

Continued from Page 227.

We do not mean, however, to represent him as a monster of wickedness. He was not wantonly cruel or treacherous. He was merely a supple, timid, and interested courtier, in times of frequent and violent change. That which has been always represented as his distinguishing virtue, the facility with which he forgave his enemies, belongs to the character. Those of his class are never vindictive, and never grateful. A present interest effaces past services and past injuries from their minds together. Their only object is self-preservation; and for this they conciliate those who wrong them, just as they abandon those who serve them. Before we extol a man for his forgiving temper, we should inquire whether he is above revenge or below it.

Somerest with as little principle as his coadjutor, had a firmer and more commanding mind. Of Henry, an orthodox Catholic, excepting that he chose to be his own Pope,—and of Elizabeth, who certainly had no objections to the theology of Rome, we need say nothing. But these four persons were the great authors of the English Reformation. Three of them had a direct interest in the extirpation of the royal prerogative. The fourth was the ready tool of any who could frighten him. It is not difficult to see from what motives, and on what plan, such persons would be inclined to remodel the church.

The Catholic doctrines and rites were to be retained in the Church of England. But the King was to exercise the control which had formerly belonged to the Roman Pontiff. In this Henry for a time succeeded. The extraordinary force of his character, the fortunate situation in which he stood with respect to foreign powers, and the vast resources which the suppression of the monasteries placed at his disposal, enabled him to oppress both the religious and the lay equally. He punished with impartial severity those who renounced the doctrines of Rome, and those who acknowledged her jurisdiction. The basis, however, on which he attempted to establish his power, was too narrow. It would have been impossible even for him long to persecute both persuasions. Even under his reign there had been insurrections on the part of the Catholics, and signs of a spirit which was likely to produce insurrection on the part of the Protestants. It was plainly necessary therefore that the government should form an alliance with one or with the other side.

To recognize the Papal supremacy, would have been to abandon the whole design. Reluctantly and sullenly it at last joined the Protestants. In forming this function, its object was to procure as much aid as possible for its selfish undertakings, and to make the smallest possible concessions to the spirit of religious innovation. *From this compromise the Church of England sprung.*

Thus far Macaulay. He is their own witness. A writer disposed to yield nothing to Catholicism, beyond what the active honesty of his mind forces him to yield. A sect, which, on its own testimony, was founded by murderers, and reared in corruption, now seeks for shelter and disguise under the Catholic name. In us the claim excites both commiseration and hope. We are gratified to know that the feelings of isolation begin to press heavily. That a consciousness of there being in

Religion, something better than schism, is at last manifested; and that homage is rendered, by its very enemies, to the idea of Catholicity.—*Correspondence of the Catholic Herald.*

FANATICISM.

One of the peculiarities of our country at the present period, appears to be a tendency to eccentricity of mind as well as moral aberration, which assume all imaginable shapes of fantastic belief as well as atrocious crime. The worst form of vice and the most morbid condition of the imagination appear to have become blended as characteristics of our people. No sooner is one strange novelty bodied forth, in some shape to work with effect on popular credulity, than it is driven from its temporary supremacy and a new fantasy usurps its place. Mormon is succeeded by Miller delusions with unparalleled rapidity, and these fancies of fanaticism or inventions of designing impostors unhinge the moral principles of the people, by destroying the equilibrium between the imagination and the judgment.

To what shall we attribute this increasing disposition to influences so destructive of the physical prosperity and subversive of the social happiness of our people?—Why is it that the most practical community in the world are driven about by every wind of doctrine, however fantastic and improbable—a prey to fanatics and impostors on matters that involve the exercise of sober judgment and rational inference? Our people in the mass are more intelligent than the nations of the old world who are far less under these dangerous influences. Is it that the unchecked license allowed to all forms of faith, and the large, unlimited freedom to invent and propagate theories of belief, gave rise to all this licentiousness of the imagination?—Is it that our people, being under no restraint in multiplying themselves into innumerable sects, leads to a prurient ambition in men with heated fancies and unregulated judgments, to become leaders of new sects and parties? If such be the solution of this phenomenon, it shows that there is no social or moral good without its counterbalancing evil. We would be among the last to limit the freedom of religious belief or impose checks even on that spirit of misguided ambition that converts liberty of thought into licentiousness of speech and action. But it is worthy of the meditations of reflecting men how this tendency to change liberty into its opposite may be restrained, not by legal checks but moral control—in what manner and by what discipline of the reason our people may be prevented from becoming more & more influenced in their daily conduct by cheats and fanatics, to the neglect of their social duties and domestic obligations.

There is an alarming spread of fanaticism in our country. It assumes all imaginable forms, with a rapidity that shows the distempered activity and ready resources of the numerous aspirants to the honours of leadership. It appears as if we had reached a crisis in the infancy of our existence, that indicates the presence of corrupt action and fantastic belief, the one the fruit of old age in nations, the other the offspring of a morbid manhood.—*Charleston Patriot.*

CASH RECEIVED FOR THE CATHOLIC

Alexandria—V. Chisholm, 10s.

Do.—Rev John McDonald for Archibald McDonald, 7s 6d, John MacLachlin, 2s 6d, Ronald McDonald, 2s 6d, and Angus McGillis, 7s 6d.

Beverly—P O'Connell, 7s 6d.

Brookville—Rev P. O'Reilly, M. A. 15s, and for Mrs Hubbell, 15s, George Northgraves, 15s and Roderick McSweeney, Henry Walsh, A. McMillan, Edward Caulfield, Francis Hackett, each 7s 6d.

Do.—Mr C. E. O'Keefe for Mrs. O'Keefe, Montreal, 15s.

Richmond—Rev T. Smith, 7s 6d, and for the Revs. T. O'Reilly and P. Lamb (Ireland) each 7s 6d; also Joseph Quinnan, Peter Cavenagh, Patk. Hefernan, James Rourke, John Tierney, Jeffry O'Donohoe, Paul Shurly, Wm. Walsh, James Malone, each 7s 6d.

Prescott—Mr Jobson, 15s also for Mr Moran, 15s.

Wellington—J. O'B. Scully, Esq. 15s.

DIED, at St. Andrew's, on the 31st Dec. 1842, Alexander McLachlin, aged 15 years, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends and relations. His death was caused from a severe cold caught about six weeks previous. Retaining his faculties till the last, he was continually engaged in devotional exercises, and yielded up his soul to his Saviour in the full hope of eternal salvation.—May he rest in peace.—*Com.*

POSTSCRIPT.

By the arrival of the *Columbia* at Boston, in 16 days from Liverpool, we have CHARLES WILLMER'S EXPRESS of the 4th instant, from which we extract the most important items.

Sir Charles Metcalfe and suite have arrived safely at Kingston; but not being in possession of any Kingston papers, we cannot give the particulars.

It is said that Sir Francis Bond Head has gone out as Gov. of Cape of Good Hope.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

From Willmer's American News Letter.

SIR CHARLES METCALFE.

This distinguished personage leaves England to-day in the *Columbia*, to assume the functions of Governor General of Canada. No appointment of recent occurrence has afforded more unequivocal satisfaction. Sir Charles had the good fortune in early life to attract the favourable notice of the Governor General of India, the late Marquis of Wellesley, one of the most profound statesmen and accomplished scholars this country ever knew. He was subsequently entrusted by Lord Bentinck, when Governor General, with high important offices, and it is an acknowledged fact, that his consummate skill and masterly policy extricated his Excellency from difficulties, under the pressure of which he must otherwise have sunk. That Sir Charles, when elected to the Governorship of Jamaica, displayed the exalted talent and the dignified discretion which the perilous condition of the colony demanded—the unanimous opinion and cordial acknowledgments of the West India merchants most eloquently prove. It has been his fate through life to be placed in the battle front of most perplexing difficulties, and most nobly has he invariably overcome them.

The character of the incidents which have occurred since the date of our last publication, is neither cheering nor satisfactory.

The condition of the working classes in our own country is truly deplorable. The lengthened and unwelcome continuance of easterly winds, as it has prevented the arrival of homeward bound vessels, deprives of their means of subsistence the mass who depend upon the shipping for their daily bread, whilst this unhappy contingency has not been atoned for by a revival of trade in the manufacturing districts. At other periods the briskness of some particular branch of trade has been cited

as a contradiction to the assertion that "times are bad," but at the present juncture the most tortuous ingenuity fails to convince us that the condition of the labouring classes is not fearfully and unequivocally wretched. Over the entire length and breadth of the community, one wide cloud of gloom is spread.

The auspicious circumstances, from the operation of which a beneficial change may be anticipated, few even venture to predict. That distress—deeply seated, widely extended, and long endured, does exist—the admission of the Ministry themselves—the men whose purpose and policy it would be to gloss over or to conceal it—sadly and surely proves. In the debates on the state of the country they did not even venture to deny it. Perhaps we are doomed to await, as the Premier significantly hinted, the slow and uncertain development of those advantages which our recent conquests in the East may secure to us, before a material and sensible amendment can be felt. For speedier relief he bids us not to hope.

A circumstance occurred in the course of the debate on the state of the country which appears to have revived the spirit of the Free Trade party. The Vice President of the board of Trade emphatically declared that between the opinions entertained by the Ministry and those avowed by the opposition the difference was not so great as was generally supposed. That an alteration in the commercial code was necessary, he was not only ready to admit, but prepared to prove. The only question actually pending between them was at what time should the alteration be attempted, and to what extent should it be carried out.—The dispute, therefore, is not so much of principle as it is upon the most expedient means of developing it. The Anti-Corn Law league are untiring in their exertions to agitate the country. They have convened meetings in the principal towns and if they have gained no proselytes they have, at least, mustered numerous audiences.

The trials of the Chartists, among whom is the would be famous Feargus O'Connor, are proceeding at Lancaster.

We regret to learn from the tenor of advices which are tolerably extensively accredited, that the mission of Mr. Ellice to the Brazils is likely to be productive of no beneficial result. The Brazilians refuse to enter into a negotiation with us except upon terms so decidedly disadvantageous to Great Britain that it would be impolitic, and perhaps dishonourable to this country to accept them.

A Lecture on Phrenology will be delivered on Thursday Evening at 8 o'clock, at the Court House, by J. L. Spaul.

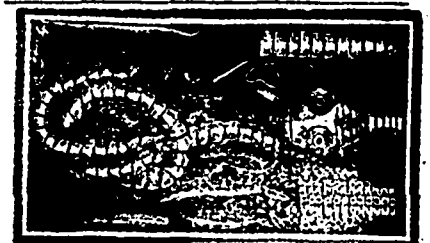
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Dec. 14, 1842.

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