furniture hurled into the street. The inmates of several houses opposite were struck by bricks which entered their premises, and great numbers of windows were broken. The house where the accident occurred took fire immediately after the explosion, so that what was not instantly destroyed was subsequently consumed. The extent of the injury occasioned by the disaster, as stated in the minute accounts of the London papers, was almost incredible. One hundred and seventy houses were broken into several damaged, and upwards of two thousand squares of glass broken! Thirty houses on the opposite side of the street, and about a dozen on each side of the scene of the accident, were shattered considerably. The moment at which the accident took place was marked by several clocks in the neighbourhood, which were stopped by the concussion.—*Tribune*.

**TAXATION IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.**—Mr. Osborn stated in a speech in the House of Commons on Mr. Hauser's Resolution on the subject of Parliamentary Reform, the following facts:—In the United States taxation amounts to 9s. 7d. per head; in Prussia to 12s. 4d. per head; in Russia to 9s. 9d. per head; in Austria to 9s. 7d. per head; in France to 24s.; and in England to £2 12s. 6d. per head, exclusive of poor rates, Borough rates, and other charges of that nature.

**THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE TO PROMOTE EDUCATION.**—The Derby, Leeds, Nottingham, and other places the meetings have been most successful.

**THE RAGGED SCHOOLS OF LONDON.**—In four years the number of ragged schools in London and its suburbs, have increased from twenty to more than sixty. About eighty pupil teachers are now employed and about 800 voluntary teachers. The average attendance of scholars for the last year was 8,800 on Sundays, 5,000 on week days, and 3,880 on week evenings.

**GRETA'S ROMAN MARRIAGES CAN NEVER BE REPEATED.**—On Tuesday a Scotch marriage bill was read a third time in the Lords, which requires runaway couples to reside a fortnight in Scotland before they can effect the hasty purchase which is said to be followed by a lecherous penitence.

**TERRENCE FACT.**—From a late report to the English Parliament, it appears that in England and Wales, on an average, one being for every nine minutes falls a victim to intoxication, and thus goes to render his account at the bar of heaven for suicide.

**His Majesty the Emperor of Russia has attained the 53rd year of his age, having been born on the 5th of July, 1796.**

**The Bill to secure sites for Free Church places of worship in Scotland has been lost in the House of Commons, 98 to 59.**

**Edward Baines, the distinguished Reforming MP is dead.**

**Captain Marrat likewise is dead.**

**SHERIDAN'S PROCASTINATION.**  
Much of the inconvenience to which Sheridan was subjected, arose from his procrastination; whether it was a deed to sign or a letter to write he would still put off doing it. Nothing was ever done in time or place.—Letters containing money or bearing intelligence of importance remained unopened.—Whether private or official business demanded, he "descended into the lower parts of the earth." That was Jesus! But now "he has ascended up, far above all heavens, that he might fill all things." At Isaiah's date, Jesus is true, had neither been manifested nor slain—far less, exalted. Nevertheless, the vision anticipated all events connected with him; and, concluding as he said the heavens after his death, and he returned thither, shows us the man of grief and conflict, now "the only potentate." Our Lord has been to earth—has been at Bethlehem—in the wilderness—in the garden—on the Cross—but in the very flesh in which he contended and vanquished, has he entered again, with the veil, "to reign before his angels gloriously."

What a Saviour, then, is our saviour! "His visage was so marred—more than any man—and his form more than the sons of men," but "So shall my servant! he has prospered, and so shall he be exalted, and extolled, and be very high. Men and brethren, he has risen from the dead, he is clothed with the rays of glory, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, he is coming again to judge the world, and he is sitting on his throne!" Most lovely is the world to you—most excellent all the world contains—how ever on your lips how near your heart! But oh! if your soul had had a view of Christ in his gloriousness, there

only will its eye rest. There, in one surpassing beam, shines all the rays of infinite, supreme, eternal, holy Godhead; and we cannot help exclaiming, with David, "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth, who hath set thy glory above the heavens."—*Rev. J. Bonar*

**REFORMING POWER OF THE GOSPEL.**  
It is not clear to all, whether the friends of Home Missions regard, in the light of public spirit, and as being accounted by noxious errors, by increasing ignorance, by unrestrained passions, by seductive vices, by barbarous rudeness, by all forms of intemperance, how can you effectually bring to bear a resisting and renovating power, except by raising the standard of the gospel? Everything else is mocked at for its impotence, and thus the conscience is smothered, the heart is laid in a state of torpor, and the elements of evil have gotten the start of you, where, in the mar of trade, and in social gatherings, in the privacy of the family, and in the open street, everything betokens a principle and dissolution of the public spirit, and all the elements of a reformation and improvement will be seen to branch itself out in every direction. A Christian ministry armed with the gospel of the New Testament will give an impulse to every good work. 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PROSPECTUS OF THE MIDDLESEX BUILDING SOCIETY.

The shares which have been issued by the Middlesex Building Society...

Should the average bonus be 35 per cent, the society will be able to pay off the whole of its engagements...

On Saturday night last, a man residing on East Market Street, found in that part of the City called Moore's Survey...

An association of this description may be considered as having two main objects. First, it affords the easiest and ultimately the most profitable means of investing savings...

Building Societies, established in England, have been in full and successful operation for the last twenty-five years...

Again, to a person possessing a member without any intention of borrowing, a mode of investment is revealed which experience has proved to be most profitable and satisfactory...

1. Building persons of small but regular incomes to apply a portion of their savings towards the acquisition of property and independence...

2. Merchants, bankers, mechanics and clerks in commercial, banking and other establishments, labourers and servants, are amongst the classes most likely to be benefited...

3. Proprietors of building lots will be enabled to dispose of property which would otherwise remain on their hands for years without producing any real interest whatever...

As institutions of this nature have stood the test of a quarter of a century's experience in England (where abundance of money could always be had at a low rate of interest) their principles having, during that period, been thoroughly and satisfactorily decided...

The following Table, compiled by Mr. Thomas Chamberlain, a Director of the Finance and Mechanics' Building Society, and generally approved and adopted by all Building Societies, gives much valuable information.

Table with 2 columns: 'The shares being all paid up' and 'The shares being all paid up'. Rows show percentages from 40% to 100%.

ANCIENT MEXICO.

As soon as we touch the subject of ancient Mexico, we are reminded of the children of the Sun...

Whatever is the antiquity of Mexico, we are assured that it was connected with a high degree of refinement and civilization.

On Saturday night last, a man residing on East Market Street, found in that part of the City called Moore's Survey, a child of eight years of age...

DR. INGHIS respectfully offers his professional services in this City. Office corner of Jackson and Woodward avenues...

THE DEAD SEA.—The Bible Society for the present month has an interesting article for the pen of Professor Robinson...

TO RENT.—The commodious 210th, being No. 15, Dundas Street, depts. 50 feet by 24...

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—KNOW YE! That a Public Meeting will be held at 10 o'clock on Saturday 24th inst...

FRENCH PROTESTANT SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.—MADAME TREGENT, and MADAME ESCOFFIER, recently from Geneva...

PARISIAN MORALITY.—In one of his letters from Paris to Littell's Living Age, Mr. Walsh says that within the last month he has conversed on the historical changes in the character and habits of the population of Paris...

DENTISTRY.—A. C. STONE, M.D., SURGEON DENTIST, Office and Residence OPPOSITE THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL, DUNDAS STREET.

TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—A Fair for the Exhibition of Samples of Workmanship by Mechanics and Artisans of Canada will be held in the Society's Hall...

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—June 14th, 1848. New Wools and Retail SCHOOL-BOOK, ACCOUNT-BOOK, PAPER AND STATIONERY WAREHOUSE, BOOKBINDERY, &c., DUNDAS STREET, LONDON.

GREAT WESTERN MEDICAL DEPOT.

Chasps the Cheapest, and Good as the Best. B. A. MITCHELL. DUNDAS STREET, LONDON.

THE subscriber is Agent for all the popular Patent Medicines, among which will be found Lee's Anti-Bilious Pills—Balsam of Wild Cherry...

DR. INGHIS respectfully offers his professional services in this City. Office corner of Jackson and Woodward avenues...

WILLIAM FELL, Engraver, Copper-plate & Lithographic Printer, 41 KING STREET, EAST.

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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.—KNOW YE! That a Public Meeting will be held at 10 o'clock on Saturday 24th inst...

FRENCH PROTESTANT SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.—MADAME TREGENT, and MADAME ESCOFFIER, recently from Geneva...

PARISIAN MORALITY.—In one of his letters from Paris to Littell's Living Age, Mr. Walsh says that within the last month he has conversed on the historical changes in the character and habits of the population of Paris...

DENTISTRY.—A. C. STONE, M.D., SURGEON DENTIST, Office and Residence OPPOSITE THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL, DUNDAS STREET.

TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—A Fair for the Exhibition of Samples of Workmanship by Mechanics and Artisans of Canada will be held in the Society's Hall...

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—June 14th, 1848. New Wools and Retail SCHOOL-BOOK, ACCOUNT-BOOK, PAPER AND STATIONERY WAREHOUSE, BOOKBINDERY, &c., DUNDAS STREET, LONDON.

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