

at least, as she was young, and might, in the interim change her mind.

Miss S. Bolster went to reside with her brothers; but on several occasions she called on the Superior of the Convent, begging hard to be admitted into the Community. These requests were as constantly refused; and on one occasion, the 16th ult., the Superior accompanied the persevering young lady back to her brother's residence. Again, on the 18th, Miss S. Bolster presented herself at the Convent; again did she meet with an unqualified refusal to her demand for admittance; and since then the Sisters have neither seen, nor heard from her.

In the meantime, an elder sister of the said young lady came in hot haste from Port Sarnia, to rescue Sarah from the dangers of a religious life. For this purpose, Miss Bolster went into the store of a Mr. Ashfield, who sells fire-arms; purchased a pistol; and requesting the people in the store to load it with any quantity of powder, ball, and other combustibles, publicly avowed her intention to shoot the Sister Superior of the Convent; and thus, dead or alive, to rescue her younger sister from the fate which menaced her. Horrified at this new "Gunpowder plot," Mr. Ashfield thought it his duty to have the amiable and interesting Guy Faux taken before the magistrates; who would have committed her to jail, had not the Sister Superior of St. Joseph interfered, and procured her release. This at least is the version of the *Globe*; the *Leader* says that one of her brothers became security for her good behaviour. At all events, Miss Bolster was discharged and restored to her friends, who, we hope, will take better care of her for the future.

Such a chance to slander the Nuns, as that afforded by this escapade of Miss Bolster, was too good to be lost by the *Globe*. Although Miss S. Bolster was not within the Convent; and although this must have been well known to the editor of the *Toronto Globe*, he at once endeavored to excite the brutal fury of the Protestant rabble of Toronto against the St. Joseph Asylum; hoping, no doubt, to get up a little drama in Toronto like that which the good gentlemanly Protestants of Boston enacted a few years ago upon the premises of the Ursuline Convent at Charleston. "By what authority is this girl detained in the nunnery?" indignantly exclaimed the *Globe*; knowing well that she was not, and never had been, therein detained; yet anxious to excite the rascal *canaille* of Toronto to deeds of violence and arson; in which nefarious design, as we learn from the *Citizen*, he very nearly succeeded.

What will our readers think then, after all this storm in a butter boat, when they read the following letter, written on Tuesday last by Mr. L. G. Bolster himself, the brother of the young lady whom the *Globe* represents as forcibly detained in the Nunnery? Must they not feel astounded at the height and the depth, and the length, and the breadth of Protestant mendacity, and Protestant gullibility?—Will they not exclaim—"Oh! the wonders of the Great Protestant Tradition?"

Toronto, 20th March, 1855.

To the Editor of the Catholic Citizen:

Sir—Let me beg of you to correct an erroneous statement which has gone abroad, (after emanating from certain journals in this city,) charging one of the convents in Toronto, with detaining and secreting my sister, contrary to the wishes of her family. As the charge is wholly unfounded, and much public feeling has been wrongfully excited by the statements made by these journals against the Convent, I feel it a duty to submit the facts, which are of a character to exonerate completely the Sisters of St. Joseph from the false accusations made against them.

The young girl in question was brought up a Protestant, but having, through the exercise of her own judgment, been led to regard the doctrines of the Catholic Church with favor, she applied to me, some few months ago (unsolicited and unbiassed by any one), to have her introduced to one of the Ladies of St. Joseph, of this city, in order that she might be taught and thoroughly grounded in the religious faith it was her determination to follow. After some time my sister signified, from time to time, her desire to embrace a Religious life, and become a member of the Community. Ultimately seeing her resolution fixed, and believing her intentions sincere, I acquiesced in her desires, provided she obtained the consent of the other members of the family, which she failed to do—they having entirely forbidden her the right of disposing of herself in the way she desired. I regarded their refusal as decisive, and promised my brother that I should, for the future, discontinue any such ideas on her part, it being agreed that she should be allowed to continue in the Catholic Religion.

Subsequently, without my knowledge or consent, she quitted her home, intimating to me in a note that she had gone into the Convent of St. Paul. My brother requested her instant removal; and though I desired that she should be left in the establishment for some time as a boarder, he refused, and, in company with me, brought her out. The next day, although under the surveillance of my brother, she went back again to the Convent. This time he complained to the Bishop, who promised that she should be sent home—and she was accordingly brought home by the Superior of St. Paul's,—but only to leave again a few days afterwards; and I have since learned that she is under the protection of a Catholic lady at some distance from this city; and from the most minute inquiries which I have made within the last few days, I am able to state most positively that the ladies of St. Joseph had nothing to do whatever with her present absence from the city, or that they at any time desired, to retain her in the Convent against her consent, or that of her relatives.

I am, Sir, yours,
L. G. BOLSTER.

Are we too sanguine, if we hope that there may be some one, or haply two, of the Protestant journals of Canada, honest enough to publish this full refutation of a vile Protestant lie? We shall see.

The complaint of our Normanby correspondent shall be laid before the Postmaster-General.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY'S COURSE OF LECTURES.

LECTURE ON THE "MICROSCOPE AND THE MICROSCOPIC WORLD."

On Thursday the 22nd instant, Mr. Edward Murphy delivered a lecture on this highly interesting subject. A very large and respectable audience (among whom we noticed several of our leading medical men) was in attendance, and showed during the evening that they knew how to appreciate both the lecture and the lecturer's ability.

On commencing his lecture, Mr. Murphy said, that it was a subject at once interesting and useful, and that the invention of the Microscope was considered by the scientific world one of the most important achievements of science and art; that it claimed equal eminence with the discovery of the Telescope; the latter instrument, he observed, brings us into comparative intimacy with other worlds, or what are inferred to be such by analogies discoverable between them and our globe. On the other hand, the Microscope carries us back to the opposite bounds of creation, and reveals the atomic miracles with which we are surrounded.

The lecturer then enumerated the various advantages arising from the use of the Microscope, of which we here give the principal points:—

To the Geologist, the Microscope reveals the fact, that this world is but the wreck of ancient organic creation; the coal beds are the ruins of a luxuriant and gigantic vegetation, and the vast limestone rocks are the catacombs of myriads of animal tribes, too minute to be perceived by the naked eye. By its aid we can often determine the nature of fossil remains, and trace the first beginnings of vegetable life. And the Zoologist also finds it a necessary auxiliary; as without it the structure and functions of many animals would remain unknown, and the existence of numerous species would be yet undiscovered. The medical man acquires by the aid of this instrument, with the greatest facility, knowledge which could not be obtained by the minutest dissection. In chemistry, the Microscope enables us to discover minutely, the changes of form and color effected by the test fluids upon solids, and opens to the mind an extended field, full of wonders. To estimate duly the value of the Microscope, we must refer to some misconceptions that prevailed prior to its introduction. Before the invention of this instrument, the Mite was considered the least of animated beings, and nobody had an idea of the existence of living atoms so minute, that the mite, compared with them, may rank as an elephant. The opinions regarding the vital fluid in animals, were very indefinite, and the manner of its circulation was but imperfectly (if at all) understood.

The lecturer then gave a short sketch of the history of the Microscope. The invention of this instrument, he said, could not well be traced before the beginning of the 16th century. Zacharias Jansens and his son, were said to have made Microscopes before 1590; Fontana, in one of his works, said he had made Microscopes in 1617. Dr. Lieberkuhn invented the Solar Microscope in 1738. The attempts of the early microscopic observers, to determine ultimate structure, &c., had, however, been of little value, on account of the imperfections of their instruments.

The lecturer here remarked that it was to the Achromatic Compound Microscope he wished to draw their attention—that being the most perfect of all the various forms of the instrument.

In 1824, Mr. Chevalier, of Paris, and Mr. Tully, of London, constructed the first achromatic glasses for the Microscope.

The following are the names of a few of the most celebrated artists, in the manufacture of Microscopes: Powell & Leland, Smith & Beck, and John Ross, of London; Cutts, Sutton & Son, opticians to the Queen, Sheffield and London; M. Nachet, M. Chevallier, of Paris; and Oberhauser, of Germany. The lecturer here observed that he could speak with confidence, of the peculiar excellence of the Microscopes made by Cutts, Sutton & Sons, of Sheffield, as he possessed one of their instruments, and was enabled to recommend these makers to any person desiring a good instrument.

Mr. Murphy then called the attention of the audience to the second part of his lecture, the Microscopic World. Firstly, he would speak of the phenomena connected with *congelation and crystallisation*; secondly, of the formation of *mineral bodies and fossil remains of insects, animals and vegetables*; and thirdly, of the minute formations of the *animal and vegetable kingdoms, and of infusorial animals*. If water be exposed in a freezing atmosphere, thin plates of ice would be formed on its surface; if we separated one of these plates from the rest, and brought it under the Microscope, it would be seen to resemble a herring bone, having a large stem in the centre and a number of parallel spines, inclined to the central stem in an angle of about 60 degrees. The formations of ice on our windows consisted of a series of branches disposed under the uniform angle of 60 degrees, all the irregular variety being merely the result of small impediments to the freezing process. A more beautiful sight could not be beheld than that which was presented when any saline solution was suffering gradual evaporation under the Microscope. It would likewise be found interesting to examine the various crystallizations in polarized light; the splendid colors and systems of colored rings produced by transmitting polarized light through transparent bodies that possess double refraction, are the most brilliant phenomena that can be witnessed. The Microscope allowed us to examine the various descriptions of sand, and to observe their beauty, and had brought to light the value of the superior minerals. By the aid of Microscopic investigation of such portions of fossils as have withstood the destructive power of time, namely, the *scaly covering*, Philosophers had been able to group and classify them.

The discovery of animalcular fossils by Dr. Ehrenberg of Berlin had caused considerable sensation at the time in the philosophical world, and had aided in no small degree the advancement of Geological Science. It was calculated that there existed in the polishing slate found in Austria above 40,000 millions of these animals in a cubic inch. Vast layers of rocks had been discovered which the microscope showed to be composed of the shields of animalcules. Man even used their remains as food, for the mountain meal which the inhabitants of Swedish Lapland often mixed with their flour, consisted of the flinty shells of animalcules.

The lecturer then remarked that the Microscope afforded considerable aid in the development of the fossil woods, as by its assistance the natural orders, genera, and sometimes the very species of the trees

and plants of former epochs, can be determined with accuracy; it tells us whether they grew up like the forest trees of Canada by yearly additions to the outside of the woody centres, or by internal accessions, like most of the productions of the tropics; it tells us also whether their leaves were veined or not; and has not the Microscope demonstrated beyond all question the vegetable origin of coal; for when it is examined under this instrument, not only is the woody fibre discovered, but even the most delicate of the vegetable organs, such as the spiral vessels and their beautiful terminations; and he stated further that corals, which had been supposed to be marine plants, were on the contrary marine animals, of wonderful habits.

Speaking of the minute formation of the vegetable kingdom, the lecturer quoted from Dr. Prichard, that "it would occupy the leisure of an extended life to make one acquainted with the floral products of the humblest flower garden." He next gave some of the results of examination in the animal kingdom. Hairs, for instance, had been found to be composed of an aggregation of cells, their color depending upon a quantity of pigment deposited in or about each cellule. The microscope developed to us the arrangements of the perspiratory pores of the human skin, the number of which amounted to about two thousand millions. The lecturer then said that the Microscope enabled us to see the circulation of the blood in the fin or tail of a small fish; and that there certainly can be nothing more pleasing or wonderful than a sight of the blood corpuscles coursing rapidly along the capillary ends of the arteries into those of the veins; and that the blood corpuscles in man are of a circular flattened form.

In examining insects, we again detect wonders by the aid of the microscope, which without it we could never have imagined. Thus, for instance, this instrument told us that the common house fly had not less than eight thousand eyes, and the dragon-fly about 25,000, etc.; and that the wings of butterflies, &c., are covered with a fine dust, which produces the beautiful colors by which they are adorned; and that the feet of the house fly are terminated by two claws between which are situated a pair of cushions whereon it walks in safety over perpendicular polished surfaces. Animalcules had been discovered 60 feet below the surface of the earth, as also in mud brought up from a depth of 1600 feet of the ocean. They existed in the fluids of the animal body and in plants, and in the most powerful acids. The smallest animalcules are called *monads*, of which a drop of water contains nearly 500,000,000, and in form resemble snakes, eels, cork-screws, funnels, bells, tops, cylinders, tobacco-pipes, etc. Some lived only a few hours, others a couple of weeks.

In conclusion, the lecturer said he hoped the few remarks he had made were sufficient to show the many ways in which the Microscope is of the greatest importance to the student as well as to the man of scientific acquirements, and of charm and interest to all who desire rational amusement and instruction combined; and he added, should any of his hearers be induced to investigate the inexhaustible field opened to them by the Microscope, they would never regret having commenced the study of so useful and fascinating a science.

Mr. Murphy then illustrated, by the aid of the Luccinal Microscope, several of the very interesting facts connected with the minute formations of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, to which he had called attention in his lecture; some of them appeared to us as being specially worthy of note:—A transverse section of mahogany, the magnified image clearly showing the annual layers of growth, and the pores through which the sap ascends from the roots to the branches and leaves for their nourishment;—the sting, tongue, mouth, and legs of the honey bee, the latter displaying the pockets whereby the insect carries to its hive a winter store of pollen, or *bee bread*. The tongue of the field moth was also a very beautiful object. A spider was magnified nearly four feet in length, showing the enormous fangs with which it seizes and destroys its prey. A couple of East India flies appeared to be much admired. Butterflies' wings, as well as the tracheae, or breathing tubes, taken from caterpillars and other insects, were very interesting objects. The "water devil"—the most voracious of the insect tribe—also attracted much attention; it is furnished with terrible jaws and other weapons of destruction, by which [the lecturer informed us] it is enabled to grasp and destroy creatures much larger than itself. Another insect magnified to a great size, the "*Cineer Lectularius*," which, despite of the scientific name, was instantly recognised by the audience as the unwelcome visitor to their sleeping apartments. There were many other very interesting objects, which want of space alone prevents us noticing. At the conclusion, Mr. Murphy was requested to exhibit a few views with the Magic Lantern, which he kindly complied with. Among them we noticed specially "Napoleon's Tomb, St. Helena;" "Ross Castle, Lakes of Killarney;" "A night view of the City and Bay of Naples, with Mount Vesuvius in a state of eruption;" a beautiful view of the Place d'Armes and French Cathedral of our good City; this was quite appropriately a winter scene, with sleighs passing and repassing on the square. We were particularly struck with the artistic merits of this representation—the prominent points of the magnificent edifice standing out in bold relief. We understand that it was painted in London, from a drawing and description sent by Mr. Murphy. The evening's entertainment was closed by a chromatrope view, which had a most surprising effect, and displayed in the centre the word—"ADIEU!"

On Saturday last, His Lordship the Bishop of Toronto, accompanied by the Bishop of Bytown, arrived in Montreal on his way to Quebec. The Bishop of Toronto is, we are happy to say, apparently in better health than when last in this part of the Province, though certainly he does not spare himself. On Sunday morning he preached in French at 6 o'clock at the *Recollet* church; at forenoon High Mass, he preached in English in St. Patrick's church; after Vespers, he preached in French in the Parish church; and again at 6 p.m., he preached in French in the Bonsecours church. Pretty well for one day.

On Monday, their Lordships of Toronto and Bytown started for Quebec; where, we believe, they will remain some time. The health of His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec is still precarious, though we are happy to learn that it is decidedly ameliorating.

"THE DAY."—From all parts of Canada, and the United States, we have accounts of the festivities with which the Sons of St. Patrick celebrated the anniversary of their patron saint. We are happy to see that everywhere in the States the day passed over quietly; and that the good conduct, and truly Christian demeanor of the Catholic Irish disappointed the expectations of a row, which had been entertained by the "Know-Nothings" and other rowdies. At Toronto, Bytown, and Kingston, the Irish turned out in great force, and concluded the festivities of the day with the customary banquets.

"Parliament will adjourn on Thursday next, until Monday week, on account of the number of *Fêtes d'obligation*."—*Commercial Advertiser*, Wednesday.

The meaning of the above paragraph is obviously to represent the Catholic Church as impeding the business of the country by its numerous "*fêtes d'obligation*," and as enforcing their observance upon Protestants. Now, it so happens that betwixt "*Thursday next*," the 29th instant, and "*Monday week*," the 9th April, there does not occur one single "*fête d'obligation*" the observance of which is enjoined by the Catholic Church. In England, it is customary to observe an Easter recess; and we believe that it is common amongst Protestants to keep Good Friday as a Festival, perhaps because Catholics observe it as a solemn Fast, though not as a day of abstinence from toil. But in the Ecclesiastical Calendar of the Catholic Church, there does not occur a single "*fête d'obligation*" betwixt the 25th of March, and the Feast of the Ascension, which falls this year on the 17th of May.

We are happy to learn that the lectures of the dirty fellow Fowler, to whom we alluded last week, have been stopped at Quebec.

TREATISE ON THE "IMMACULATE CONCEPTION." Translated from the French of Cardinal Lambruschini, by Mrs. Sadlier. D. & J. Sadlier, Montreal.

We have just received, and too late for an extended notice, a copy of this admirable treatise, which we confidently recommend to the Catholic readers. In our next we shall have more to say about this valuable work.

"CHATEAU LESCURE; OR, THE LAST MARQUIS." A story of Brittany and La Vendée. New York: Ed. Dunigan & Brother.

A pretty little tale, pleasantly told, of the French Revolution of 1792; and of that heroic struggle long maintained by the loyal Bretons and Vendéens against cut-throats of the Convention, which has reflected immortal glory upon the France of a Lescure and a La Rochejaquelin, and almost makes us forget that the same France was also the country of a Marat, a Jourdan *coupé-tête*, a Collet d'Herbois, a Carrier, and the other foul monsters, the legitimate spawn of modern democracy—the mere mention of whose names is an offence against decency and humanity.

"THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION." A Dogma of the Catholic Church. By J. D. Bryant, M.D. Boston: P. Donahoe.

This treatise on the late Papal definition, is accompanied with the approbation of the Bishops of Philadelphia and Boston; who, having duly examined it, "recommend it to the perusal of the Catholic community." The work is handsomely printed, on excellent paper, and is brought out in Mr. Donahoe's best style.

We have received the first number of a new Catholic Journal, published at St. Louis, and edited by the well known J. V. Huntingdon, Esq., late editor of the *Metropolitan*. We need not add that, under such editorial management, the *Leader* is sure to prove a valuable addition to our Catholic press; and that we heartily wish it, and its talented editor—"God speed."

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Rawdon, E. Corcoran, 12s 6d; Barrie, S. Baxter, 15s; Pointe Claire, Wm. Carroll, 6s 3d; Tyendinago, J. Gargan, 12s 6d; Brantford, Rev. J. Ryan, 10s; Toronto, Rev. J. O'Neill, 15s; Tracadie, N.B., Rev. F. Gaurreau, 12s 6d.

Per Mr. Heaphy, Kemptville—D. Deighan, 5s; R. McCabe, 5s; J. Longhlin, 5s; D. Chalk, 5s; S. Tanne, 10s; M. Cass, 5s; N. Gower, M. Donahoe, 5s.

Per D. P. McDonald, St. Raphaels—Self, 7s 6d; Capt. J. Kennedy, 12s 6d; J. A. Kennedy, 12s 6d; A. McDonnell, 6s 3d; N. Lancaster, J. McDonnell, 6s 3d.

Per J. O'Sullivan, Prescott—Rev. E. P. Roche, 12s 6d; F. Colliane, 2s 6d.

Per M. O'Leary, Quebec—C. Alleyne, £1 10s; R. Roy, 15s; C. F. Gaurreau, 15s; T. Bogue, 15s; P. Lawler, £1 2s 6d; J. Lane, 15s; C. F. Hamel, 15s; Seminary, 15s; Rev. Mr. Horan, 15s; Rev. Mr. Forques, 15s; Rev. Mr. Baillarge, 15s; J. Ryan, 12s 6d; St. Henry, Rev. Mr. Grenier, 12s 6d; St. Anne, Rev. Mr. Garipey, 12s 6d.

Per Rev. M. Bourret, St. Anne de la Pocatiere—St. Roch des Aulnais, A. Dionne, 10s.

Per Rev. J. McNulty, Toronto—Rev. J. Symott, 12s 6d; Mara, A. P. McDonald, 12s 6d; P. Clarke, 12s 6d; T. Healy, 12s 6d.

Died.

At New York, on Monday, March 26, after a lingering illness, Mrs. Mary Lindsay, in the 76th year of her age, a native of Enniskillen, county Fermanagh, Ireland.

NOTICE TO UNDERTAKERS.

TENDERS for the ERECTION and COMPLETION of a STONE BUILDING (Presbytery) will be received by the undersigned, at Sherrington, until the 12th of April next, from whom Plans and Specifications may be obtained on application, by letter or otherwise.

Rev. JOSEPH GRATON,
Or PATRICK HALPIN.
Sherrington, 27th March.