

Concurramus ad hunc spe conspirante Patro-
num.

Suscipiet nostras placida pietate querelas
Et dum natalem ipsius celebramus ovantes
Inque vicem fletibus nobis quia monte dicata
Nos letamur ei. Non est cura hinc nova sanctis
Exorare Deum: pro peccatoribus agris.

Nat. viii. V. 210, &c.

With hope to him as patron let us fly,
And, pay-touch'd, he'll list our plaintive cry;
And as his feast we keep with holy rite,
To our poor pray'rs his merits he'll unite.
In sweet reverse for us he'll weep, the while
We joy in him with souls devout, and smile:
Unto the saints, 'tis not a recent care
For sin-struck man to pour the pious pray'r.*

Prudentius, by the sentiments of tenderest de-
votion which he has so happily interwoven with
his verses, and the energetic language in which
he gives expression to his homage, attests with
a force as strong as that of St. Paulinus, his
own and the age's belief in the invocation of
saints. That such a credence was not peculiar
to his particular nation, nor a novel fabrication of
the times during which he lived, is certified by
the triumphant manner in which the poet notices
that the saints were recognised as patrons of the
world by every people professing Christianity,
amongst whom such as were induced at any pe-
riod to apply their intercession, had experi-
enced its efficacy. In his hymn in honour of the
martyrs SS. Hemeterius and Celedonius, he
says:—

Extern non et orbis huc colonus advent
Fama nam terras in omnes percucurrit proditrix.
Hic patronos esse mundi, quos precantes ambiant,
Nemo puras hic rogando frustra congescit
preces;

Latus hinc tersis revertit supplicator fletibus,
Omne, quod justum poposcit, impetratum sen-
tens.

Tanto pro nostris periculis cura suffragantium
est,

Non sinunt, inane ut ullus voce murmur fuderit;
Audiunt, statimque ad aurem regis referunt.

Inde larga fonte ab ipso dona terris influunt,
Supplicum causas petitis quæ medellis irrigant.

Nil suis bonus negavit Christus unquam testibus;
Testibus, quos nec catenæ, dura nec mors ter-
ruit

Inicum deum fateri sanguinis dispendio,
Sanguinis sed tale damnum lux rependit longior.

Hymn. 1, Perist. V. 10, &c.

The stranger hither hies with pious haste,
For sounding fame all earth around has pac'd,
And told, the patrons of the world were here.
That we should, trusting, supplicate their pray'r.
For man these advocates ne'er came to try,
But home returned with joy-entkindled eye
And tears dried up—to tell to all around
His just request was with a blessing crown'd.
Such, 'gainst our evils, is their sunty care,
No plaints we sigh are wasted on the air;
But straight they heed them.—hurrying they
bring
Our supplications to the heavenly King,
From whose deep fountains, copious blessing
flows,
And yield's a cure to every suppliant's woes;
For nought has bounteous Christ e'er yet denied
To pray'r of martyrs,—saints who've testified
The true belief in one eternal God,
In gallant fetters, 'neath the flaying rod,
While fiercest death stood by with brandish'd
dart;

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From whose deep fountains, copious blessing
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Orator ad thronum Patris.

Miserere nostrarum precum
Placatus ut Christus suis
Inclinet aurem prosperam
Nexas nec omnes imputes.

Hymn. v. Perist. V. 515, et seq.

Talking of the tomb of St. Agnes at Rome,
he says—

Servat salutem virgo Quiritium
Necnon et ipsos protegit advenas,
Puro, ac fidei pectora supplices.

Hymn. xiv. Perist. V. 5.

In noticing the protection to be derived from
the intercession of the saints, Prudentius
gratefully observes of his own native city Cala-
horra—

O triplex honor, O triforme culteum,
Quo nostra capet excitatus urbis
Cunctus uribus omissis Iberis!
Exultare tribus libet patronis
Quorum præsidio fovemur omnes
Terrarum populi pyrenearum.

Hymn. vi. Perist. V. 145.

Le Clerc, an eminent French Protestant writ-
ter, passes the following remark upon the Peri-
strophon of Prudentius.—It is very evident
from various passages in these hymns, that
Christians invoked the martyrs at that period,
and believed that they had been assigned by the
Almighty as the especial patrons of some par-
ticular places. Certain Protestant writers, who
admit that along with the scripture should be
added the tradition of the first four or five cen-
turies, have denied that prayer was ever made
to the saints up to the fourth age of the Church.
They should, however, not have erected such an
imaginary system, without having first of all in-
vestigated facts, since it is easy to refute their
supposition by several parts of the writings of
Prudentius.—*Le Clerc, Vies des Peres primitifs,*
in Prudentio.

(To be Continued.)

The Cross;

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, JULY 1.

EUROPE.

According to the last accounts by the Steamer
on Wednesday, the state of Europe is still un-
settled.

France is, if possible, in a more helpless con-
dition. Symptoms of a reaction in favour of the
Napoleon family are manifested; the Govern-
ment are alarmed; the Treasury is nearly exhaus-
ted; the National Guards are harassed by duty;
there is no security for property, and very likely
there will soon be none for liberty or life. These
are bitter fruits of the Republican Tree, and yet
we have seen but "the beginning of the end."

There is no further news of importance from
Northern Italy. The Envoy sent by His Holi-
ness to Charles Albert and the Emperor, had
arrived at Milan on his way to Innsbruck. The
celebrated Abbe Gioberti was in Rome, and had
an audience with the Pope. It is said he came
to propose that Pius IX should go to Milan to
perform the ceremony of the Coronation of Charles
Albert as King of Northern Italy, and to place
the Iron Crown of Lombardy on his head. This
celebrated Relic in which are enclosed some of
the nails which fastened Our Saviour to the Cross,
is preserved with extraordinary veneration in the
Cathedral of Monza, within twelve miles of Milan.
On the Feast of the Ascension the Pope assisted
at the Papal Chapel in St John Lateran, but was
prevented by the rain from giving the Solemn
Benediction from the Loggia or Balcony in front
of that ancient and magnificent Basilica. Hence
this interesting ceremony took place in the inter-
ior of the Church.

Germany is still in confusion, and no one can
tell how the present convulsion will end. An
audacious attack has been made upon all Church
property in Bavaria, and some robberies of the
same nature have been perpetrated in Spain. A
few unprincipled rogues will be the gainers and
squanderers of those sacrilegious spoils; but the
masses, and especially the poor, the orphan and
the widow, will be the principal sufferers.

The English Government are still harassed
by the provoking manoeuvres of the Chartists.
Their organs affect to despise them, but it is
evident they are ill at ease. In the present state
of Europe, with the chances of a General War,
this vast mass of disaffection in the very heart of
England is truly formidable. The prospect is
not much more cheering on the other side of the
Irish channel, where the hatred of English tyrany
is as intense as ever. The complete union of
the Young and Old Ireland parties has not yet
been consummated, but everything looked favor-
able for so auspicious a result. If we may judge
from the desperate attempts made by the Govern-
ment Journals to keep up the divisions between
the two sections of the Repealers, the oppressors
of Ireland must have a holy horror of the re-union

of her children. That this Union of Irishmen
may be effected, and that the accursed English
Union may be speedily repealed, is our earnest
prayer.

CORPUS CHRISTI—ST. MARY'S.

The solemnities of this great Festival have
been just concluded at the Cathedral. On Thurs-
day and Sunday there was an Exposition of the
Most Holy Sacrament, and every evening during
the Octave there was Benediction. There was
also High Mass and Benediction yesterday, it
being the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of
Jesus. On S.S. Peter and Paul's Day a Ponti-
fical High Mass was celebrated by the Bishop,
assisted by the Vicar General and three other
Clergymen, and the usual Indulgence was pro-
claimed.

ST. PATRICK'S.

We publish a few of the returns of the recent
Monthly Collections, and will feel happy to pub-
lish the remainder when the Collectors shall
make their report. A handsome and convenient
Baptistry has been erected at the entrance of the
Church, and a fine Statue of St. John the Bap-
tist in carved oak is placed upon the Font. The
Saint bears a scroll on which are the words *Ecce
Agnus Dei. Behold the Lamb of God!* And at
the foot of the Statue is the Prayer *Sancte Jo-
hannes Baptista. Ora pro nobis. St. John the
Baptist. Pray for us.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

X Y. John Mitchell is not a Catholic, but
a difference of religion does not prevent his fel-
low-countrymen from sympathising with his be-
reaved wife and children, to assist whom subscrip-
tions are daily pouring in, many of them from
Catholic Priests.

A Down Easter. The most recent account of
the case is that Bennett, the thrice-convicted
Labeller, has been put in a *fix*. The opposing
counsel demanded that he should be examined on
oath, but this crafty old reprobate positively re-
fused to obey the law. This clearly showed that
the wretched creature knew he was coming into
Court with dirty hands, and he dreaded the sea-
thing interrogatories of the Defendant's counsel.
If the Supreme Court should compel him to an-
swer, the writhings of Laocoon in the serpent's
folds were nothing to the torture that awaits the
degraded creature who was kicked out of the Corn
Exchange in Dublin by the Liberator of Ireland.

Comus. We agree that it is very heartless in
the Editor of *Punch* to disport himself at the ex-
pense of a stricken victim like John Mitchell.
Mr. Punch ought to have remembered in the
midst of his unfeeling merriment that there is
such a woman in Ireland as Mrs. Mitchell, and
that she has a young and helpless family. Fie,
fie! Mr. Punch. We cry shame on you, and
we tell you that no rightly constituted mind can
ever enjoy the cruel wit that is sported at the
expense of misfortune.

Cagliostro. The Masonic Procession may
have been as grotesque and ridiculous as our
Correspondent describes, but we have no desire
to give circulation to his comments on the subject.
Even for Freemasons he is too free a Writer.
We did not see the Procession ourselves, nor do
we know, or care to know where they went to
Church, or who preached or prayed for them.
As Catholics we would feel bound to pray for
them ourselves, because we know their system
has been solemnly condemned by the Church.
like every other secret system. Christ has proscri-
bed in the Gospel all works of darkness, and
pointed out the reason why good works should
not be concealed by "the children of light."
The means that he has left for the promotion of
charity and brotherly love, are recorded in the
New Testament, and proclaimed by the Visible
Church which he founded, that glorious City of
God which is seated on a hill. Those who pre-
tend to hide their light under a bushel, and to
possess some infallible, secret specific, for the
regeneration of mankind, may succeed in impos-
ing on the vulgar, but they can never make us
believe said light is anything more than a poor
farthing candle. They say they have a wonder-
ful and extraordinary mode of doing good, pro-
moting charity, good-fellowship, and so forth.
But where is their charity in concealing from the
world this grand panacea for all our evils? True
charity is communicative and never conceals any-
thing that can do good to our fellow-creature.
The idea of connecting this institution with the
hallowed name of John the Baptist is ludicrous
enough. We never heard that he was a Mason,
wore an apron, or used a trowel in his life. We

know that he was a 'burning and shining light'
Neither was he remarkable for great secrets, or for
keeping to himself anything that could benefit
his fellow-men. He was a loud Trumpet on
Jordan's banks, and a bold, plain-spoken Saint
to Herod, and the soldiers, and the sinful Jews.

We will not, with our correspondent, call the
dresses, implements and gyrations of the Masonic
craft "a mummery," but we will respectfully
observe that Protestants who practice such un-
couth antics should be more tolerant and con-
sistent when they speak of the venerable rites and
ceremonies of our Church, and the sacred vest-
ments of religion which have been used from
time immemorial in the service of God. If *Cag-
liostro* were half as clever as the Count, his cele-
brated namesake, he need not ask us what the
Great Freemason Secret is. We would not give
an unripe strawberry for this wonderful piece of
knowledge. As for "the Greater and Lesser
lights, the rule and compass, the line, plummet,
pillars, book in chains, the sledge-hammer or
mallet, the trowel, aprons, &c. &c. &c." allu-
ded to by Cagliostro, we confess we know nothing
about them. If we should hazard a guess on
the subject we would say that they are

"All Bunkum, bunk, bunk Bunkum!"

However, the next time the Masons walk we
will positively go see them and judge for our-
selves.

We know as little about their numbers as we
do about their ceremonies; but we should sup-
pose every Mason in town is a *Free mason*, at
least for a great portion of the year. The state
of our thermometer during the winter months
must, no doubt, contribute largely to their *free-
dom*.

"Hereditary Bondsmen" know ye not.
Who would be *Free*, themselves must strike
the blow."

We would prefer to remain Bondsmen all our
lives rather than purchase our freedom by a blow
struck with a Masonic Mallet.

We hope the "brothers of the mystic tie" will
not be displeased with us for making so *free* with
the craft. We thought a few gentle remarks of
our own would be more blameless than the sour
comments of our conjuring correspondent. We
dare say there are many worthy, gay and jovial
souls among the Masons, but we do not believe
it was Masonry made them so, or that they cease
to be agreeable when they fling off the apron.
Cagliostro wields a graceful and witty pen, and
we shall be very happy to hear from him on some
other subject.

MONTHLY COLLECTIONS FOR ST. PA- TRICK'S CHURGH.

Collected by Messrs. P. Morrissey and E. Bar-
ber, £1 9s 1½d; including Mrs. Barber, Mrs
Laughlan, Mrs. Condon and Mrs. Hunter, 2s 6d
each; M. Bride, Jas. Duggan, M. O'Sullivan,
M. Kavanagh, M. Magrath, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Gun-
ter, Mrs. Connors, Mrs. Crowley and Mrs. Quirk,
1s 3d each; John Tobin, 1s; Mrs. Marks, Mrs
Lave, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Mahar, Mrs. Mahony,
Miss Doyle, Dillon & Malony, M. M. Grath, and
a friend, 7½d each.

Collected by Messrs. Timothy Linehan and Jos
Purcell, £1 11s 10½d; including B. Joyce and
Peter Gallagher, 3s 1½d each; Thos. Buckley,
T. Doherty, Jas. Donnelly, Thos. Lonergan, John
Cantwell, and Edward Metzler, 2s 6d each;
Mortimer Dwyer, W. Power, Michl. Lonergan,
Wm. Wncian, Patk. Healy, Dennis O'Donoghue,
and Patk. Colemau, 1s 3d each; John O'Connell,
Lawrence Sproohan, and Maurice Power, 7½d
each.

Collected by Messrs. P. Ryan and W. Walsh,
16s 10d; including Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Morley,
Mrs. Dunphy, Owen Fitzgerald, John Quin, J.
Sullivan, W. Turnoy, John Willard, Patk. Golden,
Patk. Mahar, and Richd. Dawson, 1s 3d each.
Mrs. Cody, Patk. Connors, John Jones, Capt. Far-
rel, and Michl. Bulger, 7½d each.

Monthly subscription from Rt. Rev. Dr.
Walsh. £1; Very Rev. Mr. Connolly, £s.

Mrs. Gunston has presented Altar Ornaments
to the value of £5; and another Lady has given
a new set of Communion Cloths for the veils of
the Sanctuary.

A COINCIDENCE.—The Univers calls the atten-
tion of its readers to the following extraordinary
coincidence, and asks can it be purely fortuitous.
—"The attack on the National Assembly was
made on the 15th of May; the revolution in Vi-
enna was accomplished on the 15th of May;
and the insurrection at Naples took place on the
15th of May."

O'Connell died the year before on the 15th
May.—Ed. Cross.