

THE

BAPTIST REPORTER.

JULY, 1844.

In every free country public opinion is omnipotent. "The powers that be," exist only by its permission. It moves, and thrones are erected; it moves again, and they perish. It must finally triumph over all other power. I am for full, free, impartial liberty for every man—for every Irishman, whatever may be his creed. I hope that I shall always adopt the golden rule of Jesus, irrespective of nation, colour, or religion, unto all men. Do numbers make a meeting illegal? If not, I think that the meetings in Ireland had no right to be put down. Are we gradually returning to the days of the Stuarts? I hope that every man who has liberty, and wishes his children to enjoy it, will be awake. Whatever you do for Ireland—pray for us, that we may have grace either to *do*, or *suffer* the will of God. J. B.

COMING EVENTS FORE-SHADOWED.—The Bishop of Exeter, on the question of the Welsh Bishopsrics, is reported to have expressed his opinion, that, if the feeling became general, that the bishops ought not to sit in the House of Lords, he, for one, would not wish to retain his seat in it. With respect to the question whether the bishops should have a seat in the House of Lords, it was a matter of minor importance. If a twenty-seventh bishop, in that House, were so much disliked out of doors, that his addition would lead to all the bishops being turned out, then he would say, the sooner they went out the better; because, if any such feeling prevailed, it was quite clear that they could not sit there with the goodwill of the people, and if they had not the goodwill of the people, they could not hope long to retain their seats. And he would tell their lordships, that, if ever a time should come, when the great body of the people of this country adopted the opinion, that there should not be a House of Lords, and continued to hold that opinion long, the House of Lords would not long exist. He was fully aware of the great benefits which were secured by the presence of his right reverend brethren in that House. By it, the country did homage to that blessed Being whose ministers they were. It had a beneficial influence on their lordships' deliberations, when matters connected with religion were brought before them; it was of great service with respect to its bearing on the connexion of Church and State; it was of service, even to the bishops themselves, for he believed they were better able to administer the government of their dioceses by being liberalised, and having their minds enlarged, by sharing in their lordships' deliberations. But great as these advantages were, they were as nothing compared with the importance of having a sufficient number of bishops duly to discharge the functions of ecclesiastical government.

BAPTIST INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN.

KETTERING, *Jamaica*.—This newly formed village, situate on the high road from Falmouth to Kingston, is fast advancing. Nearly 100 cottages are completed, and many others are in a state of great forwardness. A portion of the land, commanding a view of the sea, and the distant town of Falmouth, has been made over to the *Baptist denomination in trust*, and it is hoped that ere long a neat chapel will be erected. On the first sabbath in April, a church was formed from the members residing in the township, who were in connexion with other baptist churches; and on the same day twenty-one were baptized and received into the church, which now is composed of 143 members. This village has arisen under the auspices of Mr. Knibb, and we learn that he is very anxious to have a chapel erected in commemoration of the Jubilee held there. At present, the congregation worship in an old house purchased with the land, which will soon be far too small to accommodate them. Who would not help to erect a baptist chapel at KETTERING? If a few of the wealthy among our denomination would give ten or twenty pounds each, the work would be done; and we feel assured that no tribute would be so grateful to the individual under whose care this free village has arisen.

DENMARK.—This is the fourth time that the meek and pious Münster has been cast into prison! Prayer should be made for him continually, that he may be delivered from these wicked and unreasonable men! The greatest annoyance to our brethren is, the sprinkling of their infants by force.

WEST AFRICAN MISSION.—The "Chilmark," and her burden of Missionaries, have arrived at Clarence—all well.

DOMESTIC.

IRELAND.—Mr. John Bates, Ballina, begs to acknowledge the receipt of a parcel, containing one hundred bags and pocket-handkerchiefs, with thimbles, pincushions, needle-books, &c, he being "the writer of page four, in the report of the Baptist Irish Society, 1843." Also one or two more small parcels at the same time, for which he is very thankful, and begs to say that they shall be faithfully distributed among the schools.

HOLT, *Cheshire*.—The friends here have presented Mr. R. Charlesworth with a copy of "Cobbin's Condensed Commentary;" and Mr. John Sudlow and Mr. Henry Brayne, with a copy to each of "Curson on Baptism." These brethren assist in preaching the gospel in this neighbourhood.