[WRITINN FOR THE TRUE WITHERS.] VANISHED FACES.

Gould we recall the vanished years,
The friendly faces who have flown,
For whom we shed the silent tears,
More bright would be the days to come;
But vanished years and friends so dear,
Who left any hearts willest vanish Who left our hearts in silent pain,

The good bye spoken when so near, We nevermore may hear sgain. The future we cannot foresee, And well 'tis hidden from our eyes,

For then the Star of Hope might be Forever dimmed in hopeless sight, When bright eyes beam on us wish love, We fondly hope 'twill last for aye, When if we could but look above, Perhaps 'swould wither in a day.

The sweetest moments in our lives Are numbered with the happy past, The golden dream of youth survives, While memory in the heart will last; And though the friends of former years, May faithless prove in days to come, We shed for them the ellent tears, Which flow from hearss with sorrow dumb.

Poor werry hearts that place their all Of happiness in joys of earth; And fail to heed the heavenly call Which leads to joys of truer worth; The vanished faces loved so well, Await us where no links are broken, And joy unspeakable doon dwell, Where tarewell words are never spoken.

MARGUERITE A. MASSAM. Kensington, Feb. 21, 189.1.

Of Archbishop O'Brien to Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Halifax, N.S.

he Condition of Catholicity in the City and Bisewhere.

CORNELUS, by the grace of God, and favor of the apostolic see, Archbishop of Halifax. To the elergy and laity of the diocese, health and benediction in the Lord.

DRABLY BELOVED: We are told in holy scripture that God wishes "all men to be saved, and come to knowledge of the truth." (I Tim. father has manifested this wish of his heart.

He sent his beloved son, born of a woman, that he might redeem all mankind, and thus gave an inconsessable proof of his love for our race— "God so loved the world as to give his only be-gotten son." (John iii., 16) Not one human being was passed by; not one soul was afore-ordained to pardition; no necessity coeroed the will to evil doing, nor did any act on the part of God stamp the seal of reprobation on a human soul. "As in Adam all die, so, also in Curist all shall be made alive" (1 Cor. xv., 22) inarmuch as a sufficiency of mane of attaining happigess in accordance with their condition is concerned. Endowed with intelligence and free will man was placed here for a perm of proba-tion, E ernal happiness was to be won through the aid of God's grace, and a right use of free will. Before him were good and evil; he could choose which soever he would. Just as the joya of heaven are not given to the adult wishout the co-operation of his will so the woes of per-dition are not incurred without wilful misuse of

The primary truths of our holy religion to-day more than ever, need to be clearly sat forth for the world. Owing to our mode of life, and our many comforts and conveniences, a great shrinking from physical pain has been develop-ed. Supernatural charity may not abound; but a readiness to alleviate pain and to relieve distress in every general; and no one delights in inflicting budily terment on his neighbor.

The advance of meterial science, the many discomforts it has removed, and the sensitiveness to pain thus developed have produced

The unblinking, and the class of ideal pleasure reekers have, uncon-clously, perhaps, some to the conclusion that the road to heaven has always been made easy and pleasant. If they can now klide swiftly in a sleeping car over tracts of country through which their fathers slowly lumbered along in joining wag-gown; why should they not have a casier road to heaven than that of duty, self-restraint and irksome obedience to God's law? In their selfish effiminancy they delude themselves with the idea that nothing disagreeable should be required of them by their creator. They forget that they are running in the race, and that those who strive for even a corruptible grown zestrain their passions. They forget, in a word, they are here on trial, and live as if life held no usies and exacted no sacrifices.

Others again, recognizing that life is a time

of probation, but not grasping the grand truthe of our holy church, seek to establish a future place or time of trial for those to whom, as they ascert, a sufficient opportunity had not been afforded during life. This is called "progressive orthodoxy," and is not to be confounded with the Catholic doctrine of purgatory. Yet others there are and for them as for the

class just mentioned we have sincere sympashy in their efforts to free themselves from the fatalistic chains of Calviniam, who are endeavoring to eliminate the harsh errors from their "confession of fatth." Whilst we sympathize with them in their struggles for the freedom wherewith Christ has made us free, let us pray they may understand that a confession of faith which needs revision cannot be God's message to our race otherwise revision would be rank implety and treason to the Almighty. It can only then be a device of man, and as such can be no guide on the road to heaven. To us who enjoy the light of divine faith, whose creed developes, indeed, on the same lines and in the same nature, even as a human body waxes never be revised or changed, being God's own word, it seems strange that earnest men cannot recognise this, to us, so apparent a conclusion Let us hepe and pray that a ray of divine faith may enlighten their souls to see the errors of a system to which they may have dung, believing it to be true, and show them the beauty, the armony and consissency of Catholic doctrineor God wishes "all men to come to a knowledge

the truth t is because men do not know the truths of eur religion that they are restless in mind, "tossed about every wind of doctrine," akeptical or downright unbelievers. So many generous souls and highly cultured intellects bave known from childhood no higher form of worship than the cold form alities and judaical characteristics. observances of Calvinism and its kindred sects, and no more noble prescatation of dogmatic truth than the drary fabilism of their creeds, that it is only natural their hearts should be dissatisfied and their intelligence filled with anrest. It is only natural, too, that hearing the inconsistencies and sensationalism of so-called teachers of religion, they should gradually lose n that was presented to them in such a contradictory guise. Their intelligence enables them to see the fallacy of such teaching, and knowing nothing of Catalolic raththey would easily enough conclude that God had not spoken-perhaps, even, there was no

It behaves us then to endeavor to lead men to the truth by word and example. The never-changing creed of the Catholic Church, under-stood by the light of faith, consoles the heart, satisfies the intellect, vindicates God's mercy whilst upholding his justice, and fills the soul ith peace and hope. It proclaims man a free

and this increase to acquire still further blessings. And; shus in an ever progressive series the soul cas go on from grace to still higher grace, from perfection to perfection until it at tains after death its final goal, namely, the first free he may elect to use, or not to use, the first free he may elect to use, or not to use, the first grace, or any succeeding one, and instead of rising neares to God by a holy life, he may determine after death is soul by sin, then away his face from the light, make animal pleasures the sam of his existence, harden his heart by vice, close his existence, harden his heart by vice, close his existence, harden his heart by vice, close his case to the plandings of divine love, and chooses as his portion the things that are hatfall to God. Dying in this state, thus wilfully turned away from his creator, the poor lost soul has elected its own bitter lot of separation from God, and she Almighby, who made it for him.

If any, is being made. It also enables the faith of its part of the money they are so often called on to subscribe in indiciously extended. Hisherto we have made no and she they are so often called on to subscribe its indiciously extended. Hisherto we have made no and the extent of God. Pring in this state, thus wilfully turned away from his creator, the poor lost soul has elected its own bitter lot of separation from God, and she Almighby, who made it for him.

Our many control of the swould be a credit to any dionese in the Dominion. God, and the Almighty, who made it for him-self, is sorrowfully obliged to ratify its choice, and to execute the centence which that soul had rassed upon itself. Perdition is its never ending portion, but perdition not from God's will, not Bridgewater. from lack of means offered on his part, but from Sheet Harbor. the free choice made by the soul during life. God's mercy cannot be impunged, for he gave it an initial grace by which more might have been obtained. He respected the dignity of man as a free agent; but man misused his freedom and must abide by the consequences; and far from being able to blame his creator, as establishments to meet the many foolish ones in life fain would de, the lost soul will have to exclaim "Thou art just, O Lord, and Thy judgments are right." (Pel. academy for boys in this citatended. Two sessions

The future as well as the past and present is known to God; rather there is no past or future for Him; for all knowledge is in him in one permanent act. He indeed knows who will be loss and who saved. Yet this knowledge does not interfers with our freedom of choice nor de-termine the acts of our will. We do not elect to act in certain way on account, of God's knowledge; rather God has this knowledge because we will so elect; for although as regards us God's knowledge is prior to our choice, still in the order of causality, the choice must be antecedent to the knowledge thereof. There is therefore no difficulty in reconciling human freedom of choice with the foreknowledge of God. A rejection of Catholic truth necessarily cl uds the intellect, diminishing its power to grasp fully and clearly the principles of science, or to deduce just conclusions by their applica-tion to the reasonings of the mind. Hence the bitter dislike to logic of so many; and hence also the cruel Calvinistic dooring of foredoom. Let those who are endeavoring to eliminate this harshness from their creed go further. Let them look to the "rock from whence they were hewn," (Is, ii.,) and ask themselves why, or how, their "confession of faith" arose at a'l Clearly it cannot be God's work; also to ravise to incur the anathema pronounced by St. Paul -"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach a gospel to you besides that which we

have presched to you, let him be anathema." (Gal. 1, 8) It cannot have been the creed of the early christians, for that we find identical with the teachings of the Catholic Church—always living, always progressing, always developing new beauties and more symmetry of form, but always on the same lines and in the same essence. Why then does the revisible confession exist in our age of enlightment and culture? Were it not for inbred prejudics, un-founded fears, and a want of reflection on the origin and claims and evidences of the God-given and God guarded nature of our faith, thousands would cry—"Cat it down; why encumbereth it the ground." (Luke xiii., 7)

The school of "Progressive orthodoxy," that has its centre in Andover college, holds that for

many there must be a future state of probation inasmuch as God's will was not sufficiently made know to them in life. Both revelations and the teachings of right reason are opposed to this new theory. The only probation ground for man is this world, for "it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment." (H-b. ix., 27,) and since where "sin abounds grace has superabounded" (Rom, v., 20), a sufficiency has been abounded" (Rom, v., 20), a sufficiency has been given to each one to atbain an eternity of bappointers adapted to one's capacity. Those who
lived "under the law," as the apostle taught,
were judged by the law; those who lived without knowledge of that law are judged by the
law of babute, that is by the use they make of
their reason and free will, and their initial grace
of praver. Knowing little they will be judged
in little; having few opportunities they will
have only to account for those few. In other
words, men, who through no fault of their own,
are in ignorance of revelation, will not be called are in ignorance of revelation, will not be called to account by the christian standard, but by that of reason's light. This, however, does not cover the case of so called christians who accept only such portions of revelation as seems pleasing to them, or deny perhaps the divinity of Christ. Humble and persevering prayer for light and grace would bring them to the fulness if the trush

In regard to infants who die without baptism the church has never taught that they are consigned to perdition. Having committed no so ual ain they will not be subjected to any pain of the sense; and having never been an heir to the kingdom of God from lack of captusm, they will suffer no sense of loss by exclusion from the beatific vision; because only that which is known by intelligence is desired by the will. In a state then adapted to their capacity for natural enjoyment they may be said to exist. Thus through God's loving disposition can each human baing born into the world attain an end in keeping with its nature, and the use made of the measure of its endowments. This is the consistent and consoling doctrine of boly church, unrevised and unrevisable; because it is the message once delivered to the apostles, and handed down through their successors. As we have seen, should even an angle from heaven attempt to revise or change it, St. Paul would pronounce him anathems. If those who are striving to free themselves from the errors of a creed that would freedom men to predition, and make of our loving Father a beartless tyrant, would prayerfully consider the dostrine of holy church, as taught in her authorized formularies, they would see its truth and beauty ins cansistency throughout, its vindication of God's mercy and man's dignity as a free agent embracing it they would find light for their intelligence, peace for their will, and rest for

their soul. But, dearly beloved, whilst God wishes all men to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth, we must always bear in mind that unless we co-operate by our actions with His grace we shall not be saved. As no one but ourselves can keep us from heaven, so no one can gain it for us except ourselves. This is the responsibility of free will which corresponds to its dignity. Never weary, dear brethren of the clergy, of reminding your people of this, and of pointing out to them the duty of self-restraint that it ents is. Scattered over the face of the country, they are the sale that is to preserve society from corruption. From them examples of faith and morality are required. These they will give if they faithfully practice the teachings of their religion, and frequent the sacra-ments of the Church. Urge them with holy zeal to take advantage of this season of grace, and to turn to God with all their hearts during and to turn so God with all their hearts during the lenten time. Our loving Lord is anxiously waiting for their coming, and is ready when becought to bestow pardon and the kies of peace. To you he has entrusted the power of his eternal priesthood, so that you, in imitation of him, might seek the lost sheep in the wilder-ness of sin and lead than hark to the ness of ain and lead them back to the one true fold. Pray God, dear brethren, that this sub-line power may not be idle nor misused.

grace of our Lord Jesus Obrist be with von all. This pasteral shall be read in each church of the diocese, on the first Sunday after its recep-tion on which the pastor shall officiate therein. You are sgain reminded of the annual collection to be taken up on Passion Sunday for the holy places in and around Jerusalem, which you

will transmit to us as soon as possible. Archbishop of Halifax.

E. F. MURPHY, pro-secretary, Halifax, N. S. Feart of the Commemoration of the Passion of of our Lord, 1890.

Large and desirable plots of church property have also been purchased, amongst other places at Truro, Amheret, Parisboro, Dartmouth, Bridgewater. Yarmouth, Savinierville and

An academy, under the charge of the sisters of charity, will be opposed this month in Hamilton, Bermuds, where also a priest's residence has been built. The academy of the Sacred Heart and that of Mount St. Vincent, have added large and commodisus wings to their academic to meet the wants of their instablishments to meet the wants of their instablishments to meet the wants of their instablishments. establishments to meet the wants of their in-

creasing number of pupils.

The Ubristian Brothers have opened an academy for boys in this city, which is largely attended. Two spacious and well-designed achools, not inferior to the best in the Dominion have been erected under arrangement with the board of school commissioners of the city. The old orphanage destroyed by fire has been

rebuilt, and four rooms in it are occupied as departments of the sity schools.

Torough the munificence of the late Mr.
Power we were able to open St. Patrick's home for boys, which, under the charge of the Christian Brothers, is doing a work of great

The house of the guardian augel, where in-fant babes and motherless babes are tenderly cared for under the sisters of charity, has been founded, and fills a want long felt by Catholics, who prize the soul of a child more than its material prosperity.

An infirmary, whose medical board embraces some of our first surgeons and doctors, and a not true, because, by reading the act they home for old ladies, are successfully managed could see that it was not the law that was sanchome for old ladies, are successfully managed

ormenting the facade and spire.

On the properties ourchased and churches and houses built outside of Halifax there is no debt worth mentioning; in fact, all except two are entirely free from debt. In Halifax apare from the two schools, the amount due on the other works is only small, and will, we trust, be paid ere long.
On debts due seven years ago, nine thousand

dollars have been paid, and arrangements are now such that we can confidently hops, aided by the generosity of the peope, to reduce the

remainder by degress.
Whilst under God's blessing these thing have been accomplished, there is one much need work which we ardently desire to see established. We refere to a protectory for girls, com-bined with a Magdalen asylum. As it is a real need, we feel assured Catholic charity will sup ply the means to enable us to found such an

A residence affording more accommodation for the archbishop add clergy, as well as safer and more fitting offices of a diocesan nature in connection therewith, is, we think, a want apparent to all, and one which we hope to see surplied in the near future.

+ C. O'BRIEN, Archbishop of Halifax.

MERCIER AND THE MINORITY

The Quebec Premier Explains and Justifies His Attitude Towards the Protestants.

A JEST AND GENEROUS POLICY.

In the Legislative Assembly at Quebec on was a necessity to have his sanction to the bill. Menday the 17th Feb. Dr. Cameron moved for Now, sir, where is the insult to the Queen? and Hon. Gedeon Onimet and Rev. E. J. Rexford regarding the rights and privileges accorded to the minority in the matter of education. He read a carefully worded speech, in which he said there was at present a feeling of unrest among the Protestant minurity and he made the present request for the purpose of allaying anything approaching political strike, and to afford the Ministers of the Governments chance to explain certain charges mades against them. He freely admitted that the Protestant mina rity had nothing to complain of in a material point, but claimed that there were other than material luterests to be considered. It had Government of the day, and if such insulte were given against the minority he wanted to have them proved or denied. If he believed all the member for Montesim had said, the Government was hostile to the minority and never hesitated to give an insult to Protestants. He asked for corroborative evidence from the Prime Minister if what he was alleged to have said. " that he looked forward to day when the tricelor would be the flag of the province, and that a new France would be established on the borders of the St. Lawrence," were true, and if the rumors to that effect were well founded. He asked of the leaders of the present Government, and a great deal depended on the answer he received, were they loyal men or no: Never in the history of the country was a question of such importance put to a prime minister before, and never was the Protestant minority so uneasy for the future as now. What he wanted to know now was if the material justice meted out to the minerity was not a cloak to cover insults simed against them, and if Protestants were

justified in soundidg the alarm.

Premier Mercier replied in a cool and collected way. He said: 1 thank the member for Huntington for having brought up this quistion because I believe is a very proper way to get rid of certain projudices that exist to-day on account of the position taken by certain men and newspapers. The documents demanded by his motion are few in uninber, but very impor-tant. They mainly consist of my own letters addressed to the Bon. Gedeon Onimet and E J. Rexford, the English secretary of the Counail of Public Instruction. These letters were to inquire into the actual condition of the Protestent minority in the Province in connection with education. The idea of asking for this information was inspired by the discussion that took place lately in connection with the Jeanit estates bill, and also with the reproaches made in certain papers in the province and in Unturious the effect that the Protestant minority was not treated as it should be and that the should toward them. But before entering into details I think it my duty to answer at once certain questions. The first and most once certain questions. The first and most important, and perhaps the one on which the member from Huntington desires the principal information is this: "Aye the members of this Government loyal men !" Every one of the members of the Government are loyal to the Queen and desire the maintenance of the British connection, wish to respect the English flag, and will not do anything either against the Queen,

constitution or flag as long as the majority in this country does not think it proper to change te allegiance. We are FIRST LOYAL TO OUR COUNTRY.

Canada. When the majority thinks it proper to change its constitution and flag, I am not one to go against the wishes of the majority of the people. The second question is whether I have

STRENGTH!

THIS IS

placed the Pope above the Queen, because we had stated that the agreement made b-twee?

Father Turgeon and myself could have no effect if not approved by the Pope, and it was wired over the world and published in every Protestant paper that in doing that we insulted the Queen and placed the Pops above her. Those who made that statement knew it was by the sisters of charity.

The cathedral has been heated with not water, and over five thousand dollars expended in cementing the facade and spire.

On the properties of the state was not one in with a was and tioned by the Pope, but that the law could have no effect so long as that agreement between myself and the representative of the Pope could have no effect. He named as his representative Father Turgeon, who also was appointed attorney for the Jesuits. He was an attorney, and so was I. We proceeded by correspondence to solve the question, and I stated positively in one of my letters after we had agreed that the agreement was of no avail so long as it was not rabifed, first by the Legislature and then by the Pope, and it was stated in the law that it would be of no effect so long as not ratified by the principals. When attor neys are appointed to settle such great questions, is it not the rule to have their decisions ratified by their princ pals? Was the Queen a principal of the pr pal in the Jesuit question? She was not. pal in the Jesuit question? She was not. The law was sanctioned by her representative and I waited for its sauction by the Pope's attorney and as soon as we get it the agreement was complete. Why discussed this point? Was it not stated by Her Majesty's representative, Lord Stanley, that there was nothing in the law of a nature to in-ult the Queen? Who is to speak for the Queen if not her representative? Who for the Queen if not her representative? Who has authority to say the Queen was insulted if not the English people or her representative? No one protested in England. Why think, then, an insult was offered because some papers stated so? Why are we stopped in our work by the representative that we insulted Her Majasty? We have all been elected in 1886. Many of us are new m m bers and many old, and the latter will remember Mr. Joly, a Protestant and a Frenchman. He sat with us. We knew his virtue, eloquence He sat with us. We knew his virtue, eloquence and loyalty to the Queen. What did he say after seeing all this discussion in the papers after we had put the name of the Pops in the bill? The Premier then quoted from Mr. Joly's letter on the settlement of the Jesuits' estates and continued thus. These are the remarks of a Protestant, now outside of politics, when he reserved his set in this Horse heavy. who has resigned his seat in this House because he thought the national movement ought not to have been made. He has no more interest in the necessity of importers drawing upon bank-politics than his souvenirs give him. He states ers' credits for the means of meeting foreign that if in the House he woold have insisted on it debtedness. Loans to commercial corporations to having the name of the Pops in the bill, as it tions, for instance, have mounted up within the

The next point is about the remarks made me at the meeting on St. Jean Bap ists day last. It was alleged that I then said my desire was to see the bri-color flux in this province. never said anything of the kind. Let the man rise in this house or in any part of the world who dares to say that of me, and I say he is a liar. I love France; I am a Frenchman and proud of it, but I would do nothing to-day to bring back this province or even Canada to France. Do you thick our love for France, or the love of Englishmen for England will unite us for ever to countries on the other side of the ocean? We have better aspirations than that We know the English people have great love been said, he continued, that insult after insult for England, Scotland or Ireland, and we re had been heaped upon Protestants by the spect their love for their mother country the same as we expect them to respect our love for our mother country; but we are here to create a great nation. We desire to see the day when our country will be great by itself; but what I want to state positively is, let us forget ou: divisions, let us unite for the good of our country, not for one nationality, not for one race, but for the whole nation. We are not strong; we are weak, and must unite not against the English flig nor against the Pro testant minority, but to bring about and preserve unity, prosperity and peace under the shadow of the English flig. Toese were the re-marks I made at the meeting on St. Jean Baptists day last year, and I am sorry to see them so strongly misconstrued. This dispuses of the two great crimes I have committed. hope the question will not come up again and that it will be settled now. Those who created excitement against the government of this pro vince stated that the minority was not treated. Well, it may be that in some details t we do not treat them as we ought. Minorities are always exposed to injustice; but if there has been any committed against the Protestant minority of Quebec I must say it was not done intentionally. The most important of their rights to consider are the educational and religious rights. There is no complaint of their civil or political rights, because these are protected by the constitution. The Premier than quoted from letters wristen on the educational question in April, 1888, and said the conditions were not charged since then. He took up. also, a letter of Mr. Rexford, of 9th July, 1859, in which the latter eaid the Protestant minurity enjoyed all the rights and privileges of the schools of the majority. There had never been any complaint from the minority of the province against the majority. If there was no com plaint, why did she majority of other provinces come here to raise prejudices? Simply because it was decided in some corner of the other provinces to try to bring on a war of races, and we bad just seen the result of this attempt in the House of Commons, Of course it would not Catholic majority did not behave just as it have been well to try to abolish French slto gether, but we saw there the first blow against the French people, yet they had no more suc-ceeded there than they have here.

The Hon. Premier then concluded from what

he had shown that the minority were well treated from both religious and educational point of view, and then seked, "New, what is He then quoted from the census of 1881 to show that the Protestants were in a majority only in six out of the sixth-five electoral districts, viz. Compton, Stanstead, Brome, Missisquoi, Runt ington and Argenteuil, thus forming 13.35 per cent, or less than one seventh of the whole population of the province. He asked the House to show him one Englishman who had ever presented himself in a French constituency and been defeated, and said his Government had never considered nationality or religion, quoting instances in which Protestants had

in the world, to state that I insulted the Queen | of the world for they posses sad privileges which the British constitution or the British fl.g, is a wore written in golden letters on the constitution. On what occasion was there a false state-ment ed. The best way to judge any person or made? First, on the occasion of the Jeautts' Government was by acts, not words, and he Estates Act it was first stated that in that bill I claimed that the present Government had placed the Pope above the Queen, because we always shown since they attained to power that they were well dispress to treat the Protestant miserity fairly. He then quoted a speech shey were well disposed to treat the Processing micerity fairly. He then quoted a spesch made by himself in 1882 in the presence of Lord Lorne, in which he stood up for equal rights for all in favor of making one grand Causadian nationality. He concluded by quoting a most els quent peroration from an after-dinner speech delivered by himself a couple of years ago which was greeted with loud applause, and he was subsequently generally congratulated on the exclience of the speech he had made. Hon, Mr, Taillon also made a few remarks in which he indulged in some sercestic language against the member for Huntingdon, and finally Mr. Hall succeeded in moving an ad journment

The Financial Situation [Montreal Gazette]

The statement of the condition of the banks at the closs of January shows a decline in circulation during the month of no less than \$2,700, 000, and in Publicd Preits of \$2.3-5.000, changes which point to a period of dull trade and pressure of payments on the part alike of wholesale and retailers. Loans to commercial borrowers are slightly reduced about \$320,000, but not in proportion to decline in circulation and depo-its. As compared with a year ago, many important changes in the accounts appear. The volume of the circulation has declined more than \$700,000, namely from \$31,592,370 to \$30,880,000 indicating a less active condition of trade. Dominion Guernment deposits have been reduced by the considerable amount of \$6,215,000, by reson, doubtless of expenditure for capital account. doubbless, of expenditure on capital account, while public diposits are larger by \$3,450,000. It is, however, in the assets that the more striking chapges have occurred, all of them the result of a pressure for credit. The stock of specie and Dominion notes has been one down by a no less than \$3,277,800, while the foreign balances have been reduced to the extent of \$8,223,730, the result being that in the items of captile community, caused to a material degree by the dull state of trade, slow remittances and tions, for instance, have mounted up within the year from \$19,666,450 to \$23,891,500, and ordinare trade discounts from \$141,315,000 to \$149,335,000, shoing a total enlargement in these loans of close up n ten million dollars. The expansion of oredit, of course, has a limit, and looking to the condition of the cash reserve and the foreign balances, it is probable that the limit has nearly been reached. expanding the top of the cone and wittling away at the base cannot go on indefluibly without producing unpleasant consequences, to avoid which a outtailment of credits to mercantile borrowers must be practised as rapidly as is consistent with prudence and the position of

these borrowers. Five years ago, namely, at the close of January, 1885, the commercial loans of the banks aggregated \$137,788,000, or \$35,500,000 less than at the present time ; on the other hand the cast reserves and foreign balances then amounted to \$35,511,500, as compared with only \$29,769,000 at the present time, showing how greatly cred its have been expanded in the interval. as the circulation furnishes an indix to the cor dition of trade, an enlargement has taken place in these five years, the amount of currency out standing bing \$1,200,000 more than then, and it is also to be remembered that as bank agencies are established in newly-settled and remoter parts of the country the note issues are more promptly retired; but, allowing for these factors, the conclusion is forced that the fabric of credit has tended steadily to top-heaviness until a halt in the process has become imperative. Take for illustration, the foreign exchange accounts. Five years ago the net balance due the banks by foreign agents was \$15,166,688 to day it is \$12,541,900, but in September of 1883, less than a year and a ha'f ago, the net balance in favor of the banks was \$24,776,000. So that in little more than a twelve month one-half of these cash resources has been converted into loans to commercial borrowers, in other words, flusting has become fix d capital The sudden enlargement of the foreign balances in 1858 was due, as our readers will remember, to the large loans negotiated in the summer of that year by the Dominion Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway company, and as the interest on these loans has to be remit ed annually, the draft ou the foreign balances consbankly moreares. A steady enhancement in the value of the export trans would, of course, ward off any danger of stringency in the market raising out of the demand for foreign exchange but unfortunately no appreciable gain in this direction has occurred to eff set the increase in imports and in the demand for sterling to meet rapid decline in foreign balances in recent months. Upon the whole the lesson baught by the bank returns is that caution should be observed in taing on liabilities, and that a cortailment of importations is desirable notile the condition of domestis trade has distinctly

A Presbyterian Opinion.

"We do not know and we do not care," says the Hamilton Times, "whether the Canadian Presbylerian believes in infant dampation or not. But we are glad to notice that it has generally a level head when it dismasses merely mundane affairs. Apropos of the Parnell Com-

mission judgment it says :" Those people who always believe everything bad about men they dislike must have fels sore over the report of the Commissioners in the Parcell case. When the London Times, with a great flourish of trumpets, charged Parcell with the most hideous crimes many who disliked Home Rule accepted the story of the Times without a minute's hesitation. They always knew that the Hume Bulers were orim-Leiting happiness if he uses aright the graces In many dioceses it is the custom to issue level into an agreement with the Times shot himself, into an agreement with inals. Even when the vile creature who entered

judges have declared Parnell innocent of all the serious personal charges made against him, those who charitably assumed that his hands were blood-stained don't know very well what to say about it. It will not do to say that the judges were unfair, because everybody knows that if they had any prejudice at all it was against the Irish leader. The lesson should not be lost. be lost,

RUSSIAN DESPOTISM.

How Workingmen are Buildesed by Muscovite Mustors.

A correspondent of the Times news paper say that a strike, in Russia is in truth a revolt, and is so treated by the authorities. The reason given is that Russian workmen have such ignorant unreasonable beings that they would become utterly unmanageable without vigorous and summary action of the judiclary. About a month ago a case occurred that illustrate the childish absurdity of the men and the efficacious action by the authorities. A falling off in trade casued the proprietors of certain large mills to reduce the production and discharge a number of the hands whose services were no number of the hands whose services were no longer useful. As soon as this decision was known a raving crowd of semi-savage workmen surrunded the managers and insisted that work should be found for the neural number of hands, threatening personal violence if their demand was ucheeded, while at the same time a quantity of valuable machinery was distroyed by the victors. The police was called in the contract of th

by the rioters. The police was called in and settled the matter very quietly.

During the night fifty of the ringleaders were quietly spirited away, no one knew whither or how. The rest, left leaderless, whimpered like beaten children and prayed to their favorite againts. Not receiving any satisfactory appears beaten children and prayed to their favorite saints. Not receiving any satisfactory answer from St. Vladimir, St. George of Capp docia, and the nuble army of martyrs, the Holy Icons remaining deaf and unsympathetic, the strikers quietly gave in and were beaten to work completely demoralized. Bye and bye it leaked out among the diplomate that the fifty poor fellows had been hurried of to the falt mines of Cracow, where they were scouraged starved and illused, till they imitated the example of Mrs. Sikida and sought death as a refuge from tyranny. All this horror was kept quiet as possible that the element of mystery may be added to the other arriving, so that while the Government got rid of fifty daugerous, because manly enemies, their former fellow because manly enemies, their fermer fellow laborers were awed by the incomprehensible disappearance of their leaders. This is how

they do things in Russia.

The Imperial labor reformer, Count Hatzfeldt, the German ambassador, has been in-structed by his Government to write a report on the labor question of England for comparison with the system which obtains in America. It is to be a digest of blue books, Perliamentary pipers and statustics from the books of the in-pectors of factories since 1867, and will also contain extracts from the English and American newspapers on the subject. The legation at Washington will also forward to Berlin a report on the situation of the labor question as it exists in America. The Emperor will himself compare the facts derived from these reports and draw his own conclusions.

BEHRINGS SEA NEGOTIATION'S.

Sir Chas. Tupper going to Washington.

LONDON, Feb. 27-Minister Pauncefore being found not quite sempathetic to Lord Salisbury, on many important questions of policy, will in future be assisted by a high official from Canada, prabably Sir Charles Tupper, whose mis-sion however will be very temporary. He will probably sail this week. The difficulty arises through Stanley, Salistory and Paurcefote holding divergent opinions on the Fisheries questions and the situation in Canada, which cause the despatches between the three to be slightly incoherent. It is rumored in high quarters that Pauncefote will shortly be sup-

LONDON, Feb. 27.—In the House of Commons this evening Sir Chas. Ferguson, Under Foreign Secretary, denied that the Behring Sea question had been settled. The negotiations to that and, he said, were still proceeding.

A BADLY MANAGED ARMY.

Hartington's Commission Makes Some Severe

LONDON, February 27.-A report of Lord Harrington's commission on the army and navy will appear next week. It is severe on the war office sestem, which it finds to be extravagant, cumorous and ineffective. It dwells with emphasis upon the fact that the responsibility of all heads of bureaus is only nominal, and it proposes to abeliah the position of commander-inchief, now held by the Duke of Cambridge, and to substitute a military chief of smill to be asstated by an advisory board, to whom heads of departments shall be directly responsible. Is also advises that power of granting warrants be withdrawn from the Secretary of State and be invested in Parliament. Is declared that the navy is well organized and well managed.

Floods in Tennessee and Kentucky. Louisville, February 27.-The Obio river has reached a flood stags. One of the elevated stations on the city front has been out off. A scare started to-night, and a number of families in the districts submerged in 1883 moved out, but there is little fear of such a deluge as then. C. A. Wooster, who has just returned from Middleborough and intermediate points, says the Cumberland is higher than it has ever been before, and the runaway waters have created havoo all along its course.

At Livingston the water has encroached upon the town dissertously. At Middleborough the electric light plant had been rendered useless, the streets were submerged and the canal out of sight. The floods have crippled the railways to a considerable extent.

A Golden Opportunity Missed.

LONDON, Feb. 26.-Lord Randolph Churchill spike at Paddington to day on the constructive policy of the Government in proposing to exsend local self government and land purchase to Ireland. He promised to do his best in assisting the Government in those measures. He was also pleased at the attitude of the Government on the education question. He repretted that the opposition in the Tory party had persuaded the Government to postuone free education, for it had thereby missed a golden opportunity that might not present itself again.

The British Government claim a considerable improvement in the condition of Ireland as to orime and industry from the application of their policy under the first year's working of the Cuercion act. The whole number of persons proceeded against was 1,475, of whom 770 were in Munster. Of these 393 were acquitted and 1,092 convicted. Of these last 301 appealed and in 19 cases the sentences were reversed, in 51 reduced, and in 131 affirmed. The offences included, 57 a ses of participating in National League mentings, 365 of assault og constables and balliffs, 155 of comparacy and 584 of rlos-the unnvious ans being respectively, 55, 277, 105 and 430. A large number of districts were proclaimed only a few counties escaping altogether. During the past year the ban was Lited from a great many of these,

The disagreeable sick headache, and foul stomach, so frequently complained of, can be speedily relieved by a single dose of McGain's Butternut Pille,

Blinks (after a long absence)-" And how