The True Witness.

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE,

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G. E. CLERK, Editor.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

After a long and stormy passage, the Europa has arrived at Halifax, but brings nothing very interesting in the shape of news. The French and British journals are occupied in discussing the affairs of this Continent, and the probability of an arrangement between North and South-Le Pays pretends that Loui: Napoleon has addressed the authorities at Washington on the subject, proposing terms of accomodation; but as the only terms possible, or conceivable even, comprise the recognition by the Yankees of the independence of the Southern States, and as no other terms would be listened to for a moment by the gallant Southerners-we attach little consequence to these on dits of the European press. "Secession" is now un fait accompli; and the only question to settle is one of boundaries, and of the geographical extent of the Confederate Republic.

The most important event since we last wrote has been the raising of the blockade of Charleston by the Confederate Navy; which sallying out, attacked, and destroyed several of the Yankee cruisers, and drove off the remainder. Thus, virtually and according to the laws of maritime warfare, which the Yankees insist upon applying to others, the blockade has been raised by force, and cannot be legally reimposed till after the expiration of another 60 days' notice to all non-beligerents. There has been skirmshing, but with no important results in the West, and everywhere the Southerners hold their own stoutly against their invaders. As it is now evident that the Yankee Jacobins are unable to save the bosiness, are by no means a match for the Southleston.

TROUBLES OF ANGLICANISM .- Though many an angry storm has the "Church as by Law Established" had to pass: and hitherto these storms it has weathered pretty well, by the simple expedient of throwing overboard the cargo to preserve the hull. In other words, by sacrificing its positive doctrines, it has managed to retain its emoluments, its legal privileges, and the property which, at the epoch of the great apostacy of the XVI. century, it stole from the Catholic Church. Of the latter, the endowments, and the property. the hull as it were, the crew of the Establishment have been always remarkably careful; towards the cargo, or doctrines of which the hull by a popular superstition was supposed to be the guardian or depositary, the same crew have always been equally indifferent, whenever some passing storm seemed to expose the good ship itself to peril. By adherence to this system of tactics the "Church as by Law Established" has maintained its corporate existence to the present day.

But now a new and more formidable danger But now a new and more formidable danger in the other's opinion contradicts, gaineays, and vili-menaces it; one from which no wholesale throw- fies the doctrines of the Church. They have at last, ing overboard of cargo, or doctrines, will deliver it; and indeed by this time the vessel's hold is pretty nigh empty, and cargo, or positive doctrine to throw overboard, there is, strictly speaking none of any consequence left. The vital doctrine of " Baptism" has been tossed to the angry waves long ago: the Sacrament of the Eucharist has shared the same fate: and the late heavy gales consequent upon the appearance of " Essays and Reviews," and Bishop Colenso's "Book on the Pentateuch," have proved fatal to everything in the degmatical line that the Gorham and Denison gales had spared. The hull, however, was apparently sale, and the crew staunch as ever-determined to stand by their shovel hats, and their endowments to the last; when the new storm,

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upon them. We will describe it in the words of the London Times:

There are signs about us that the Established Ohurch is entering upon a different ordeal from any she has yet gone through. It is no doctrinal crisis, no secession, no row, no succession of clerical meetings, no judgment in the Ecclesiastical Courts. It is a perfectly noiseless, quiet, and practical ordeal. It is simply this -that the number of men of education and social position who enter into Orders is becoming less and less every year, and that the void has to be filled up by an inferior class, commonly called 'literates,' who have not been at the Universities. This change is now going on rapidly. It is no longer confined to the Northern diocesses; it has invaded the Midland, and even the Southern .-If it continues to advance in the ratio of the last three or four years, in a very few years' time University men will be the exception in the Church -There could not be a state of things more appalling to the old-fashioned friend of the Establishment .-Imagine the dignitary of the old school, the finished gentleman, the polite scholar, versed in all the arts of life, being told that the day would come when the great mass of clergy would be 'literates;' how he would shudder at the thought! He would pardon a good deal of latitudinarianism, even a good deal of judicious and well-bred scepticism; he would excuse even a little enthusiasm in the scion of a good family; but one thing he would not tolerate,-the absence of the usual guarantees and tests of the gentleman. But so it is. The prospect is now actually before us. More than half the ordinations of the diocess of Lichfield, and nearly balt those of Winchester this time were of 'literates. Things are beginning to look serious. The Established Ohurch depends, perhaps more than any other religious body in the world, upon the social position of its clergy for its influence. Should the clergy as a body, then, lose caste, and should the image of that particular combination which they at present exhibit of professional activity and earnestness, with polish and good education-an image which tells now so powerfully upon the national nind-be lost, it is impossible to tell what might be the ultimate results of such a change.

The above clearly indicates the severity of the tempest which has burst upon the good ship, and menaces to overwhelm it. That which, as the Times truly observes, has all along been the respectability, and literary attainments of its crew -is now in imminent danger of being lost for ever. Anglicanism has all along been the most gentlemanly form of heresy; and, as a general rule, its professors have been scholars and gentlemen. It is this which has chiefly distinguished them from, and given to them their superiority over the dissenting sects; and it is therefore clear that if this, their only claim to respect be withdrawn,-that if the crew, the Bishops and inferior clergy, sink to the social and intellectual level of the Methodists, the Baptists, and other ecclesiastical privateers who even now infest the high seas of heresy, and assert their equality with the regularly commissioned "Establishment"the latter must soon be paid off as no longer seaworthy, and broken up as useless. This is the danger which the Times points out, and from which there is at present, no prospect of escape

How the crew of the storm-tossed ship will act under these difficult circumstances, it is impossible to say. Some of them, the more highminded and consistent, will perhaps take service under the Cross, and enter themselves upon the book of the Catholic Church, which is also the Union, and that the Northerners though smart in Book of Lufe. But the majority will, we suppose, simply retire from active service altogether; erners in the field, great efforts are being made and scorning, as gentlemen, to serve with such a to raise a force of "niggers." The Confederates, set as are now, by the Times' report, enlisting by its intestine strifes, by its unseemly squabbles, if any of these escaped slaves fall into their hands, on board of the "Establishment," or to associate will probably and very properly hang them, as with them as messmates, will leave the vessel to engaged in a servile war, and this will provoke be managed as best she may, by its new officers retaliation from the North, so that the contest and crew; and these we may be pretty well sure will soon degenerate into one of reprisals. A will very soon contrive to run the crank and great naval expedition has started to attack Char- ricketty old craft amongst the breakers, where it will speeddy go to pieces.

> For this catastrophe, the Times hints that the present crew are in a great measure responsible. They, by their incessant squabbles and disorderly behaviour at mess, have contrived to make Her Majesty's Ecclesiastical Service unpopular and disreputable; and so, as a necessary consequence. gentlemen of refinement, of delicate conscience. and of quiet orderly habits, decline entering it. It is true also that, of late years, the pay has been somewhat reduced, and that promotion is neither so brisk nor so certain as it once was; and these considerations have of course had their share in deterring well educated gentlemen from entering the Ecclesiastical Service; but, says the Times, there are other causes at work, which produce the same results:-

"Other causes besides pecuniary ones, perhaps, contribute to this formidable shrinking from the pro-fession of the Church on the part of men of educa-The last twenty years have been eminently prolific of theological strife. The two parties in the Church have been abusing one another virulently, summoving each other before the Ecclesiastical Courts, and charging each other with impudence and dishonesty in retaining Church benefices when each by great perseverance, managed to impress upon a large class the ides that nobody knows what the doctrines of the Church are, and that therefore anybody who takes Orders and subscribes to the Articles and Prayer-Book exposes himself to the worst comments of his next neighbor, who may immediately denounce him as a traitor, a liar, and a hypocrite. It is true that the great mass of clergy in the country make very tolerable neighbors, notwithstanding the hard words which are banded to and fro in party periodicals, and cultivate their spiritual and earthly gardens with as much seconity and benignant cheerfulness as if their reputation had not been blasted and their names made a hissing. See that fine open face, with sunshine in its expression, health in its hue, and genial humor on its lips; the wearer has just left some rose trees which he has been setting, and is proceeding on a visit of inspection to his hot-house, thence to his orchard-house; he gives a look to the peach trees on the way, and ascertains that some eeble-looking unils on the wall are all right. He is a very good sort of man although he has his little What does it signify to him that upon the theory o

him once a week-he is a flagrant impostor and a perjurer, who has sworn to certain doctrines and holds the contrary ones? The elder and settled members of the clerical body no more feel the weight of these charges and counter-charges than they that of their own skins. They regard it as a good old immemorial usage, like the fight of St. George and the Kiug of Egypt in the Ohristmas drama - a usage which does nobody alive any harm, and it is absolutely confined to paper. But young minds are not made quite of the same stuff as older ones; they are apt to lie under the extreme delusion that people really mean what they say; they are serious about things when older minds see the complete nonsense of them. All this accumulation of mutual abuse and censure is now telling upon the minds of younger men, who feel shy of putting themselves within the reach of such comments, and therefore avoid the Church as a profession. And it must be remarked that one reason often confirms another in a calculation. When persons feel the pecuniary obstacle to entering the Church, the controversial one comes in as a strong second; when the controversial one is brought home to them, the pecuniary one steps into the second post."- Times.

And that such must be the case where men look upon "the Church as a profession," and not as a "vocation," or sublime calling to the more immediate service of God, it needs no argument to prove. In England, the "Church as by Law Established" is a "profession," in the same sense that the Army, the Navy, and the Bar, are professions; which men enter with a view to their own personal interests, to the promotion of their fortunes in life, and for the gratification of their peculiar tastes, without the slightest reference to higher or spiritual motives. A young Oxford gentleman takes what are called 'HOLY ORDERS" in the Anglican Church, with the aspirations and objects that his other brothers take, one an appointment in the Navy or to India, and another a Commission in the Army, or a Cadetship at Woolwich. He does so because, great support of the Establishment-the social piece of ecclesiastical preferment, in the gift of a relation or friend; just as his other brothers select the Navy or Army as their respective professions, because the family has interest with the Admiralty, or at the Horse Guards. In this we do not pretend to say that there is anything dishonorable; or that the conduct of the young man who selects the "Church as by Law Established" as his "profession," is a whit more resprehensible than that of his other brothers who severally select the Army, the Navy, the Bar, or the Indian Civil Service, as their professions. But we do say that a Church which is recruited by easy, and not as especially called thereunto by Christ, as to a service which exacts of all its members, self-sacrifice, and the renunciation of earth and all that earth can offer, must necessarily be subject to all the vicissitudes to which other professions are subject; and must expect to be abandoned by the ablest and most enterprising, when it no longer holds out to its members brilliant prospects of high pay, speedy promotion, and advancement in life.

This is the actual condition of Her Majesty's Ecclesiastical Service. It no longer attracts the highly educated, and ambitions by its high prizes for talents and energy; and on the other hand, and by its evident disregard of that for which alone a "Church" should be "established"viz., the preservation of dogmatic truth as delivered to the Fathers-it effectually repels the high minded, and strictly conscientious. Its ranks therefore are, and must be, recruited from an inferior class-trom a class lower, socially, intellectually and morally; and the fate of a Government Department thus served, and thus held in contempt, cannot, we think, long be deferred.

Is not our contemporary the Irish Canadian of Toronto unreasonable, not to say captious? Are not his strictures upon our qualified approbation of the Irish Canadian, as unjust, as they are ridiculous? Wherein we could praise, we freely praised: wherein we were ignorant—we abstained from either praise or consure, of any kind. Of the material execution of our new contemporary, we had sensible evidence before our eyes, as we had also of its excellent selections; and of these we spoke in terms of frankest commendation. But " of its principles," as " we know nothing, so also we said nothing." It is this that the Irish Canadian complains of as unbandsome treatment-as " the cavils of the TRUE Wir-NESS." The very head and front of our offending has this extent—that there, where we could say anything in lavor of our Toronto contemporary, tion of His Grace the Archbishop of New York, used for a variety of reasons by the small traders we we spoke out; and that there, where from ignor- has been pleased to give its unqualified approbaance we were unable to say anything, we held tion of the principles of the Irish Canadian, as our peace.

to the terms in which this document is drawn up, race are to be found," is zeal for and attachment the Irish Canadian is to be:-

"Devoted to the interests of the Irish people of Canada, and to a more Thorough Development of their National Character."

We have read these words most attentively, and have to the very best of our abilities, but in vain, endeavored to extract from them some positive or definite meaning; and we suspect that, if the truth could be told, not only other writers thereof themselves, are in the same predicament. Dictionary and Grammar in band. English; such as men use towards one another acted very imprudently and inconsistently—to communicating, and revealing, not for witholding or concealing their inward thoughts-and in sheer despair we have cast Grammar and Dictionary to the ground. From the depths of our moral consciousness-even as the German artist endeavored to evolve the idea of a camel from his-have we endeavored, but fruitlessly, to evolve some meaning for the twenty mysterious ditable to the "modern civilization" of the words which stand at the head of the Irish Canadian's Prospectus. Look at them as we would, we could not conceive even of any interpretation that might legitimately be attached to them. "Interests of the Irish People in Canada!" we read-and we asked ourselves wherein can the "Irish people in Canada"-abstraction being made of their religion-have, or be conceived even as having, any interests distinguishable from the interests of the Scotch people, or the Welch people, or the German people, or the English neonle, or any other people in Canada? perhaps, there is some good fat living or other This question, after long and careful study, we from noticing them, it is because not having have abandoned as unanswerable; but if our querulous contemporary will furnish us with an answer, we will gladly publish it.

Again we have hopelessly puzzled, may we say obfuscated ourselves, by repeated but ineffectual efforts to fathom the mystery involved in the projected "More Thorough Development | company. of their National Character." The design may be most landable, and most feasible; but of what that design is we have not any, the most remote conception. If the writer has, will be for the benefit of his readers his contemporaries, and for the benefit of posterity, be pleased to put such men, and from such motives; whose office- it into plain English. The remainder of the bearers enter it as a profession, lucrative and | Prospectus is couched in the following terms :-" Apart from the success of the Irish Canadian in a commercial point of view, it will lay a higher claim to the patronage of the Irish public. Having no personal or interested motives to serve, and the Editorial Department being placed, by a strict supervision of the Managing Directors, beyond the reach of outside influences, it will prove a reliable and earnest exponent of National opinion. To foster and encourage union and harmony among Irishmen on this soil and elsewhere will be its peculiar mission, and humbly to contribute in elevating the National character shall be its highest ambition. Free and untrammeled by the ties of party, it shall always be found on the side of justice and truth, demanding for those whom it professes to serve a fair and equal share of the privileges which should be accorded to all - and

.From the above utterances we can extract naught to enlighten us as to the part which the Irish Canadian intends to take in those great social and politico-religious questions now viosent and future generations depends. Upon these bit the stone, and not the hand that threw it. great questions, amongst which we include the 1. Where were this trate Editor's burning Question of Education, involving the respective Philippics against the dastard Peel, who from his rights of the State and the Family; the Repre- jaunting car of happy memory overlooked the sentation question, in which is involved the question of the autonomy of Lower Canada; and the unblushing front hed before the world-" There question of the integrity and inviolability of the is no distress in Western Ireland." Echo with property of our Religious Communities—the Irish Canadian must either take some decided attitude, or he must remain neutral. If neutral upon these questions, in which alone we profess to take any interest-we are perfectly indifferent to his future career; if he adopt a position in any degree hostile to the interests of the Catholic we hope that his career may be a swift and disastrous failure; but if he should adopt the Ca- may):tholic side on these questions, and maintain it in his columns, then in that case, we assure him that the TRUE WITNESS will be his sincere friend, and will beartily rejoice in his success.

The Irish Canadian indeed suggests that we ought not to be so very scrupulous; and that, particular-a journal enjoying the public sanc-" the principles which need to be disseminated navelty. John Francis M'Guire, Mayor of Cork. What more would our contemporary have? - wherever individuals of the Irish race are has anticipated it by nearly two months; and If we cannot read the riddle of his Prospectus, found" - the TRUE WITNESS might have is it not more honorable on our part to confess indepted a similar course. To this plausible reour inability, and to refrain from all comment, monstrance our reply shall be brief. The N. whether friendly or hostile, than it would be to Y. Metropolitan Record would no doubt, it pretend to a spiritual insight which we do not questioned on the subject, reply, that "the prin- portunely to its hands by the Mayor of Cork, possess, and to criticise that which we cannot ciples which, above all others, need to be has not dared as yet to accept this gloss upon its understand? But to convince our contempor- disseminated wherever individuals of the Irish, text. Can it be then that it really meant what ary how alien to our design it is to wrong hun, race are found," by all those who address them it said, and not what his Worship of Cork, and or to distort his meaning, we here cheerfully re- as public instructors, are principles of fidelity to the three-days Honorable of Toronto would produce in its integrity, all that portion of his the Catholic Church, of inviolable attachment to wish to make it mean? (Query. Could not the Prospectus, which refers to the "principles" the Holy See, and of obedience to the Bishops Globe write to the Times by the next post, to upon which the Irish Canadian is to be con- and Pastors legitimately placed over them. The ask to know what it did really say? and more ducted; omitting those portions only which re- N. Y. Record would no doubt say that the important still - what it did really mean? An tastes, and looks after his poor and is liked by them. late to business, or the pecuniary department of "paramount desideratum," the one thing needful intimation accompanying u-that the Hon. G. which we are about to detail-has suddenly come his next clerical neighbor-who, however, dines with the journal. Now in the first place, according for the Irish, "wherever individuals of the Irish Brown's "friend" would wait upon the control

to the religion preached by St. Patrick, and hitherto faithfully preserved by his spiritual children through long ages of persecution. Now if these be indeed the principles which it is the design of the Irish Canadian to insist upon, and disseminate, we regret that he did not say so at once and clearly; in which case we should have spoken out as has the N. Y. Metropolitan readers of the above mystic passage, but the Record. But if these be not the characteristic or distinguishing principles of our Toronto contemporary, then we think that, as a Catholic we have diligently essayed to turn it into plain journalist, the editor of the N. Y. Record has when they employ language as the vehicle for say the least—in giving an unqualified approbation to the principles of the Irish Canadian.

> A SNARL FROM SACERDOS. - Such is the elegant heading of a recent article against " Sacerdos" in the courtly Globe. Taken all in all. and as coming from a "modern liberal," is a right choice production, and one every way cre-Globe. " No faith to be kept with heretics"_ they tell us is a Popish maxim. The Globe has unproved on this, and "No courtesy towards a Popish Priest" is the approved practice of that office. Sir Clodpole is itate because we coglected to notice his first attack. We certainly had no idea that he would deem it a slight, nor had we any intention of offending bun. But if the truth needs must be told, we look in general upon the Globe's attacks on Pope and Popery as part and parcel of his stock-in-trade-the duty means by which he thrives; and if we refrain earned his spors in honorable warfare we object after the most approved rules of ancient chivalry to break a lance with so ignoble an antagonist. His "speciality" is with the bear garden—the bull ring- the cock-pit, or at quarter-staif, and not in the lists, in tilt and " tournie" with courtly

> And in very sooth before we borrowed a conv of that paper to-day from a friend to read "A Snarl," &c., we bad not seen a copy of that paper since October last. We are no reader of the Globe; and for this reason-because we have no faith in the honesty even of its bail intentions. Its "radicalism" is not radicalism from conviction - else would it win our respect at least, if not our admiration. It loves the people only as a stepping-stone to power, and flatters their passions for its own aggrandisement. Even its bluster against Catholicity is not genuine .--The Bank of Bigotry, as times go, pays the best dividend, and its notes are prized by the Globe accordingly. Were it otherwise to morrow, we should see, as we have seen, the Globe how hing down with the Catholic lamb.

> Before entering upon the discussion of the particulars of this affair, we would ask Mr. Globe two plain questions.

I. How does it happen that he directs his anger against poor humble Sacerdos, and not against the Mighty Thunderer? The Sparl was begotten of the Times and not Sacerdos. Surely lently agitated in the Province; and upon the so- then to blame Sacerdos and not the Times, were lution of which the moral well being of the pre- to imitate the insensate conduct of the cur, who

dead and dying of Western Ireland; and with mocking and reproachful voice answers-Where?

With apparent candor this Sir Quixote, in his insane battlings for the fair damsels held in thraldom by Giant Famine, admits that if these £4,000,000 in the people's Banks du belong to the starving operatives, then indeed they are inpostors. But the truth is, he says,-(and mark Church, and to the autonomy of Lower Canada, you, gentle reade, 'tis lus assertion only-the ipse dixit of the Globe; value that as you

"But the truth is, the deposits in the Savings Banks are the property to a very large extent"-(how large exactly, Mr. Editor? that's the question) -" of the small tradesmen whose shops are shut up. The amount" -- (part of it, you mean) -- "represents the capital upon which these people have been accustorned to trade. * * The reason the Li-1000,000 has come to be mentioned"—(by the Times, wind you, first, and Sucerdos ofterwards) -- " as the property of seeing that the N. Y. Metropolitan Record in the laboring class, arises mainly from the fact, that the Savings Banks are institutions especially established for that chars, but which are nevertheless

An ingenious theory certainly! but I sking yet the Times, seeing the different interpretations given to its words - the wrangling and jarrings they have occasioned, and having this Right Worshipful explanation made for it so op-