

slave of his own passions, and unworthy of obedience or respect; and, again, when I see women with blighted hearts, coming to the altar of the Most High, and vowing love and truth to one man, when they have long before bestowed all the affection they possessed on another.

What are the general consequences of such marriages? Disunion, discord, scandalous divorces, and separation; neglect and bad example to the children 'lent them by the Lord,' and for whose souls they will have to render an awful account. Better, I say, far better, such women.

"This sad world should leave,  
And seek a spot, in mercy lent,  
A home before the grave."

Sir, I give you full leave to publish this letter, when, and where you please, though fully aware many persons will censure the opinions I have advanced in it, as the crude ideas of a Protestant Dissenter. Such, I thank God, I am not, but will support those opinions from Holy Writ, if necessary, and remain, sir,

A PROTESTANT CLERGYMAN.

### THE CHARITABLE IRISH SOCIETY.

An Annual Meeting of the above Institution was held at Masons' Hall on Tuesday evening, 17th inst, at which over one hundred members attended. The large amount of £46, quarterly dues, was collected, which, with the amount available in the Treasurer's hands, make a total of £102, £20 of which was voted to the Fuel Fund at St Mary's, the rest to be left at the disposal of the Committee of Charity.

After the Routine business was over, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected as Officers for the ensuing year, viz:—

J. B. Uniacke, Esq, President.	
L. O. C. Doyle, Esq, Vice President.	
Mr B. O'Neill, 1st Ast.	} Vice Presidents.
Mr L. White, 2d do.	
Mr J. Wallace, Treasurer.	
Mr J. W. Quinan, Secretary.	
Mr W. Walsh, Ast. do.	

The Society resolved to have a Procession and Dinner on the Anniversary of their Tutelar Saint, 17th March next.

The following letter has been addressed to us by the worthy and efficient President of the St. Mary's and St Patrick's Temperance Society. Father Nugent is well able to defend the excellent body over which he presides, and we have no doubt that this wanton and unmerited attack from one whose motives must be so transparent, will only serve to promote the welfare of a Society which has already accomplished so much good. *Ne sutor ulira crepidam* is a maxim consecrated by the wisdom of ages; but, nevertheless, sometimes sadly forgotten in Halifax.

[To the Editor of the Cross.]

Sir—Perhaps you would allow me to make a remark or two, upon a speech delivered by Mr Joseph Quinan at a recent meeting of the Halifax Temperance Society, as reported in the Morning Post of this day.

Mr. Quinan "had no doubt that the Temperance cause in this city was retrograding," although Mr. Murdoch in his opening address to the Society 'spoke cheerfully of the

progress of 'Temperance.' It is quite evident that both speakers could not have alluded to the same Society, and the fact that Mr. Quinan attributes the decline of Temperance, 'not to any apathy here,' shows very clearly the object of his insinuation.

I think it quite clear that the Temperance Society of which I am President, could alone have been aimed at, and though it were true that I had neglected to discharge my duty in that capacity,—yet would it ill become a Catholic to stand up in the midst of an almost exclusively Protestant assembly to publish that fact to the world, and to tell his audience that some of his clergyman were wolves in sheep's clothing who solemnly, but hypocritically, preached what they laughed at in practice.

Scarcely had the assembly swallowed those metaphorical 'tid-bits'—the 'negroes,' the 'farmers' and the 'dollars,' than up jumps Mr. Quinan to try the effect of the ludicrous once more, draws upon his imagination, and exhibits a very pretty picture of a minister of religion, preaching up temperance, and then rushing down from the pulpit to the 'festive board,' laughing and sneering all the way at the dupes of a cause, in which he has neither trust nor belief.

Allow me to tell the Halifax Temperance Society that the picture drawn by Mr. Quinan is not a true likeness of me, that it is a gross caricature of every clergyman of my acquaintance, and that 'apathy and retrograding' do not exactly describe the position and prospects of a Society which has added more to its numbers during the two last months, manro all the 'apathy there' than any Temperance Society in the province during the two last years.

Is it not singular that ministers of religion could listen in silence to the innuendos affecting the character of clergymen, of whom they had no reason whatever to form an ill opinion? Persons who listen with complacency to the abuse unjustly heaped upon others, may soon have to undergo the same ordeal themselves.

I shall conclude by assuring all the parties concerned, that the St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Temperance Society stands in too high a position to be affected by the rash presumption of a man like Joseph Quinan, or by the ill-judged acquiescence of a portion of his auditory. I am, sir, yours, &c.,

JOHN NUGENT,

President of the St. Mary's and St. Patrick's  
Temperance Society.

St Mary's, Halifax, Ash Wednesday, 1846.

### LITERATURE.

#### CONFRATERNITY OF THE SACRED HEART.

##### PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS.

Continued.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart has had numerous opponents from the commencement, and probably has to the present moment, even among christians; but if they deliberately and dispassionately view its object and its end, as explained above, instead of finding any thing to alarm christian prudence, they will find nothing but what is calculated to command their praise and admiration: and it may be truly said that it can only be opposed by those who will not be convinced by the force of reasoning, by the evidence of facts, by the weight of authority, nor by the best authenticated miracles; for the present devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is based upon those solid proofs. Such folks are accustomed to believe only what they will see with their own