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GEORGE E. CLERK and JOHN GILLIES, At No. 223, Notre Dame Street. All communications to be addressed to the Editor G. E. CLERK.

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, JAN. 20, 1860.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE now famous pamphlet-" The Pope and the Congress," being generally accepted as a proof of Louis Napoleon's hostile designs towards the Holy See-has given much satisfaction to British Protestantism; thus verifying the old adage that, whenever Christ is to be crucified betwirt two thieves, then Pilate and Herod are made friends together. On the other hand, the Catholics of Europe are naturally indignant at the conduct of the French ruler; and even the French press, usually so docile, cannot restrain the expression of its opinion. Foremost amongst the latter stands L'Univers, which has already received its "second warning" for an article and an address to the Sovereign Pontiff, signed Louis Veuillot. The Pope too, is determined not to sacrifice his rights, or the rights of his successors, nor to allow his Representative to appear at the coming Congress, until such time as an official denial shall have been given to the report which attributes the sentiments of the offensive pamplet to the inspirations of the French Emperor himself. It is asserted however, on the strength of a telegram, that Count Walewski had declared to the Diplomatic Corps in Paris, that, so long as he remained at the head of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the pamphlet in question should not be considered as the programme of the French Ministry. It is hinted too that Austria, Spain, and Naples have signified their intention not to send representatives to the Congress, unless the Pope be there represented ;-Russia rejects the policy indicated in the pamphlet; Austria accepts it as equivalent to a menace; the Catholics of Europe look upon it as a spoken of as existing in the French Cabinet ;and it is to be hoped that Louis Napoleon, if his connection with the pamphlet be what it is affirmed that it is, will yet see the prudence of reconsidering his position, and of repudiating officially the sentiments of the writer. If thrown out as a " feeler" merely, and in order to ascertain the general sentiments of the European public towards the Pope, it has answered its purpose .--It has shown that the great Catholic Powers are not prepared to recognize the "right of insurrection;" that they are not desirous of degrad-Napoleon; and indeed so preposterous is that scheme of a yearly income or pension to the Pope is broached, that it is difficult to believe that it could have been the work, or that it has received the sanction, of such a sagacious statesman as the French ruler undoubtedly is. Such an arrangement, even if accepted by the Pope, could not endure ten years; and the Protestant subjects of the Powers parties thereunto, would naturally protest against being taxed for the support of him whom they profess to look upon as

From England we have tidings which will language, to the friends of literature throughout retain their position as the two most exquisite; the dogma propounded. Historical Romances in the English, or indeed in The questions-whether there was a person any, language. The one is written from a Tory, called Christ?—whether He was put to death? the other from a Whig stand point; and if to whether after death He appeared to, and conthe author of " Waverley" an impartial poste- versed with, His disciples ?- whether He comrity yields the palm, as the more honest and accu- missioned a certain number of those disciples to rate narrator of facts-to the illustrious deceased, proclaim to others the dogmas by Him revealed the author of the " History of England," it will to them, promising to them His continual preassign the tribute of its admiration for the inex- sence and assistance even to the end of the of his brain with the attributes of reality. If ficient to sit in judgment, as it is to decide upon Sir Walter Scott is the more faithful historian any other historical question-e.g., as to whether and remarkable for his rigid adherence to facts. there was a Roman Emperor called Tiberius?-Lord Macaulay is certainly entitled to precedence as the better poet -as the true representative of the ancient "troubadour," or "finder." of Waterloo? But—whether Christ was a We believe in his William Prince of Orange, as creature conceived in the ordinary mauner, or Caleb Balderstone, or in Meg Merrilies; and herein consists the highest merit of Lord Macaulay. He has been to us a poet, or maker; and drawn by his hands, is a sheer fiction, as much the creature of the poet's fantasy as is an Ariel, we willingly yield our reason captive to our imagination, whilst langing over his glorious wordpictures; and for the time almost forget that the bero of his brilliant romance was one of the

Anti Christ, and the "Man of Sin."

wish that he had been victor in the conflict which is all that Dr. Cahill pretends tions; because inspiration is a fact in the sur bold with the Reviewer in his article of October he waged with Michael and his angels. As Mil-that it is. This too is all that the latter attempt pernatural order, in which order human reason that "the German genius and temperament are ton dealt with theology, so Lord Macaulay dealt ed to establish; for, as revelation, by implication with history; and if the one has given us a poem, asserts a reasonable being—to whom alone reveso the other has left us a romance, which will be lation can be made—so, when we deny the effi-read and admired so long as the English language ciency of human reason in matters of faith, we shall itself endure. .

to the 13th of February, not then to meet for the dispatch of business. It is not yet certain when the session will actually commence; but it the month of March.

By the Anglo-Saxon from Liverpool, the 4th inst., we learn that serious doubts had arisen as to the meeting of Congress: by some it is said to be indefinitely postponed, whilst by others it is confidently asserted that the Congress is to meet on the 12th of Feb. A dispatch from Rome of the 3rd inst., informs us that the Duke of Grammont had given the Pope assurance that the pamphlet, " The Pope and the Congress," did not speak the French Emperor's sentiments; and that with this explanation the Pope expressed himself satisfied.

FAITH AND REASON .- Our readers must of course remember Dr. Cahill's lecture recently delivered in New York upon "Faith and Reason," and wherein he laid down, and established his thesis, that, of itself, human reason, a natural faculty, was inefficient to acquire Christian Faith." This proposition, which no one can contest without by implication, either asserting the competency of the natural in the supernatural order, or dragging down " Christian Faith" from the supernatural to the natural order—has however been assailed-and as the Quebec Gazette assures us with great success-by a Rev. Mr. Clark, a Protestant minister, who as our cotemporary pretends " has triumphantly met and refuted the proposition of the Irish orator." As however, we entertain a different opinion; as, after a careful perusal of the Rev. Mr. Clarke's lecture, as reported by the Quebec Gazette, it is clear to us that the former has never attempted even to meet or grapple with Dr. Cahill's proposition-" The inefficiency of human reason to acquire Christian Faith"-we purpose to say a few words upon the subject; and so to give our been treated by the Protestant lecturer.

The question at issue is simply this: - " Is human reason inefficient, per se, or is it sufficient testimony in favor of the genuineness and inspiration to acquire Christian Faith?" The question is of the sacred books, reaching down from the apostonot "Is human reason a faculty which man is bound to use, and which must therefore be of declaration of war against the Pope; dissensions some assistance to him, in his religious enquiries?" of a formidable nature, on account thereof, are but whether it is of itself sufficient to attain to the certain knowledge of any of the truths propounded by the Christian revelation? But this question is answered by its own terms. If human reason be not " mefficient" in the premises, it is " sufficient;" and if sufficient, revelation is unnecessary, and therefore there can be, properly speaking, no Christian revelation. In other words; to deny the inefficiency, is to assert the sufficiency, of human reason to acquire Christian Faith; and to assert the latter, is to reject revelation, and the entire supernatural order in Chrisof a stipendiary. Better far that he should again Quebec, and though we do not even pretend to can testify; and yet, though he started with the has altered its position since the days of Bossuet. be driven into the Catacombs, than drag out a know to what denomination he belongs, yet we wretched existence as the pensioner of Louis presume from the fact that he lectured before the lecturer ingeniously contrives at the end of his Wesleyan Methodist Biblical and Literary Sosection of the famous pamphlet, wherein this ciety, that he admits to some extent a supernahence not discoverable by human reason; he must therefore recognise the inefficiency of human reason, and thus admit the very proposition which the Gazette boasts that he has "trium-

phantly refuted." According to Dr. Cahill's definition, Faith consists in believing facts which we cannot comprehend, and which reason could never have discovered-upon testimony or evidence which we cannot deny without doing violence to our reacause deep regret to every reader of the English son. Thus Dr. Cahill by implication clearly asserts the competency of reason to sit in judgthe world. Lord Macaulay, whose pen has so ment upon the testimony or evidences of Chrislong charmed the public, died in London on tianity-which like all other evidences are and left no equal behind him. " Waverley" and of the competency of the witness propounding, it Macaulay's " History of England," will long shall humbly and unreservedly submit itself to

haustible fertility of his genius, and the skill with world?—are questions in the natural order: and which he has contrived to invest the creations upon which, therefore, human reason is as sufas to whether Charles I. was beheaded?-or whether the Duke of Wellington fought the battle the premise, that Luke was the writer of the Church and German nature is fur less strikwe believe in Ariel, as we believe in Caliban, as the eternal God? whether in the Godhead there we believe in the Baron of Bradwardine, or in be two or more Persons? whether there be a for the Rev. Mr. Clark to appeal to "tradi- un-Catholic as all nature is, but anti-Catho-Holy Ghost? whether certain writings were directly inspired by that Holy Ghost? whether the death of Christ upon the Cross is of spiritual competent to establish any fact in the supernature to the very error with which the Reviewer just- do unto us; and therefore upon the same printhough we know that William of Orange, as benefit to the buman race? and in short all other questions upon matters of Christian faith, are, as tradition, no stronger " chain of testimony" in falying in the supernatural order, questions upon which reason is utterly incompetent to form any the name of Luke, than the Catholic can adduce nature is per se un-Catholic is most true; for deavor to practice the same duty in our own opinion whatsoever. It may accept them, not as in support of the doctrine of the Real Presence. Catholicity belongs to grace not to race, to the case, and towards our separated brethren. We questions, but as truths; but if it does so, it will Natural reason cannot establish the fact of in- supernatural not to the natural order. But see- cannot in short admit the existence of one rule be, not on account of any intrinsic evidence of spiration. For instance, at the promptings of ing that God has made of one blood all the na- for them, and another for the Catholic press. their truth, but solely because of its conviction

no more make abnegation of reason in order to The Colonial Legislature has been prorogued extol faith, than, when we assert the inefficiency of nature to merit a supernatural reward, we deny nature in order to exalt grace.

How, then, does the Rev. Mr. Clarke meet is said that this event will occur in the course of and refute Dr. Cahill's proposition? By elaborately proving that which no man ever dreamt of contesting; and by dexterously assuming that which he is unable to prove. We will give specimens of the manner in which our Quebec lecturer accomplishes these marvellous feats.

For instance, in the report of his lecture, as given in the Gazette, we find several paragraphs devoted to prove that reason is sufficient to establish the authenticity, or historical credibility —(a fact exclusively belonging to the natural order)-of the Gospel narratives of the life and death of Christ, in so far as the lacts therein narrated came under the cognisance of the writers' senses. The Gazette may style this a " triumphant refutation" of Dr. Cahill; but to us it appears as a work of supererogation, of which so evangelical a person as the Rev. Mr. Clarke should entertain a profound horror.

Of the other process by which he meets and refutes Dr. Cahill, the annexed paragraph, in which the lecturer seeks to establish the fact that reason is per se competent to ascertain, not only the "authenticity" i.e. the historical credibility-or credibility in the natural order-of the Gospel parratives, but their genuineness and inspiration—that is, their credibility in the supernatural order-is an amusing specimen. We submit it to our readers; premising that, according to the Quebec Gazette, the Rev. Mr. Clarke "is a good sample of his countrymen and coreligionists in this respect"-(religious controversy with Papists;) and certainly in this case we accept the Gazette's eulogy of the Rev Mr. Clarke and his coreligionists, as well merited by the latter:

But the task of reason is not yet finished; she must not only satisfy herself as to the certainty of the main facts of the Gospel history; but as to the genuineness of the professedly sacred books which few words upon the subject; and so to give our record these transactions. Were they really written readers an idea of the manner in which it has by the men whose names they bear, and during the been treated by the Protestant lecturer. find abundant materials to help her to a satisfactory conclusion. She will find an uninterrupted chain of lic age to the present."

Mark the adroit, if not honest, manner in which this " good sample" of Protestant controversalists slips in the little words " and inspiration." His thesis, that with which he started, was, that reason could establish the "genuineness" of the books of which the Bible is composed; that is, that they were written by the persons whose names they severally bear; a fact purely in the natural order, and to be ascertained by the same process as that by which the authorship of the Waverley Nove's or Junius' Letters must be ascertained-and which, because a fact in the natural order, can be established by witnesses in the same order. "Inspiration" on the tianity. Now though we have not the honor of other hand involves a fact in the supernatural " genuineness" only of the sacred books, our and how little adapted to the wants of the nonpoflant words, "and inspiration"-as if getural element in Christianity, and recognises its nuineness and "inspiration" were one and the

Granting for instance, that natural reason can establish the fact that the book called the Goschapters; and where he testifies to a class of facts once be rejected as false, because opposed to all the known physical or physiological laws with which the human reason is acquainted. The writer himself nowhere pretends that he obtained his knowledge of the events connected with the birth of Christ through any supernatural channel; we know that he could have had no immediate the unfounded boastings of some amongst them, cognisance thereof; so far from setting up any and to maintain the great truth that Catholic's as his reason for writing on the subject at all, not virtue of their Celtic origin more predisposed to that he been specially moved thereunto by God's Catholicity than are men of another origin -but hand to set forth in order a declaration of those sert, as did the Reviewer that-"as far as we things." How then are we to conclude from can judge, the contradiction between the spiration," and the credibility of its narrative of facts recorded in its first chapter? It is in vain Irishman and Frenchman "is always not only tinn," or an uninterrupted chain of testimony;" for as a Protestant he must reject tradition, as seems to us, we say it in all humility, close akin do unto others, as we would that others should al order; and he can assign no more constant ly reproaches his opponents—that of claiming a ciple as that upon which we insist upon the duty tradition, no stronger "chain of testimony" in fa- greater "natural" aptitude for Catholicity, for of the observance of silence in certain cases by vor of the inspiration of the writings which bear Tentonic than for Celtic races. That all human the Protestant press, do we recognise and enhuman reason, we are prepared to admit that the tions of men-that He is their common Father,

to say, a Whig, "from the beginning," rises be laided by revelation, cannot do this, then of itself, twe the quality of "inspiration," we should fore us in awful majesty despite our reason, we it is not sufficient to acquire Christian Faith: most reasonably reject their destimony without are almost made to sympathise with him, and to and if it is not "sufficient" then it is "nieffi necessarily impugning the honesty of their intended by the base with him and to and if it is not "sufficient" then it is "nieffi necessarily impugning the honesty of their intended by the base with the condition of t is " inefficient," and which no witness in the natural order can satisfactorily establish-If the Rev. Mr. Clarke thinks otherwise, here is the problem we propose for his solution—" Given the Luke, to prove their inspiration."

We do not intend-nor pending the solution of the above problem is it necessary for us—to follow the Rev. Mr. Clark through his argument against the faith of the Catholic Church in the it was this that provoked the severe comments Real Presence in the Blessed Eucharist. This only would we observe, that there is nothing therein "more contrary to reason" or to those "physical" laws to which the Rev. gentleman appeals, than there is in the doctrine of the Trinity, or in the stupendous mystery of the Incarnation. That a virgin should conceive and bear a son, is irreconcilable by human reason with those well-known physical laws; and he who accepts it, as a truth, but rejects the doctrine of the Real Presence because of the physical difficulties with which the latter dogma is attended, is as one who strains at the guat, but swallows the camel. This too would we add.

The doctrine of the Real Presence is beyond the reach of, but is not contrary to, our senses; for in so far as the latter can take cognisance thereof, they confirm the teachings of the Church -that, after consecration, the accidents, or phenomena of bread and wine remain unchanged. Of "substance," as supersensible, no one will pretend that the senses can take any cognisance, nor, as the most illustrious Protestant philosophers of modern times admit, is it possible to argue from phenomena to noumena. The assertion that,-the "Syrian language which our Lord used, contains no equivalent to 'represents' or 'signifies'—and thus the substantive verb 'is' is used instead"—is simply false, and indicates that the lecturer either is profoundly indifferent to facts, or that he is wofully ignorant of modern Oriental philological researches. There is no language richer than, perhaps none so rich, in equivalents for "signifies" and "represents" as, the Syrian language which our Lord used or is upon grounds held to have used.

Brownson's Quarterly Review .- Second New York Series. No. 1, January, 1860.

I. Christianity or Gentilism.

II. The Soul's Activity.
III. Manahan's Triumph of the Church.

IV. The Bible against Protestants. V. The True Cross.

VI. The Yankee in Ireland. VII. Literary Notices and Criticisms.

Brownson's Review is always a wecome visitor; and even when Catholics may honestly differ with the Reviewer on questions not involving any point of Catholic teaching, they must still admire the energy with which he defends his views; they must still admit the honesty of his intentions, and applaud the motives by which he is actuated.

The first article on our list is devoted to a notice of a recent work, " Pope or President, Startling Disclosures of Romanism as Revealed by its own writers. Facts for Americans." The Reviewer places the controversy as betwixt Catholicity and Protestantism on its true ing the Sovereign Pontiff to the abject condition an acquaintance with the Rev. Mr. Clarke of order, to which none but witnesses in that order grounds; showing how greatly that controversy Catholic world of the present day are the arguparagraph, to squeeze in the small, but all im- | ments which told with crushing effect upon the heretics of the XVI and XVII centuries.

The Reviewer also alludes to the hostile critruths as truths supernaturally revealed, and same thing; or as if a work because it were ticism which his article on the "Romanic and hence not discoverable by human reason; he 'genuine" was, therefore, necessarily "inspir- Germanic Orders," in his number for October last, has provoked from the greater part of the Catholic press of this Continent, and contends that he has been unfairly treated. His object in pel of St. Luke was actually written by a per- the offending article was not to disparage French son of the name of Luke, how would it thence fol- o. Irish Catholicity; but to refute the illogical, low as the natural logical sequence, that the and indeed anti-Christian arguments of those who Gospel of St. Luke was inspired? or that its falsely pretend that the Celt is by nature more writer was entitled to be believed when narrat- predisposed to Catholicity than is the Teuton; ing events of which it is morally and physically and to assert the fundamental truths of the unity impossible that he could have had any immediate of the human race, and that God has made of knowledge? We may of course believe him, blood all the nations of men. Upon these points and accept of him as a competent because ho- there should be no difference amongs: Catholics; nest witness, when testifying to events of which and if this be all that the Reviewer meant to the 28th ult., of disease of the heart. As a must be addressed to the reason; but he demands he had himself had personal cognisance; but his brilliant writer of fiction, the deceased Peer has from reason this—that having once satisfied itself testimony will not of itself suffice to establish the heartly agree with him, and join with him in his say in his October article, we for one most have hitherto refrained from expressing any opinmarvellous facts recorded in his introductory protest against the absurd and anti-Christian sentiments of Dr. M'Elheran's work-a work, even party. A few words therefore upon this subject which, if judged of hy human reason, must at in a literary point of view, too contemptible for

the Reviewer's serious notice. Yet the Reviewer himself must we think, upon cool reflection, admit, that the manner in Catholic brethren of Celtic origin. To reprove Celtic nature"-and that the nature of the

whit better, or worse than the Teuton, or that the Trishman is naturally Catholic; and the Anglo-Saxon naturally Protestant; neither do we naturally far less averse to Catholicity than the so-called Celt." We hold in short that by nature, Celt and Teuton are equally remote from the supernatural order, or Catholicity; and that genuineness of the books which bear the name of it is unjust and anti-Catholic to claim the least natural superiority, or aptitude for Catholicity, for either. The Reviewer however placed, or to his readers seemed to place, the Celtic nature in decided antagonism to Catholicity; and of the Catholic press upon his article upon the Romanic and Germanic Orders."

In his present number he has, however, put himself right:-

"What the writer in the passage that appears to have given much offence was aiming to show obriously was, if we assume that nations are Catholic or Protestant, according to the genius and temperament of the race to which it is assumed they belong, the Germanic nations should be Catholic, and the Celtic nations Protestant, contrary to what the adversaries maintain, and therefore the attempt to make the adoption of Catholicity depend on race, and to reduce the Catholic religion itself to a simple Gentile religion must be abandoned, and the theory rejected as not being sustained by facts -p. 28.

This explanation will we hope suffice to remove any little soreness that may yet be felt in certain quarters; and as the Reviewer explicitly disclaims any design of giving offence, so we trust that his disclaimer will be frankly and generously received by a Catholic public, and that Brownson's Quarterly may long retain its position as the leading Catholic periodical on this Continent.

A short but brilliant article on the philosophical system of Gioberti, is succeeded by a highly eulogistic notice of a work by Dr. Manahan on the " Triumph of the Church in Early Ages." The next article is controversial in its character, and is designed to refute the prevalent Protestant prejudice that, betwixt the Bible, or printed Word of God, and the Word of God made known to us through what we may call His organ of communication—the Catholic Church, there is or can be any antagonism. The following passage does but reiterate an old established truth, one too to which daily experience adds continual confirmation: -

"The notion that all that is needed to make Cutholics turn their backs on their spiritual mother, and embrace the Protestant movement, is the free reading of the Holy Scriptures, is not worthy of any serious refutation . . . We have yet to learn the first well authenticated instance of a Catholic becoming a Protestant by reading the Bible alone .--The story told of Luther and the Bible he one day came across in the convent library is tool incredible and absurd for any sensible person really to believe. Men never leave the Church and embrace Protestantism from simple love of truth, or respect for the written word of God. There is always some other motive operating. One man has got offended at his Bishop, believes, justly or unjustly, that great wrong has been done him, and in his anger becomes blinded to the truth, loses his judgment, charges upon the Church what is due only to the individual, or perhaps to his own morbid fancy. . . . Another finds that he cannot, without more violence to the flesh than he has courage to practise, preserve the chastity he has pledged, and so becomes a Protestant and takes unto himself a wife. Another finds that the Church imposes too much restraint on his licentions thoughts: and with a heart hardened, and intellect darkened by his passions, abandons his Mother, and gives himself up to strange women"-pp.

An article wherein the errors of Calvinism are well lashed, and a review of a tale that originally appeared in the Metropolitan, together with the usual "Literary Notices and Criticisms," complete one of the most interesting numbers of Brownson's Quarterly that has appeared for some time. We should add that it is also the first number of a new series; and that the Review will in future be published by the Messrs. Sadher & Co., of New York. That it may have an extensive and continually increasing circulation is our ardent wish; for if we have presumed to signify, on one or two matters of secondary importance, our dissent from the views of the learned editor, we cannot in justice refrain from acknowledging how much we owe to him, and to his labors in the cause of our holy re-

An Objection Answered .- From a certain quarter it has been objected to us that we ion upon a trial for libel now pending, and in which a Catholic cotemporary is an interested may not be mappropriate.

We have refrained, and intend to refrain, from expressing any opinion upon a matter which is vet before the legal tribunals, because we deem which he treated his subject, was calculated to it the duty of the Catholic journalist to apply on give serious, and not unreasonable offence to his all occasions to himself, those rules which he would desire to apply in analogous circumstances to his non-Catholic cotemporaries. We contend that it would be unfair on the part of the latter pretensions to "inspiration," he, himself, assigns are so, not by nature, not because they are in to write a line calculated to prejudge a question upon which a jury was called upon to decide; we deny to them the right of arrogating to Holy Spirit, but—that "many have taken in by grace, and by grace alone—is one thing; to as- themselves the functions of the judge; and we insist that, pendente lite, it is their duty to observe a strict silence upon the merits of a case which has been submitted to the action of the ordinary book that bears his name, to the fact of its " in- ing than the contradiction between her and tribunals. This is the rule which, of course, we desire to impose upon Protestant journalists.

Well then! we must begin by imposing the same rule upon ourselves; by showing by our lic"-is another and very different thing; and acts, as well as by our words, that we desire to

most detestable scoundrels that ever escaped the their truth, but solely because of its conviction human reason, we are prepared to admit that the tions of men—that He is their common Father, lf. as Catholics, we want to enforce respect gallows or the whipping post. Macaulay, in of the competency in the supernatural order, of Rev. Mr. Clark actually delivered the lecture we cannot believe that He has endowed any of for ourselves, we must begin by manifesting a short, has done for the hero of Glencoe what the authority by which those truths are presented reported in the Quebec Gazette, because the his children with an "anti-Catholic nature;" for scrupulous respect for the rights of others; if Milton in his great epic has done for another for its acceptance. If the Quebec lecturer de- "genuineness" of that lecture is a fact in the this would suppose that He Himself has made we would be treated with courtesy and justice, Whig, the first or Prince of Whigs. As we murs to this, we would take the liberty of asking natural order, in which order the Gazette is a their nature essentially antagonistic to Catholic- we must be prepared to treat others with justice read the Paradise Lost, the figure of him of how, by human reason alone, he would insist upon our whom we are told that he was a "liar," that is the fact of the Trinity? and if human reason, un- or his friends for him, were to claim for his lee- believe, it is true, that by nature the Celt is one rights as British subjects, we must show the