

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

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Catholic Record.

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A GROSS MISREPRESENTATION.

The Toronto Mail of the 21st ult. returns to the subject of the schools of Massachusetts, with special reference to the dispute which took place concerning Boston High School, and which terminated in a complete victory for the Catholics of that city.

Our readers will remember the gross outrage which was perpetrated upon the Catholics of Boston on the occasion to which we refer, as we gave a short statement of the case in our issue of the 14th ult.

When the little boy told him what an indulgence is, giving the explanation which is in the Catholic catechism, the ignorant seems to have been somewhat nonplussed.

After these repeated insults, the Reverend Theodor A. Metcalf, Rector of the Gate of Heaven Church in South Boston, addressed a letter of complaint to the City School Committee, and his letter is our authority for the above statement of facts; and that the statement is correct is evident, not only from the dignified letter of Father Metcalf, but also from Mr. Travis' own defence, and from the action of the School Committee, which, though a majority of the board is Protestant, gave Father Metcalf all the satisfaction he demanded, by more than a two-thirds vote of the whole board, notwithstanding the absence of several members, who, under the operation of the school law, were held to have voted in the negative, though only two of the members actually present voted in that way.

The Catholics of Boston form nearly one-half the population of the city, and an actual majority of the children attending the Public Schools of the city are said to be Catholics also.

The indecent intolerance of these men is acknowledged covertly even by the Mail while approving of their conduct.

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Catholic education both in the United States and Canada, that the public schools are non-sectarian, and that therefore Catholic schools are unnecessary, but now we have the Mail and the bigots of Boston throwing off the mask and declaring openly that they wish to force upon Catholics a theological teaching which we know to be a falsehood, and they moreover raise the cry, "the public schools are in danger," because Catholics refuse to submit to their bigotry.

To protest against the very proper course taken by the School Board, two meetings were held in Boston on the 11th ult, one in Tremont Temple in the afternoon, the other in Faneuil Hall in the evening.

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repeated did Father Metcalf make his complaint. If the like of this had occurred in one of the Public Schools of Quebec, a Protestant being the victim, the air would be filled with loud denunciations of the Protestant press of this Dominion. Yet in such a case none would be more ready to make statement than the generous Lower Canadian people—but in the Boston case we are virtually assured by the Baptist persons and the Mail that the Catholics have obtained redress, only because they are strong enough to make themselves respected.

To the credit of a large section of the Boston Protestants, we must record the fact that there are many who refuse to respond to the No-Popery cry which the fanatics have raised. The Milford Times criticises keenly "those blatant ministerial busybodies."

Father Metcalf, who first called public attention to the outrage, is no alien, as the persons and the Mail would wish us to believe. His ancestry have lived in Massachusetts over 250 years.

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GREAT HOME RULE MEETING IN GLASGOW.

A most important meeting was held on Glasgow Green on the 7th ult, which was convened by the Glasgow Liberal Council for the expression of popular opinion on the imprisonment of Mr. John Dillon.

Seven constituencies were represented en masse, and all the Liberal Associations of the city and the Irish National League branches took part in the arrangements.

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INDULGENCES.

What is an indulgence? This question is agitating the Protestants of the United States at the present moment, especially those of Massachusetts, and through the columns of the Mail an effort is being made to induce the Protestants of Canada also to believe that the slanderous definition given to the word Indulgence by some Protestant controversialists is correct.

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nor the eternal punishment due to it. These must be forgiven before an indulgence can be gained. Thus Cardinal Bellarmine, the illustrious doctrinal expounder, and interpreter of the Council of Trent, says (on Penance c 13), "It is certain that indulgences require that he who obtains them be already in the state of grace, and free of the liability to eternal death, and that he be subject only to make the atonement of temporal penalties; for indulgences free men from temporal penalties, if they are already free from those which are eternal."

The Apostle St. Paul granted an indulgence to a Corinthian who had been previously subjected to the penalty of excommunication for the awful crime of incest. "I indeed absent in body, but present in spirit, have already judged as though I were present to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."

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pened indulgences, and that they were not to be taken from them. The indulgences were appointed proof of his piety, not likely, by any other Church on the book of sermons, and it was not with great success that the accused teachings have been refuted. There is not evidence that would have been attributed to heretical and unorthodox views.

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