

sympathies of their illustrious Bishops." After reciting the tactics of the Land League, which he defends, he points out that "of course, in righting great wrongs which have obtained for centuries, some few amiable people may *per accidens* get rudely jostled in the crowd. But, if we mistake not, deeply rooted cancers are not removed without a writhing of pain; neither can the heavy, oppressive atmosphere be purified from azote, without storms which not unfrequently, whilst doing their purifying work, blow down a decayed old house here and there, root up some sapless trees that encumber the ground—and even scatter the golden grain in the plenteous barnyards. And, if we remember aright, those terrible people in Boston when they got 'real mad' did not stop long to consider that the tea they flung into the harbor was not their own."

It cannot, unfortunately, be denied that certain branches of the Land League organization in America have in their proceedings disgraced the cause they pretend to uphold. There is, for instance, the case of the Natick, Mass. branch, so trenchantly exposed in the article, "The Truth without Fear or Favor," which we publish elsewhere. Assuming the facts in this case to be such as they are represented by the *Catholic Universe*, we think with our contemporary "it is full time to cry a halt with the zealots who are injuring the very cause they profess to have at heart."

Owing to the wide circulation of the *Toronto Globe*, the letters of its Irish Commissioner must have already done immenso good among a class of people crammed from their infancy with anti-Irish prejudices. We consider Mr. Thompson's services, as an exposé of the evils of Landlordism, even more effective than the letters of Mr. Redpath and Mr. Locke. He does not indulge in such spicy language; introduces no rhetorical flights, but tells a plain unvarnished tale which carries conviction with it.

Life in Kilmainham prison, as described by the *Globe* Commissioner, is slow torture. The cells are dark and poorly ventilated, the inmates suffer frequently in winter from the cold—which is better, however, than the rush of foul, heated air, which is sometimes let in the cells through the pipes. Slowly, but unerringly, this poisonous air does its work; and in a few weeks the stoutest frame succumbs to it. Each prisoner is locked up in his cell eighteen hours out of the twenty-four. The strictest watch is kept upon the prisoners by the guards. While the authorities are aware of the deadly work the noisome air about the prison, and the long hours of confinement are doing, they refuse to take any steps to make the condition better.

WANTED!—A NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

That the Minister of Education is well disposed towards Separate Schools, we have no reason to doubt.

That he will, of himself, spontaneously, introduce measures of amendment and reform, or impose unasked-for favors upon us, we have no right to expect.

Since Mr. Crooks assumed office he has always been willing to receive practical suggestions from proper quarters, and has never hesitated to embody points of improvement, or supposed improvement, when duly recommended, in his Acts legislating upon schools.

If we have not obtained very many things that we want, honestly now, is it not because we have not asked for them?

What is worth having is worth asking for. It is foolish not to exercise the right of petition. Ask and you shall receive. (*Revised Version.*)

Now, suppose we unite in a respectful demand for something we badly want—a useful New Year's gift, if granted; and we see no reason why it should not.

Suppose we request Mr. Crooks to appoint a properly qualified Catholic teacher to the Inspectorship vacated by Mr. Buchan, and confine his duties to the Separate Schools of the Province, which he shall, from time to time, visit, inspect, examine and report upon.

Some months ago Mr. Buchan was appointed Principal of Upper Canada College. His successor, as High School Inspector, has not yet been named. Shortly after his transfer to the College, there appeared a semi-official announcement that it was not the intention of the Department to fill the vacant Inspectorship, as the work heretofore done by three officers could be distributed between Messrs. McLellan and Marling, without impairing its efficiency. But the *Mail* pretends to know that the office is kept open for Mr. Buchan's return, should the Legislature, at its approaching session, decide to abolish Upper Canada College, in which case his usefulness, as Principal, would be gone.

We have no means of knowing the Minister's intentions in the matter; but whatever they are, they cannot impair in the least the reasons that exist for the appointment of an Independent Inspector of Separate Schools, and the justice of our demand.

It is now one of the duties of High School Inspectors to visit, inspect and report upon Separate Schools, at such times as the Minister may direct.

We have already pointed out that these High School Inspectors are not competent to perform this duty with profit to the schools; first, because, not being Catholics, they do not understand the aim of Catholic education, and are wanting in the requisite sympathy with teachers; second, because they are too *high-toned*, in an educational sense, to form an accurate opinion of the work done in elementary and secondary schools. An Inspector or Examiner ought to have had experience in teaching grades similar to those in which he