

# The Cross;

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, APRIL 7.

## CATHOLIC PROPERTY IN THE DIOCESS OF HALIFAX.

The Bill of Incorporation for securing the Church Property in the City and County of Halifax for the sacred purposes for which it was acquired, has passed both Houses in a very satisfactory manner, and we may now congratulate our readers, especially those in this neighbourhood, on the gratifying provisions of this Bill, and the almost unanimous manner in which it received the assent of both Houses. Hitherto the Bishop held various properties by Deed, over which he had entire personal control, which he could not transfer to his successors in office, and which, through omission, or forgetfulness, or the doubtful clauses of an ill-drawn will or conveyance, might fall into improper hands, or be diverted to other purposes. His Lordship's just and conscientious anxiety on this subject is now relieved. He can now securely transmit to his successor and successors in office the sacred property which he holds, and in such a manner that it will be absolutely impossible for any one to sell, alienate, or mortgage it, or apply it for any other purpose but that for which it has been procured. No turbulent priest, or factious layman, can henceforth disturb the peace of our Church, and this is certainly a blessing for which we have reason to be thankful. The Bill of Incorporation was passed through the Assembly in all its stages without a single division. No doubt a firmer or honest measure never came before the Assembly. The only favor the Catholics asked was to be empowered by law to secure their Church property for its legitimate purposes, and to take it out of every one's power to misapply it; still we feel bound to record with grateful feeling the unanimity with which the House of Assembly consented to the measure. In the Upper House there was only one division, with a Glorious Minority of Three, including the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, who was the principal, indeed we may say, the only opponent of the Bill. We thought that his Lordship and the Church of England had received so many undue privileges, and so much valuable property in Nova Scotia, to which they had no more claim than the members of any other Church in the Province, that he might have suffered the poor Papists to obtain, not any of the public property, but the security of their own. However, in his high wisdom, as the Great Champion of Religious ascendancy in Nova Scotia, he has thought proper to act otherwise; and perhaps when the report of the debate is published, we may be tempted to review the arguments upon which he grounded his pertinacious opposition. We know not whether we ought to congratulate his Lordship on having got into decent society, in his opposition to the Bill. However, he may be delighted to hear, that the celebrated Sam Carten the Shoemaker—(Shoemaker we ought to have said, for we believe the poor man never does any thing half so clever as to fabricate a shoe, because his time has been so much taken up with affairs of Church and State that he could not afford any to mind his own)—the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, we say, will be glad to hear that he is leading a politician as Sam Carten has declared the Bill to be a very bad Bill, and that he told several of the Members so. We dare say it would be very easy to secure, without any Bill of Incorporation, all the property that the Church will derive from Sam, either now or hereafter. We understand, however, that he is very anxious about what is contributed by others; and that his sollicitudo is particularly manifested on the occasion of all Church or Religious Collections. As the Great Flour-Inspectorship speculation has all turned into lumbrici, he ought to make interest with the Gentlemen at St. Mary's to get himself appointed Inspector General of Ecclesiastical Finance. We think he would display great capacity in a congenial situation of this kind. He is so clever at coaxing the people to pay their offerings for the support of the Bishop and Clergy, that his services would be invaluable at the Christmas and Easter Collections. A snug percentage on so large an amount as £1,500 a year—the alleged Revenue of the Church of Halifax—would be, in our opinion, a very comfortable salary for a walking shoemaker. If Sam should take the hint and apply for the situation, he may command the

best services of "the Gentlemen of the Cross." Any testimonials that the Bishop and Clergy may require from us, shall be given to Mr Carten with much pleasure. Indeed we can entertain little doubt of his success.

## OUR MUSICAL PARLIAMENT.

The "Collective Wisdom" of Nova Scotia have at length been released from their legislative labours. After a session of nearly a quarter of a year, during which a great deal of good or evil has been done, the two Houses were prorogued on Saturday last in a complimentary speech from the Governor. His Excellency, inter alia, congratulated them on the "harmony," which had characterised their proceedings. It seems this delightful concord of sweet sounds has been steadily increasing and swelling since the very beginning of the Session, and that during the last week it rose to such a pitch, that in the House of Assembly a regular Concert was held every evening, and prolonged beyond midnight. We are told, however, that the Hon. and Learned Speaker, who acted as *Choregos*, or Conductor of this harmonious band of musicians, had sometimes great difficulty in keeping time. Any dissonance, however, which was heard within the walls, must have been much softened by distance, so that by the time it reached Government House, we have no doubt that it died away with all the sweetness of an *Æolian harp*.

## THE NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The Steamer arrived in our harbour about 2 o'clock on Thursday. The Pope is still at Gaeta waiting for a favorable turn of events. No stability at Rome—the ministers perpetually changing. The armistice is broken between the unfortunate King of Sardinia and the Austrian General, Radetzky. Russia has made vast military preparations. Austria has proclaimed one general Constitution of a liberal nature for her various States and Kingdoms. France is rather peaceful. The King of Holland is dead, and has been succeeded by his son. The total repeal of the Navigation Laws in England is very doubtful. A fiery agitation against the Rate in aid has been going on in Ireland. The Cholera has been very severe in Limerick, but was decreasing in other parts of the Empire. The potatoe has been very extensively planted in Ireland, and at so early a season as to afford hopes of success. A riot occurred at Crossgar, County Down, on St. Patrick's Day, when two or three were killed and several wounded. Another took place in Derry, but no lives were lost, though some persons were wounded. Maria Christina, the Dowager Queen of Sardinia and aunt of the present King, expired at Savona on the 11th March, in her 70th year. She was distinguished for her beneficence and patronage of the arts and sciences.

## ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

We beg to inform *Alumnus*, in reply to his queries, that the Grants have not yet been withdrawn from the Colleges. The Act will not expire until next Session, when we hope a general and impartial measure will be introduced by the Government to sustain all existing Institutions for the higher branches of learning, and to equalise the Grant to every College. It is not correct to call St. Mary's a Denominational College. St. Mary's is no such thing. No religious test is imposed on the Students: no interference with the religious tenets of any of its Protestant Alumni has been ever attempted at St. Mary's. Protestants of various Denominations have attended the College, and can attest the truth of these declarations. Any student of any creed in Halifax, can enter St. Mary's College and study whatever he requires for his future position in life, without any interference with his religious opinions. During the progress of the debates in the House of Assembly, we did not think it worth our while to correct this, no more than many other mistakes which were committed by some of the Speakers who proved they knew very little of the subject on which they were debating. One gentleman said £1000 were expended in the education of Catholic Priests during four years. He would no doubt be surprised if we assured him that instead of 1000 pounds, not 1000 farthings were expended for that purpose during that very time. Even if there were, have not young men a right to study theology as well as any other science, if they are so inclined? Such arguments are really pitiful and narrow-minded.

## CHIEF JUSTICE BRADY.

An important case was lately tried in equity in the Supreme Court of Newfoundland, respecting the nature of the Trust by which the Presbyterian Church of St. Andrew, & St. John's, was held. Some members of the Free Church of Scotland wanted to claim the right of appointing a minister, &c, which was resisted by those who represented the old Scottish Presbyterian Church, or, in other words, the Presbyterian State Church in Scotland. The latter brought the action, and, after a lengthened investigation, they succeeded against the Free Churchers. The Chief Justice delivered his judgment after a long and able argument, and, after having disposed of the law of the case, he concluded in the following words:—

"I cannot in justice to my own feelings dispossess of this case without adverting to a subject which formed a topic in the addresses of counsel for both parties, and joining with them as I do, with the most heartfelt sincerity, in the expression of hope that with the termination of this litigation all animosities and unhappy differences may give place to kindly and charitable feelings. You differ but slightly in religious belief; but differ ever so widely, I you may maintain with honest hearts and firm minds your peculiar opinions; but you should always remember that you both glory in the name of christians, and practice this great commandment, "Love, God, and your neighbour as yourself; this do and thou shalt live." And who is your neighbour? It is thus beautifully explained in the catechism of the Roman Catholic Church, the first religious book placed in the hand of our children.—"Mankind of every description, and without any exception of persons, even those who injure you or differ from you in religion." That great and consoling precept I feel it to be the duty of every christian to inculcate, still more to practice; and I do hope that the intelligent, respectable, and influential class in this small community who are interested in this cause, will receive these observations in the same kindly spirit in which they are offered. And of this I am persuaded, that when the things of this world cease to interest and engage our attention, amid the all-absorbing hopes and fears of eternity, in the review of our earthly career, we shall enjoy a most consoling, cheering, and hopeful aspiration, from any efforts we shall have made to protect society from the evils of religious strife and sectarian rancour."

Mr. Justice Des Barres, and Mr. Justice Simms, expressed their concurrence in the judgment pronounced by the Chief Justice.

## MIRACLES WILL NEVER CEASE.

We are told that extremes often meet. But of all the singular conjunctions of this kind which we have heard of for some time, the marvellous coincidence of opinion between Sam Carten and the Protestant Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia on a subject affecting the interests of the Catholic Church, surprised us most. The Bishop and Sam opposed the Incorporation Bill for securing Catholic property, most vehemently. We think it must be a good Bill. If either of its opponents said it was a bad Bill, we would be sure of its goodness. But when both combine in declaring it objectionable, no one in his senses can doubt of the excellence of the measure.

## PALM SUNDAY.

On Sunday last, immediately before High Mass, the Palms were solemnly blessed by the Bishop, who afterwards preached on the Gospel of the Ceremony. The Sermon at Vespers was preached by the Vicar General. There were two Sermons in our Cathedral on every Sunday during the past Lent:—one at High Mass by the Bishop, and another at Vespers from the different Clergymen of the city in succession.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH,

WARD No. 5 AND 6.  
Mr William Jones, 10s; Mr Jeffrey Mackery, 5s; Mr John Hanly, 3s 1/2d; Richard O'Neil and D. O'Brien, 2s 6d each; A Friend, 1s 1/2d; Mrs P Kenny, Richard Flinn, John O'Donnell, William Callanan, Denis Sweeney, Miss McDermott, James Lathann, Lawrence Connell, Thomas Bows, Bridget Harris, Thomas Connors, Mrs Michael Walsh, Mrs James Dunnoley, Mortimer Dwyer, John Mulroney, William Mortimer (Sealor), Michael Smith (Sealor), G. W. Dops, and Edward O'Donnell—1s 3d each; Isabella Puzsch and Widow Shannon, 7/6d each.  
Total, £2 10s 0d.  
March 22d, 1849.  
Collected by W. BUCKLEY.

## THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN NOVA SCOTIA.

No. II.

We print to-day the first Letter we have received in answer to our appeal concerning Bishop Burke. It contains some items of information, and may probably encourage others to come out with more diffuse information. We have often heard of Father Jones; we know that he was a Capuchin friar, and that he was highly and justly esteemed in Halifax. The Prince alluded to in the Letter, was Edward Duke of Kent, father of Her present Majesty. On dit, that Father Jones was often a welcome guest at his table. Many years ago we heard that Father Jones left a very handsome legacy to the College of Maynooth, but we never heard before, that it was in consequence of a misunderstanding with his flock in Halifax. It is certainly a matter of deep regret that (no matter what the cause) those thousands should have been bequeathed to so richly endowed an establishment as that of Maynooth, whilst the Catholic missions of Nova Scotia stand in need of so much assistance. The story of Dr. Burke's appointment through the influence of the British Government, we do not believe. He owed his elevation to his acknowledged virtues and learning as well as to the recommendation of his Ordinary, the Bishop of Quebec, whose Pastoral on the occasion we also publish to-day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CROSS.

Halifax, 26th March, 1849.

DEAR SIR,—

Hearing that information is wanted as to the first Catholic missionaries that came to Halifax, I will give all that I know—hoping that my incompetency will be forgiven. The first missionary that came here was a Father Burke, but having no toleration, he privately officiated. Father Jones was next, who had toleration. Nevertheless he was taken a prisoner in Halifax, and brought before Governor Parr, to know if he had liberty to preach his doctrine. When they found that he had, they left him alone, like the woman taken in adultery. I forget allusion to names, although they are well known. St. Peter's Church was built in 1783, and the steeple in 1791, the first year that the Prince came here, and departed from here in August, 1800. Father Jones realized a great sum of money here, and sold it to the Parishioners for five shillings; but unfortunately, being displeased with them, and they not going and paying the five shillings into the treasury, he carried it to Ireland, and made it over to Maynooth College. Touching upon Bishop Burke, no doubt he was a native of the County Kildare, and received his early education in a village bordering on the Counties Kildare and Dublin, which he soon outstripped and went to Paris. I do not know how long he was there—but the following eulogy will give some information.

DIED, Wednesday, Nov. 29th, 1820, universally regretted, as he lived respected, the Right Rev. Doctor Burke, Titular Bishop of Sion and Vicar Apostolic of Nova Scotia and its Dependencies, &c &c, in the 78th year of his age—a native of the County Kildare, Ireland—and Parish Priest of the Town of Kildare, which he vacated at the frequent and urgent solicitations of some of the professors of a Seminary at Quebec, and arrived in Lower Canada the 2nd August, 1780. There he officiated as Clergyman, and taught the several branches of the Mathematics and Philosophy with credit to himself and benefit to the numerous Students that flocked to hear the Lectures of a man celebrated in the University of Paris, as excelling most men of his day in Mathematical Science and the Classics, especially the Greek and Hebrew Languages.—His Lord Dorchester appointed him as a faithful and capable man to reconcile the many tribes of Indians, inhabiting round Lake Superior, the Ohio, and Louisiana, who at that time manifested dispositions hostile to the British Government. Among those tribes he resided for six or seven years, suffering all the privations that civilized man could endure, till he fully completed the subject of his mission. Government rewarded these services, by granting Doctor Burke a pension for life—as likewise, in approbation of his loyalty and learning, they used their influence with the See of Rome to appoint him Bishop of Sion and Vicar Apostolic of Nova Scotia. It would appear superfluous to add to the merits of this truly good and pious man, that is now no more.