

cott has held and taught that Priestly Absolution, in connection with Auricular Confession, is allowable, and desirable, and profitable.

Charge Fifth.—That the said Rev. Oliver S. Prescott has adopted and pursued certain customs and practices which are repugnant to the teachings of the church, contrary to the spirit and meaning of her Standards, and against the common order and established usages of the Church, and a violation of her Common Law.

Charge Sixth.—That the said Rev. Oliver S. Prescott has held, taught, encouraged, practised, or defended some or all of the false doctrines, heresies, and wrong and unauthorised customs, forms, and ceremonies, which are contrary to the fixed standards, established usages, and common law of the Church, as embraced in the before written charges.

The several charges were accompanied by specifications of particular instances in which the accused had rendered himself obnoxious to the above charges.

From our English Files.

At a Privy Council, held at the Castle, on Thursday, the Right Rev. Thomas Stuart, Bishop of Meath, and John Hatchell, Esq., her Majesty's Attorney General for Ireland, took the usual oaths as Privy Counsellors, and their seats at the board.

The Rev. Daniel Bagot, B.D., Official Principal and Vicar General of Newry and Morne, has been appointed to the deanery of Dromore, vacant by the death of the late Dean Waring.

The Lord Bishop of Meath has appointed Arthur Edward Gayer, L.L.D., Q.C., Vicar-General of the Diocese, in the room of the Venerable the Archdeacon of Meath, resigned.

The largest confirmation ever held by his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, took place on Friday, at St. Mary's, parish church, where nearly 500 young persons were confirmed.

The Papal aggression in England is calling forth protests from Orange lodges and other Protestant bodies thick and fast, whilst the letter of Lord John Russell appears to have excited the Roman Catholics to the highest pitch of indignation.

The Dublin Nation professes to have found a key to it, and says:— "Let us see this mannikin minister who last year asked the Legislature for diplomatic relations with Rome, and last month endeavoured to force the appointments of visitors to the Government Colleges on Catholic Archbishops and Bishops in virtue of their office, coming down to St. Stephen's with a bill to interdict or limit the ecclesiastical liberty of Catholics by a hair's breadth. Maugre the threats, we fear no revival of penal laws in these days. Surely there is a deeper meaning, and a more cunning policy, under this sudden change of temper, that stares us on its surface. It is the first sign of a contest between the Catholic Church and the English State, of which none among us shall live to see the finale. And, we need not hesitate to say, we rejoice it is. Since Irish Bishops learned to figure in Castle levees, and some Irish priests have taught loyalty to England, the hopes of the people in the cause of Ireland were beginning to lose their unity and strength. And, God knows, there is no Catholic who should not rejoice, on religious grounds, that the Church once more stands at arms' length with its oldest and most insidious enemy. Let it have and hold its independence. But, as we live, this step of Russell's has a deeper meaning and a more insidious purpose still. Clearly it was intended as a replication to the synodical address, rather than as a reprimand to the English Catholics, whom the Ministers have no object in outraging. But we are sure it was also levelled at the League of the Irish people. We feel it was aimed to disturb the Union of the north and south, that Union which England has always regarded as the most formidable phenomenon in Irish politics, and which has as vital a meaning to-day as it had at Dunannon. Any means to turn the Irish movement into an internecine war of sects would be worth a ten years' lease of office to the Whigs."

SNAILS AND THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—The Paris correspondent of the Literary Gazette gives a curious account of a discovery which has been published by M. Jules Alix in feuilletons of La Presse. Putting himself in personal communication with M. Alix, the correspondent of the Literary Gazette, obtained full particulars with details of a very strange phenomena, which he gives at some length, and also thus epitomises:—"The inventors or discoverers of the alleged marvel are a M. Benoit, of the department of the Herault, and a M. Biat, of America. After many years' observation and experimentalization, they, it is asserted have ascertained that certain descriptions of snails possess peculiar properties or sympathies, which cause them to feel, no matter at what distance they may be, the same sensation or commotion, when acted on in a particular way by galvanic and magnetic influences. Placed in boxes in such a way that on being touched they agitate particular letters, the operator has only to make snail A give a kick, and snail A in the corresponding box—which box may be in the back woods of America or the deserts of Africa—repeats the kick, and so on for every letter of a required word. The snails must, of course, previously be put in sympathetic communication, and the boxes, with all their apparatus, which is rather complicated, must be alike. The shock which the snail in box two feels is said to be caused by an electric or magnetic fluid, carried by the earth with extraordinary rapidity, and in a man; in other words, it is the electric telegraph, without the connecting wire. We have often heard of the 'snails' gallop," but we had no idea it was so fast a pace as this.

In the Vice-Chancellor's Court, on Monday, the 24th Nov. his Honour decided that Major-General Dickson, had full power to make a bequest of £10,000, to his daughter, contingent upon her becoming a nun. Upon her father's death Miss Dickson became a nun, and as there was no gift over, the clause must be regarded merely in terrorem. His Honour, however, ruled otherwise; declared that she was not entitled to the money, and dismissed the case.

It is confidently reported in military circles, that the large sum of £16,000 has been offered by the major of a Lancer regiment, recently quartered here, for the purchase of a lieutenant-colonelcy, and refused, after two days' deliberation. The highest sum ever given for the purchase of a step was, we believe, £20,000.—Brighton Paper.

The United Service Gazette states that the Lords of the Admiralty have determined to allow no messmen in future in the Navy—considering that to them is attributed the extravagance and nearly all the intemperance that exists in that part of her Majesty's service.

One pair of rats, with their progeny, will produce in three years no less a number than 648,680 rats, which will consume, day by day, as much food as 64,680 men, leaving eight rats to starve.—Household Words.

Mr. G. Wombwell, the menagerist, who died last week, left very singular directions with regard to his funeral. The coffin was not only to be made without nails, but that it should be entirely formed of a portion of the timber of the Royal George, which the deceased purchased about fourteen years ago, and has kept ever since for this purpose. The coffin, which has been so constructed, is highly polished, and from its exceeding dark colour, resembles walnut tree; this is, however, relieved by brass and gilt mouldings, and also by a brass inscription plate, stating that Mr. Wombwell was 73 years of age.

About four o'clock on the afternoon of yesterday se'night a melancholy accident occurred at the works in Hyde Park, attended with fatal consequences. A painter, while engaged in painting one of the iron girders, at the top of the building at the eastern end, had the girder break under him, and fall with him on to the scaffold underneath, on which several carpenters and labourers were at work, which was broken through, and one of the carpenters and a labourer fell with the girder and painter to the ground. The men were placed on stretchers, and conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where, on examination, it was found that the painter was dead, but that the carpenter and labourer were still alive, although most extensively injured.

George Bacon, Esq., of Lamcote House, near Nottingham, a dissenter of the Independent sect, has written a letter to the senior Roman Catholic priest at St. Barnabas, Nottingham, presenting a painting of "Christ in the outer court, crowned with thorns," by Gaspar Crayer, for an altar-piece to his chapel, as a proof that he is "not one of those whose mind is contracted in matters of Church discipline," and that he "would be the last to enslave the consciences of others who do not see with the same eyes as himself." The painting is valued at 200 guineas.

A correspondent of the Times points out that Lord Feilding's is not a solitary instance of money left or given by a parent to build and endow a Protestant Church, and an edifice for Romish worship having been raised in lieu? At Erdington, a village near Birmingham, and scarcely two miles from Oscott, a beautiful building, like a modern cathedral, has been completed and opened during the past summer. The money, £10,000—was intended by Mr. Haigh, of Leeds, to build a church for his son, who was at Oxford, and intended for the Protestant ministry. This son, however, has joined the Papist schismatics, and has thus appropriated his father's bequest or gift.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Alfred Tennyson, Esq., to be Poet Laureate in Ordinary to her Majesty, in the room of William Wordsworth, Esq., deceased.—London Gazette.

It is understood that Sir John Herschell will succeed Mr. Sheil as Master of the Mint. This appointment will be no longer held by a Member of Parliament, and the salary will be reduced to £1,500 a-year.

Mr. D'Israeli is writing the life of Lord George Bentinck. He has undertaken this literary task at the request of the Duke of Portland.

The Leeds Intelligencer states that the Hon. John Stapleton, brother of Lord Beaumont, has left the Church of Rome.

We understand that the Oxford University Commission finished their spell of work on Wednesday; and, at an early hour in the afternoon of that day, handed over their room, at the Downing-street residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, to the gentlemen of the Cambridge Commission, who have now commenced their inquiry.—Spectator.

In consequence of a representation made to the Horse Guards that the addresses of the Rev. Ignatius Collingridge, the Roman Catholic priest officiating at the chapel in St. Peter's-street, in this city, were calculated to have a prejudicial influence on the loyal character of our troops, orders were last week received that their attendance at the chapel should be discontinued.—Hampshire Chronicle.

We understand that the condition of the soldier serving in the colonies, with regard to the stoppage exacted for his ration, has been under the consideration of the Government, and that it is intended to reduce the rate from 5d., at which it stands at present, to 3½d. The necessity for this step has been made apparent in the evidence taken before the Committee on Army and Ordnance Expenditure, and the effect of lowering the cost of the ration 1lb. of meat and 1lb. of bread to 3½d. will be to leave to the soldier abroad 8½d., out of which he will provide himself with other articles of food conducive to his health and comfort.—The Times.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress have already expressed their intention to give, during the Great Exhibition in the ensuing year, in addition to the usual civic entertainments at the Mansion-house, several public evening receptions, to which will be invited not only the remarkable men of our own country, but all foreigners of distinction who may then be in London.

The Rev. J. W. Pennington, a coloured clergyman, of New York, recently received the title of D.D., from the University of Heidelberg, Germany; and the first African who has ever received the honour from an European University. He visited Heidelberg to accept the diploma.

The impetuous winds which have howled and whistled round the eaves of our houses throughout this dripping and gloomy weather have made fearful havoc at sea. Many vessels have been wrecked, but the saddest catastrophe has been the loss of a large emigrant-ship, the Edmund, which was driven on the Irish coast on Tuesday night, ninety-six persons perishing almost within reach of shore. Savages would have succoured the drowning wretches; but Ireland being a civilized country, the beach was a scene of indiscriminate plunder.—London Guardian.

On Monday morning the glaziers and labourers employed at the "Crystal Palace," Hyde-park, and many of the labourers, struck for an advance of wages. On a disposition being evinced to create a disturbance, the police were called in and fresh hands taken on.—The glaziers complain that they can only earn 22s. a-week by piece work, and the labourers that they have only half an hour for dinner.—Globe.

Colonial.

THE ROMISH BISHOP, DR. CHARBONNELL AND THE COMMON SCHOOLS.—At the meeting of the Board of School Trustees for this City, held on the 18th December, the following letter from Dr. Charbonnell was laid before the Board:—

Toronto, Dec. 7, 1850.

SIR,—Regretting the failure of my application to the Board of School Trustees for three separate Schools, upon the principle of compromise, I have now the honour to inform you that applications are about to be made from seven of the thirteen school sections into which this city is divided, for the establishment of separate schools therein—the present teachers thereof being Protestants.

This course is the only one pointed out by the strict letter of the law; but I plainly foresee that much inconvenience will result from the refusal on the part of the Board to accede to my proposal for a compromise, which does not indeed come within the literal meaning of the nineteenth clause of the new School Act, but which could have been legally entertained by the Board, by virtue of the powers vested in them by the 4th section of the 24th clause of the said Act, which gives the Board authority to determine the number, sites, kind, and description of schools which shall be established and maintained in this city.

In a pecuniary point of view, the greatest sufferers will be the Protestant teachers of the several school sections in which separate schools will be established under the 19th clause. The Roman Catholic teachers will receive such proportion of the public monies as the number of pupils attending their schools will warrant. Every shilling which they receive will be just so much deducted from the Protestant.

The following table will show that our numbers will be formidable, and consequently the diminution of the Protestant teachers' share considerable.

Some of the most efficient teachers in this city have given notice of their intention to give up their schools, and are seeking other situations, where their abilities and exertions will meet with more suitable remuneration than has yet been extended to the office of teacher from the public funds.

If seven of those remaining should, by the establishment of seven separate Roman Catholic schools, be still further shorn of their emoluments to a considerable extent, it is to be feared that they will also retire from a service so little able to reward their efforts, and thus leave their places to be filled by men of far inferior merit:

Table with 2 columns: School Name and Number of Pupils. Includes Pupils attending Mr. Taaf's School, Miss Kelly's School, Mr. Lynch's School, etc.

Total attendance at five Schools, upon the 13th November, 1850 454

The above number, 454, will in all probability be extended to 500 by the beginning of 1851.

These 500 pupils, distributed over seven sections in pretty nearly equal portions, will give upwards of 70 children to each section, on an average; and this number will, it is conceived, amount to at least one half of the average attendance of those seven sections.

The following statements will exhibit the probable difference, in money, between the two modes of conducting the business:

Table comparing costs under '1ST.—UNDER THE PRINCIPLE OF COMPROMISE' and '2ND.—UNDER THE 19th CLAUSE'.

Apportionment of school monies to the payment of salaries of seven Teachers, on the supposition that each Teacher will have, on an average, at least half of the apportionment at the rate hitherto paid, viz: £56 5s. £196 17 6

Apportionment of school monies to the payment of the rent of seven separate school-houses, at the rate hitherto paid, viz: £20..... 140 0 0

SUMMARY. Under the 19th clause..... £336 17 6 Under the Compromise..... 228 15 0

Thus making a difference of..... £108 2 6 in favour of the principle of compromise.

Although the application for several separate schools will be made, yet should the Board be disposed even yet to re-consider the matter, and take up the principle of compromise, those applications will be withdrawn.

We have seven teachers competent to take charge of the seven separate schools, ready at short warning.—They are, with a single exception, unmarried, and therefore are content to accept for the present, an amount of remuneration, far below that which can be accepted by the Teachers already in office, who are mostly married men, or have relatives depending upon them for support.

I have therefore a hope that the Board will yet give us three separate schools, out of the thirteen now existing; instead of compelling us to demand that there shall be twenty schools and twenty teachers in this city,—thirteen existing, seven separate; total, twenty.

You will therefore be so good as to lay this letter before the Board at its next meeting, and oblige

Your obedient servant,

ARMED. FR. M. BISHOP OF TORONTO.

To the Superintendent Com. Schools. The Board was of opinion that the application did not come within the meaning of the 19th clause of the new School Act.

Applications for Separate Schools.—Seven applications were put in from Roman Catholic heads of families, of School Sections 4 and 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14, for separate schools, according to the terms of the Act 13 and 14 Vic. cap. 9, all of which, having been read, were received and laid on the table.

Report.—The Superintendent reported the resignation of Messrs. Mair and Clyde.

Mr. Macdonald moved, that the mover and seconder together with the superintendent, wait on the Attorney General to obtain his written opinion regarding applications for separate Roman Catholic Schools in each district.—Carried.

Mr. Robinson moved, that the Superintendent be instructed to give notice, through the newspapers, that there are three vacancies for Teachers, and to invite applications.—Carried.

DR. THELLER, who took so prominent a part in the Canadian Rebellion of 1836 and '37, is now in prison in Panama, on a charge of having been engaged in the late attempt to revolutionize the Government of New Grenada.

RAILROAD BETWEEN MONTREAL AND TORONTO.—This subject is engaging the serious attention of many of the municipal bodies of the towns through which the proposed railway would pass. The following resolution was, amongst others, lately adopted by the Belleville Town Council:—

Resolved.—That as the different Municipalities in the Province, are proposing to make assessments to this great project, by subscribing liberally for the Stock of the said railroad, this Council engage to use every means at their disposal to aid in the accomplishment of so important a work.

SHOCKING MURDER.—We are indebted to George Ross, Esq., of Renfrew, for the following particulars of a horrible tragedy which occurred on Sunday last, within the limits of the County. It appears that the unfortunate victim, who was a highly respectable man, named Robert Barrie, residing in the Township of Admaston, had, some three months since, taken into his employment a half breed of Indian and French extraction named John Woods, who, with his wife and two children lived in the house. Finding that they did not answer his purposes the deceased had notified his intention of discharging them. When last seen alive he was on his way home, to which it was supposed he had then returned. In the morning a neighbour having visited the house found it locked, and on going for some persons living in the vicinity, the door was broken open, and the unfortunate man was discovered lying dead in his bed, with his skull opened, and his brains besmeared the walls around. Woods, with his wife and family, had gone off, taking with them a trunk containing clothes, a span of horses, and some money, which deceased was known to have in his possession. What serves to attach suspicion of this savage murder even more strongly, if possible—to them, is the fact, that Woods had several days previously purchased poison in Renfrew, and that the deceased on the following morning suspecting that there was poison in his tea refused to drink it, accusing them of an attempt to take his life by that means, and on this account preparing his own food up to the fatal day in which he met his untimely end. The greatest excitement at this horrible tragedy prevails throughout the whole neighbourhood, and pursuit has been made in all directions, in order to overtake the supposed murderers. Since writing the above we have learned that our active Deputy Sheriff, Mr. James Fraser, whose success in the arrest of criminals, we have so often been called upon to notice, has succeeded in capturing Woods and his wife, having overtaken them at the village of Franktown, fifteen miles from Perth, the County town.—Bytown Gazette.

INHUMANITY OF A STAGE DRIVER.—At the city Police Office, yesterday, a person named John Ranton was brought, under circumstances which deserve notice. It appeared from the statements of the police, that at half-past two o'clock that morning, Ranton was found lying in the snow, in Wellington Street, near the Post Office, in a state of insensible drunkenness. On enquiry it was ascertained that he was a passenger in the stage from Hamilton, which arrived at about two o'clock. The driver, instead of taking Ranton to his destination, dragged him out of the stage, and left him in the snow, so excessively intoxicated as to be unable to rise. In this state and position, the driver left him. Fortunately he had been discovered before he had been there long; had it been otherwise, the consequences at this inclement season would probably have been serious. On his person were found a watch and other property. After an admonition from the Mayor, he was discharged. We may add that the policeman who gave evidence in the case, afterwards stated that misconduct of this kind, on the part of stage drivers, is by no means rare.—Patriot.

TWO PERSONS DROWNED.—Robert Kincaid and Thomas Love, of the 9th concession of Tyendinaga, were drowned on Thursday last, while crossing the River Moira, at Shipman's mill, in Hungerford.—Belleville Intelligencer.

RETIREMENT OF VICE-CHANCELLOR JAMESON.—We learn that Vice-Chancellor Jameson has arranged with the Government for his retirement from the Bench, on a pension of £750 per annum. It is understood that J. G. Sprague, Esq., Master-in-Chancery, has been offered the vacant Judgeship by His Excellency the Governor General, and has accepted it. The names of several gentlemen are mentioned as likely to receive the Mastership; but we believe no appointment has yet been made. It is said the Hon. John Beverly Robinson, Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, is about to be created a Commander of the order of the Bath.—Globe.

BUTCHERS' MEAT.—The stalls in St. Lawrence Market on Saturday, presented a highly creditable display of butchers' meat, prepared with especial reference to the approaching season of social festivity. Beef and mutton of excellent quality, dressed with scrupulous neatness, were exhibited in larger or smaller quantities at every stall, devices and mottoes being in many cases attached. The whole market presented a very antique scene, and one which has probably never had an equal in the annals of Canadian flesh-dealing. Where all is deserving of praise, it is difficult to single out stalls without an appearance of injustice to others. We may, however, state that Mr. Armstrong exhibited the carcass of the ox which gained the chief prize at the Niagara exhibition; a portion was purchased by Mr. Sleigh, butcher, of Yorkville, with the view of being forwarded to the approaching exhibition at London as a specimen of "Canadian manufactures." Mr. Sleigh purchased for the same purpose the carcass of a very fine sheep, shown at the stall of Mr. Berriman. The market was thronged throughout the day by buyers and spectators. In the lower market, Mr. Bright, Mr. Stewart, and others, showed meat in no respect behind their competitors.—Patriot.

POLITICAL MUTTON.—Considerable amusement was excited in St. Lawrence market on Saturday, by the exhibit on of Mr. Berriman's stall, of a couple of sheep placed one above the other, and respectively labelled "Quebec" and "Toronto." That