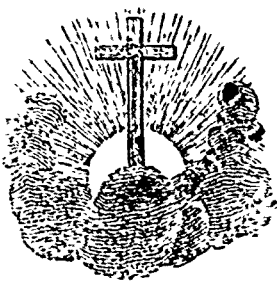


✧ All Letters and Remittances are to be forwarded, free of postage, to the Editor, the Very Rev. Wm. P. McDonald, Hamilton.



THE CATHOLIC.

Hamilton, G. D.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1844.

THE BIBLIOMANIA.

To any unprejudiced and seriously reflecting person, it must seem truly astonishing, how such a palpably absurd and at the same time fatally deceptive principle, as that of holding nothing for our *rule of faith*, but the written word, or scripture; and that too left to the whimsical interpretation of every one; how, we say, such an obviously delusive and all confounding principle could ever have been inculcated or adopted by any one possessed of common sense or honesty? Yet this principle is the cherished one, the dominant and distinguishing one, of all Protestant sects since their Reformation. It is the only ground pointed out to them by the Spirit of Error, on which every one of them, man, woman or child, is free to build each for himself and his own chosen group, his snug little vaulted *Sion*; all too formed on the Bible model, however, differing in structure from the rest; a new fashioned masterpiece of his own ingenious invention! And where or when is this ever varying, th's essentially Protestant system, to end? Either, (from the conviction at last of its utter absurdity;) in a return to the one, holy Catholic and Apostolical Church of Christ; or, should God, in punishment for our sins, and those of our progenitors, allow its continuance, it must ultimately terminate as it already seems to do, in downright Deism and Infidelity.—How can it be otherwise when, according to the Protestant principle, no one is bound to be swayed in his belief by the teaching of others, but by his own internal convictions on reading the Bible, and construing for himself, the sense of the sacred volume? That Book is therefore given forth by our money begging *Bible Society without note or comment*, that, as the claimed common property of all dissenting sectaries, none among them may be offended at any interpretation of it differing from their own; and thus may be induced not to withhold their contributions from its cunningly speculating and interested distributors.

Protestants, thus, in publishing the Bible *without note or comment*, publicly avow, that no one is allowed to interpret it for others, but only for himself. But if his interpretation for himself be sure and good, why should it not be equally so

for others? Because, it is said, it is but *human and fallible*. And is not that of every other equally so? Then, according to the Protestant and Bible begging principle, there is no sure and infallible interpretation to be had of scripture.—Then, according to the same principle, there is no sure *rule of faith*. Every one is free to rely on his own conjectures. All teaching and preaching tract peddling and pious phamphletering, all so expensive missionary and evangelizing excursions are useless and unnecessary. The conduct, however, of Protestants in this respect is quite inconsistent and contradictory. Tracts, phamphlets, missionaries, and preachers in the meanwhile abound; and the whole is kept a going at a yearly expence of millions wheedled from their well meaning and unsuspecting dupes; enough from the beginning, according to their own annual accounts, to have nearly cleared the whole debt of the nation.

Mentita est iniquitas sibi.

We are given to understand that our Quebec subscribers complain of not getting their papers regularly remitted to them. We therefore request that our agent Mr. O'Connor, would have the goodness to look into this matter. The irregularity is not occasioned by us, neither can we suppose that there is any neglect in the Quebec Post Office.

Statistics of Crime in France and England during the year 1842.

Population of France, 34,230,000.
Do. England, 16,000,000.

In France—accused of crimes	-	7462
do theft	-	10744

Total, being 1 for every 1900,—18206

In France—condemned of crimes	-	5016
do theft	-	8859

Total, being 1 for every 2500,—13955

In England, accused of crimes	-	14220
do do theft	-	17089

Total—1 for every 500—31309

In England, condemned of crimes	-	9735
do do theft	-	13000

Total—1 for every 700—22735

So far does our Protestant and super-evangelized country outstrip Popish France in the march of crime!!

It is much to be regretted that our Hamilton Corporation do not contrive to get a good Town Clock to be placed upon the Market House; as our time here is wretchedly regulated by the bell-man's watch, which seems in the four and twenty hours to undergo all the variations of the compass. One penny contributed for the purpose by each inhabitant would suffice to procure a first rate time piece. Even an exact dial, stuck up in such a conspicuous situation, would enable persons to regulate their watches whenever the sun shines.

XRONOS.

We regret to have to announce the death of the Hon. William Warren Baldwin, one of the oldest and wealthiest inhabitants of this city—this melancholy event took place on Sunday night last, after a long and painful illness.—*Toronto Patriot*.

REPEAL.

A meeting of the Repeal Association of Hamilton, Dundas, and Brantford, took place at B. Collins' Inn, Dundas, on Monday the 15th instant, the President in Chair. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. McMahon was called on to act in that capacity for the evening.

The By-laws and Resolutions of the Association being read and approved of.

It was moved by JAMES GLOVEN, seconded by EDWARD KENNEDY,

Resolved—That James Smith, one of the Vice Presidents, be the Treasurer and Mr. McMahon the Secretary for Dundas, and that Bernard Collins, Alex. Witherspoon, and Thomas Rourke, be Wardens for the same place.

Mr. WITHERSPOON then came forward and addressed the Chair as follows:—

Mr. President and Gentlemen, I come forward boldly as a Scottish Repealer of the Irish Union; not because that I expect to reap any benefit from the repeal of that baneful union, but because there is something beating here at my breast, which echoes back to my mind, saying, give freedom to all: allow the rights and privileges to all mankind, which they are entitled to hold: now, gentlemen, I say, until such time as you can each man, one and all of you, hold within your grasp your own rights and privileges, which were given you, and intended to be so by your God, the maker and ruler of all things; and, I say, until such time as you can hold that which belongs to you, you can be compared to nothing else than to the slaves of the Southern States of America, who are bound down under their cruel and unfeeling owners; but worse than that, gentlemen, you may even be compared to the wild beasts of the field, which are liable to be kept or hunted down by a combination of their remorseless task-masters. However, gentlemen, let us come to the point: do you deserve to have a Repeal of the Union? are you prepared for it? have you knowledge to govern and take care of your own affairs? If so, you should have it, and if not, you have the more need of it; for as long as you remain under the iron sceptre and keen edged sword, knowledge will never be allowed to dispel that ignorance that hovers around your devoted and delightful country. May Ireland soon be freed from her long enduring oppression, and rendered what God and nature seem to have designed her to be,—“Glorious and free, first flower of the earth,—first gem of the sea.”

After Mr. Witherspoon resumed his seat, several other matters relative to the well being of the Association were discussed, when it was

Resolved, That a general meeting of the Association should take place at Dundas on the first Monday in February, to make arrangements to forward a Remittance of the funds in hand to the parent Association in Ireland.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the members of the Association from Hamilton for their attendance.

The meeting was a large one considering the little notice given, and the subscription list certainly does credit to the spirited Repealers of Dundas.

The Association again met in Hamilton on Tuesday the 16th, when the proceedings in Dundas were read and approved of; and the Secretary directed to communicate to the repealers of Brantford the intention of this Association to make a remittance early after the 1st of February, and to request as many of their number as conveniently could to attend the general meeting at Dundas on the first Monday in February; after which, the meeting adjourned to Monday evening, the 22nd instant.

The Hon. Mr. Killaly is now in Montreal, for the purpose of procuring suitable offices for the various public departments and a mansion for His Excellency the Governor General.—*Transcript*.

From the Kingston News.

POSTAGE.—On the whole, the publishers of newspapers have jumped out of the frying-pan into the fire, in their transfer from the tender mercies of the old to those of the new system of postage.—True, they are relieved of the burthen of paying for their own papers on mailing them, but the charge upon letters and exchange papers, renders the “boon” recently conferred one of very questionable value to them. However, with this we must put up, though we would like very much so much of the old system as permitted Postmasters to send us letters, and vice versa, without charge, as the correspondence of a newspaper establishment, is, to use an Americanism, “pretty considerable.” One great grievance the *Herald* of Tuesday adverts to. We trust that some steps will be taken immediately to have it remedied as early as possible:—

There is one part of the new Post Office arrangements that is objectionable, namely, the charge of 1d. each on all papers sent to the United States, or received from thence, in addition to the United States postage on the latter. Why a paper should be charged 1d. to or from the Province line, 8 or 10 miles, when the charge is only a halfpenny to the extremities of the Province, is more than we can understand. The postage on a paper from the States is now 2d., so that a daily paper will cost 1s. per week, or 52s. per year postage—more than doubling the original cost.—and in addition, we have to pay 1d. on every paper sent thither, making 4s. 4d. more; so that the postage to pay for a daily paper with our exchange will be 56s. 4d. per annum. The postage to or from the lines should be the same as to other parts of the Province, a half penny, and no more. We call the attention of the Deputy Post Master General to this subject. He may not have power to alter the rate, but he can represent the matter to the authorities at home.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED.

Amherstburg.—Rev. Mr. Bone, 10s.

London.—Mr. John Cruikshanks, cooper, 7s. 6d.

Beverly.—Mr. D. O'Connor, 10s.

Guelph.—Rev. Mr. Gibney, 15s.