

The True Witness.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, AUG. 13, 1858.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Niagara is telegraphed, but her European news is of little interest. In India there has been some more fighting, the advantage being altogether on the side of the British troops.

TO OUR READERS.

With the present issue we commence the 9th volume of the TRUE WITNESS; and we avail ourselves of the occasion to address a few words to our readers upon its policy and its prospects.

Of the former, we may content ourselves with observing that it shall still be, as it ever has been, the policy of the TRUE WITNESS to keep aloof from all parties, and to confine itself to the discussion of those questions wherein the interests of religion are involved. In the battles of the "Ins" and the "Outs" we can take no part, except in so far as they may directly, or indirectly, affect us as Catholics. We will still continue to advocate the cause of "Freedom of Education"—that is the emancipation of education from all State control; and the duty of our Colonial Government to adopt towards Orangemen, and all other secret politico-religious organizations, the line of policy indicated in the Address of the House of Commons to His late Majesty, William IV., and applied by the Imperial Government of the present day to the Orangemen of Ireland. That policy may be thus summed up. That it is the duty of the State to discourage all secret politico-religious organizations, by whatsoever name distinguished; and to obtain from promoting the members of any such organizations to situations directly or indirectly connected with the administration of justice. We do not ask that Orangemen be proscribed; but simply that they be not encouraged, or recognized in any manner by the State.

Of our future prospects we may observe that if our readers care for the prolongation of the existence of the TRUE WITNESS, they must shew themselves more punctual for the future, than they have been in the past. Of the dilatoriness, indeed we may say dishonesty, of many of our nominal subscribers, we have but too good reason to complain; and as it is no use appealing to them any more, we intend after this notice to hand over their several accounts to a lawyer, who will know how to compel them to pay their just debts. To those of our subscribers who, notwithstanding the hardness of the times, have faithfully discharged our claims upon them, more especially to our good friends of Montreal and Kingston, we take this opportunity of returning our best thanks. If all our readers would but imitate their punctuality, the finances of the TRUE WITNESS would be in a highly prosperous condition. As some misunderstanding as to our terms of subscription seems to exist, we seize this opportunity of stating what are the conditions upon which we will furnish the TRUE WITNESS.

To all country subscribers, or subscribers receiving their papers through the Post, or calling for them at the office, our terms are, if paid in advance, Two Dollars; if not so paid, then Two Dollars and a half.

To all subscribers whose papers are delivered by carriers, our terms are in like-manner, Two Dollars and a half if paid in advance; but if not paid in advance, then Three Dollars.

ST. PATRICK'S AND IRISH TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES' PIC-NIC.—We would desire to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement in another column, of this spirited effort on the part of our St. Patrick's and Irish Temperance Societies to contribute towards the amusement of their fellow-citizens, and to come to the aid of one of our most important Catholic Institutions—the St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum of this City.

This Institution has special claims on our Irish friends, and we need but to hint to them that its funds stand in need of being replenished to induce them to rush to its assistance. Yet may we be pardoned if we dwell for a moment upon the attractive "Bill of Fare" which the Charitable Societies above named have provided for Wednesday the 18th inst., for all who will favor them with their presence at Guibault's Gardens. It will be seen that beside the attractions of a Panorama of the Russian War, there will be several Balloon ascensions and other amusements suited to all ages. By kind permission of the Colonel, the Band of the 17th Regiment will be upon the ground.

The Pic-Nic will be conducted on strictly Temperance principles; and no efforts will be spared on the part of its promoters to preserve order, and to contribute to the amusement of all who may attend it. The proceeds will be applied to the use of the St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum and its inmates; and it is to be hoped that not only our Catholic friends, but that many of our Protestant fellow-citizens, whose liberality we have had on many a previous occasion to notice, will enliven the gardens with their presence; and whilst promoting their own health and happiness, be the means of furnishing food, clothing, and shelter to the unfortunate little ones whom, in depriving them of their earthly parents, God has especially confided to the care of their more wealthy fellow-creatures.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.—At last the long agony is over, and the crisis has terminated, just as every one of common sense, and endowed with ordinary penetration, foresaw from the moment that the MacDonald-Cartier Ministry resigned, that it would terminate; that is in the *replacage* of the original Cabinet, and in its return to power in a modified, but very slightly modified, form. The following is the course of events since our last, in the order in which they occurred:—

The farce of the Brown-Dorion Ministry having been brought to a conclusion, Mr. Galt was called in, but quickly resigned the task into the hands of Mr. Cartier. After a short consultation with his former colleagues, his arrangements were completed, and the new Ministry, or rather the old Ministry revamped, was gazetted—with Mr. Cartier as Inspector General, and every body else nominated to some office which he was not going to hold. This "dodge" was resorted to, in order to evade the necessity of a re-election; it being more than doubtful whether Mr. Alleyne—especially since his votes in favor of Incorporating the Orange Lodges, of Canada—would be able, in spite of all his manoeuvring, to register some 15,000 votes out of a constituency of less than 7,000. On Saturday morning the cards were again skilfully shuffled, and the Ministry finally assumed the following form:—

Att. General, C. W. Mr. J. A. MacDonald.
Att. General, C. E. Mr. G. E. Cartier.
Solicitor General Mr. Rose.
President of Executive Council Mr. John Ross.
Post Master General Mr. S. Smith.
Inspector General Mr. Galt.
Receiver General Mr. Sherwood.

In fact, except that they have discarded Mr. Cayley, and dropped M. Loranger, who certainly brought with him no accession of force, either moral or intellectual, the present Ministry is but a *rechauffe* of the late MacDonald-Cartier administration; wherein the Orange element is as strong as ever; and which will, we have no doubt, approve itself as hostile to Catholic claims, and as deserving of the Rev. Mr. Ryerson's fulsome compliments to its intelligence, liberality, and contempt for Ecclesiastical influences, as that which was expected to have given up the ghost on the 29th ult. Its future policy is dimly shadowed forth in the Toronto *Colonist* of the 7th ult., from whom we make the following extract:—

"It must therefore be clear to M. Cartier that he cannot go on another year in the same way; that he must find a solution for this question of Representation, and in order that he perform this task well—so much more important is it than all others—we are willing, as representing a considerable part of the non-officials of Upper Canada, that he should hold other points of importance for the time in abeyance. On the School question, public opinion here is as nearly as possible equally divided. So long as Separate Schools do no more harm than they do at this moment, there will be no revolution, even if they are allowed to continue. But in regard to the Representation question, there may be said to be no division. We are all at one, and we are all in earnest about it; and a Government that would come forward to deal with it in a large and broad way would not only have fair play, it would have indulgence, and good will and encouragement."

Thus sweetly sings the *Colonist*, with much more in the same strain; from whence we may easily infer what is the kind of work expected from M. Cartier by his friends; and what the tacit understanding upon which he has been restored to the enjoyment of his official salary, and its perquisites. The conditions are certainly not very honorable; not exactly the conditions which a high minded gentleman, being a French Canadian, and calling himself a Catholic, would accept; but personally, very lucrative conditions notwithstanding, and promising a long tenure of place and patronage—conditions therefore which will very possibly be accepted, and adhered to. They are as follows:—

1. That M. Cartier bring forward a broad measure for swamping French Canadian nationality, and for subjecting Lower Canada to Anglo-Saxon Ascendancy.

2. That if he do this, and so long as he will consent to allow the Separate School clauses for Upper Canada to remain in their present inefficient condition, he shall not be pressed to repeal the said clauses altogether. In short, the conditions are, that as a Minister he shall prove himself false to his country, and false to his God. "Do this"—say his friends to him—"do this, and live an Attorney-General." We fear, from his political antecedents, that M. Cartier will stick to his situation; so long at least as his enemies the "Outs" are unable to drive him from it.

Whilst all these choppings and changings were going on in the Council Chamber, we may be sure that in the great "Talk Shop" of the country there was more violent agitation than usual. If ever men earned their six dollars a day—finding themselves in drink and virtuals—our Provincial Members of Parliament are those men. The quality of the talk was not perhaps quite equal to the quantity; nor of the discourses delivered upon the occasion do we find many worth recording. Mr. McGee made a powerful speech, in which he exposed, and warmly denounced, the bad faith, and the intrigues of the Governor-General. Mr. J. A. MacDonald replied with much asperity; and indulged in a copious effusion of vituperation against the junior member for Montreal, with the eloquence and volubility of an angry old fish-wife. A M. Morn distinguished himself by repeating in the House the sub-

stance of some private conversations that he had held, or pretended to have held, with Mr. Drummond; and many other members performed other equally remarkable feats. But upon the whole, the debates were somewhat stale, flat and unprofitable; and seeing that the public is compelled to pay for them, we think it too hard entirely that it should also be expected to read them.

The result of it all, however, is that, except the exchange of M. M. Galt and Sherwood for M. M. Cayley and Loranger, the present MacDonald-Cartier Ministry is the same as that which was in office during the early part of the Session; which has always steadily refused the slightest instalment of justice to Catholics on the School Question; and which strenuously supported the insolent claims of the Orangemen for an Act of Incorporation. On the other hand, as a consequence of the very clever trick of which they have been the victims, M. M. Brown, Dorion, and their friends, who allowed their names to appear as members of the short-lived "Brown-Dorion" administration, find themselves deprived of their seats in the House, and compelled to submit to the trouble and expense of a new election. Mr. G. Brown of course again presents himself for Toronto, where he will however be stoutly opposed. His friends speak confidently of his prospects; others however who boast of knowing a thing or two, wag their heads ominously, with the remark that if Mr. Brown does get in, it will be a very "tight fit." Thus by a clever dodge, and by a sham resignation, have the Ministry managed to clear the House of some of their most active opponents, during the remainder of the Session of '58.

In the Legislative Council on the 9th inst., Mr. Ferguson gave notice of a motion for an address, praying Her Majesty to reconsider her decision in reference to the Seat of Government. Mr. Wallbridge in the other House on the 7th inst., strongly condemned the jugglery by means of which the members of the Ministry had contrived to avoid the risk of appearing before their constituents, and moved that Mr. Smith had vacated his seat as representative of the North Riding of Northumberland. Mr. McGee spoke in favor of the motion, denouncing the perjury of which Ministers had been guilty in swearing to perform certain duties, which it was their intention, even whilst they were swearing, not to perform. A desultory debate ensued, in the course of which M. Cartier announced the policy of his colleagues. They were to watch the Tariff with a view to its readjustment; they would leave the Seat of Government question in abeyance until Parliament had had an opportunity of considering it in all its bearings; they would anxiously consider the expediency of a Federal Union of the British North American Provinces, entering into communication with the Imperial Government and the Lower Provinces on the subject, and communicating the result to Parliament at its next Session; during the recess they would also examine into the working of the public departments, and devise such reforms as should conduce to economy and efficiency; in the mean time they would draw their quarterly salaries, and endeavour to make themselves as comfortable as possible, under the circumstances in which they found themselves.—Finally Mr. Wallbridge's motion was negatived by a majority of 32 to 14; and the Ministerial trick, for evading the spirit of the Act for securing the independence of Parliament, has been crowned with signal success. In the contemplation of such sublime trickery we stand abashed; and feel that even the "forty parson power of hypocrisy" evoked by the poet, would be insufficient to do justice to the "smartness" of our Canadian statesmen.

MR. BROWN'S POLICY.—We find in the *Globe* of the 9th inst., a full exposition of the policy which it was Mr. Brown's intention to have carried out, had his career as a Minister not been untimely cut short by an adverse vote of the Provincial Legislature. We must confess that in that exposition we can find nothing to justify any sanguine anticipations of his intention to adopt an equitable policy towards Catholics upon the "School Question," incomparably the most important question of the day; nothing certainly to entitle Mr. Brown to the cordial support of the Catholics, either of Upper or of Lower Canada.

It is from Mr. Brown's own lips that we have this exposition, which was made at a great meeting lately held at Toronto in the Royal Exchange. Mr. Brown's speech upon that occasion is reported in the *Globe*; and in that speech we regret to say that we find no indication of any design on the part of the speaker to remove the odious yoke of State-Schoolism from the necks of the Catholic minority of the Upper Province; nor any full assurance of the abandonment of his avowed design to subject the Catholic people of Lower Canada, to Protestant and Anglo-Saxon ascendancy. Mr. Brown's language is however ambiguous—purposely ambiguous no doubt—upon these points; and though he would certainly approve himself in office to be a very different kind of person from Mr. Brown out of office, we must confess that we, as

Catholics, can see no reason why we should either extend to him our forgiveness for the past, or our confidence for the future. The one he must earn by a very full and humble apology; the other, by a frank and unambiguous avowal of his intentions to sin no more, and to lend his aid to the cause of "Freedom of Education."

Three great difficulties presented themselves to Mr. Brown when called upon to form a new Cabinet. These were—the Seat of Government question—the question of Representation—and the School question—all calling for a prompt settlement. The first he very properly proposed to make a Ministerial question; the second, or Representation question, was to be combined with the question of a Federal Union of the Provinces; and is no doubt susceptible of an equitable settlement upon that basis, if honestly dealt with. Upon the third, or School question, however, the language of Mr. Brown, as reported in the *Globe*, was most unsatisfactory, because it assumed throughout the right of the State to control and direct the education of the child.—It is to this monstrous and tyrannical assumption that we, as Catholics, as freemen, are opposed, as irreconcilable with civil or religious liberty. Education is not in any sense, whether secular, or religious education, a legitimate function of the State, or civil magistrate, but belongs exclusively to the Family and the parent. To no Ministry which refuses to recognize this fundamental truth can Catholics ever give a cordial support; even though for the sake of avoiding the greater calamity of an Orange Ministry, they might for the moment tolerate it.

It is not to the point to urge that Mr. Brown hinted that he was prepared to submit to an assimilation of the Upper Canada school system, to the National School system of Ireland; and that the latter works well, and is approved of by men of all denominations. The Irish National system works well, because, owing to the social condition of Ireland, and the numerical preponderance of a Catholic population, it is to all intents and purposes, a "Denominational," and not a "Common" school system; because under it, Catholics have their schools distinct and separate from the schools of their Protestant fellow-citizens; and because a thorough Catholic education is given to children attending the schools which that system has called into existence. But Mr. Brown makes "common" or mixed education a "sine qua non" of any system to which he will give his sanction. He will not hear of a separate or denominational system. But the Catholics of Canada, if true to themselves, and faithful to their Church, will never—no, so help them God in their hour of need—will never submit to a "Common" or mixed system of education. George Brown and Catholics are, therefore, as far as variance as ever upon the School question. We will never recede one inch from our position; and he has not, as yet, manifested the slightest trace of a disposition to advance towards us. How then can it be expected that, upon some vague expression of liberal tendencies upon his part, we should at once forget the man's odious antecedents, or be prepared to extend to him the right hand of friendship. No! if George Brown wants our alliance and political support, he must earn it; he must earn it by something better than vague ambiguous phrases—which because vague and ambiguous are certainly intended to deceive some party; and which, because the Catholics of Upper Canada are the weakest, both numerically, and politically of the various contending parties, are most probably intended to deceive Catholics.

THE JEDDAH MASSACRE AND ORANGE RUFIANISM.—The British press from the *Times* downwards, is in a state of most intense virtuous indignation at the late cruel outrages perpetrated by the Mahometans of Jeddah upon the European residents. Satisfaction, speedy and ample, is the cry; an overwhelming force is to be despatched, to take summary vengeance upon the circumcised oppressors of the Christians, and to assert the supremacy of the cross over the crescent; whilst the cruel persecuting spirit of Islamism is denounced in the bitterest terms, and in every variety of type.

All this is no doubt very proper and becoming on the part of British Protestantism; of which a marvellous promptitude in detecting the mote in its neighbour's eye, and a perfect insensibility to the beam in its own eye, has ever been a prominent characteristic. It fairly shrieks with horror at the occasional excesses of a handful of ignorant and fanatical Mussulmans; but looks on with stolid indifference, or rather, with an unctuous complacency, at the systematic outrages of its own Orange children upon their Popish fellow-countrymen.

This strange inconsistency cannot escape the notice of the Catholics of Europe; especially of those in concert with whom it is proposed that the British Government should seek satisfaction for the Jeddah outrage. "Physician heal thyself," should be the reply of the French Emperor, to all proposals for combining the forces of France and England against the authors of the late massacre. He might point to the wrecked dwellings of the unhappy Catholics of Upper Canada, and the North of Ireland—to the still smouldering heaps which alone indicate where once stood the Catholic Church—and to the

gutters still reeking with Popish blood—and ask how, and with what grace, a government calling itself Christian, but under whose auspices such brutalities are, if not encouraged, at least allowed to go unpunished, can presume to criticise the conduct of a Mahomedan Government towards its non-Christian subjects? And as it would be impossible to give any satisfactory answer to such a question, Louis Napoleon might well refuse to allow the Navy of France to co-operate with that of Protestant and Catholic-persecuting Britain, against the Christian-persecutors on the shores of the Red Sea.

Indeed to the Catholic, the Orangeman must—to say the very least—be as odious as the most fanatical of the children of Islam. Mohomedan ascendancy is no doubt a grievous burden to those Christians who are unhappily subject to it; but more grievous still to Catholics, to them far more cruel and hateful, is the accursed yoke of that Protestant Ascendancy which it is the avowed object of Orangism to impose upon us, and upon our children in Canada—as it has already, and for many a weary year, imposed it upon the Catholics of Ireland. It may be all very well to execrate the cruelty and treachery of the Mahomedans of Jeddah; but compared with the cruelty and treachery of the Orangemen of Ireland, and of Canada, how venial almost, appears the guilt of the former!

The blood of Farrell, and of many a victim of Orange brutality, cries aloud from our Canadian soil, and from the soil of the old country, to heaven for vengeance upon their ruthless murderers; meanwhile a force is fitting out in British ports to exact reparation for the outrage offered to British subjects at Jeddah. Let us then hope that justice, though tardy justice, may be in store for the ruffian Orangemen of Belfast and of Toronto; and that this hope may be fulfilled, let us bestir ourselves, and force our wrongs upon the notice of the British government. From its regard for justice and fair play we may have but little to expect; but by a prompt and energetic remonstrance, we may yet shame it into a semblance of fair dealing with all its subjects.

From our Colonial authorities we have nothing to hope, and it is in vain to appeal to them. The Governor General is himself, if not a sworn and affiliated Orangeman, the avowed patron of the order in Canada. An undisguised Orangeman is entrusted with the entire administration of justice, and unscrupulously exercises the power with which he is invested, to screen his "Dear blood-stained Brethren" from the punishment due to their crimes. Our Executive is under Orange control; our Legislature swarms with Orangemen; and the Catholics of Upper Canada are the helpless victims of their unbridled tyranny. There is no Christian population in the East, exposed to viler insults, or to more infamous acts of brutality from their Moslem masters, than those which the Catholics of Upper Canada are at present, and without the slightest chance of redress or protection from the laws, obliged to endure from the *protoges* of Sir Edmund Head, and the "Dear Brothers" of the Attorney-General. Under these circumstances then, we have no hopes but in the action of the Imperial Government; which at all events can deal with its own hired servant, and recall him from a post for which he is eminently unfit; and which he can no longer fill without imperiling the peace and prosperity of Canada, without alienating the affections of Her Majesty's loyal Catholic subjects, and generating a thorough distrust in, and contempt for, the administration of justice in this part of Her Majesty's dominions. The tyranny exercised by the Turks over the Christians in the East is no doubt a disgrace to the civilisation of the XIX century, and to Western Christendom in particular which tolerates it; but more disgraceful still to our vaunted civilisation, is the too long tolerated oppression of the Catholics of Canada, by their Orange tyrants. Let us then exercise our right of petition to the British Government; and insist that, since it is about to take energetic measures to put down Moslem tyranny in the East, it shall at least compel its hired servants and paid agents, to refrain from actively encouraging Orange tyranny in the West. It is for the Catholics of Upper Canada to move first in this matter.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH SQUADRON.—We glean from the journal of Mr. Field, the following particulars in relation to the last, and fortunately successful attempt to unite the Old and New Worlds:—

On Saturday, 17th July, the Squadron sailed from Queenstown, and arrived at the mid-ocean rendezvous on the 28th of the same month. The splice was made on the 29th, and the *Niagara* and *Agamemnon* then separated; the former making for Trinity Bay, distant about 892 nautical miles—and the *Agamemnon* for Valentia Bay, distant about 812 miles. The weather was for the most part fine; and after a prosperous run the *Niagara* entered Trinity Bay early on Thursday morning, the 5th instant, having paid out since leaving the rendezvous upwards of 1,016 miles of cable. The end of the cable was immediately landed, and carried into the Telegraph House, when the communication with the other end at the opposite side of the Atlantic was found to be perfect.

Thus has the most gigantic undertaking of the nineteenth century, been brought to a successful issue.

SINGULAR EFFECT OF THE GOLD DISCOVERIES AT FRASER'S RIVER.—A Californian paper noticing the excitement caused by the late gold discoveries, observes that "we had a Revival in Religion here, but Fraser River knocked it cold. People care less apparently just now for salvation than gold." This fully bears us out in our remarks upon Protestant "Religious Revivals." It is only in the dull season, when business is slack and money scarce, that "Prayer Meetings" hold out any attractions. So in California, the moment the tidings arrived of the Fraser River discoveries, "the Revival in Religion was knocked cold;" and instead of singing psalms dolorously through the nose, or "getting happy" at the "Protracted Meeting," the