

IRISH IDOLATRY; ROMAN SUPERSTITION; ROMAN ADOPTIONS; &c. &c.

This is the Protestant *Shiboleth*; the rallying watchword of all the reformed and reforming sectaries since Luther's days, in their joint attacks against the only church of the Saviour's institution. It is evident that no founder of a new sect could ever hope to introduce his religious scheme into the world, and make it be adopted, without holding it forth as something more wise, true, holy and perfect than any other system in existence. Now this he owes to the unthinking and unlearned by crying down, as compared with his own, every other denomination. The more faults and flaws he finds or forges in other sects, the more he extols his own as free from such imperfections. This is the whole secret in making new religions, and the plan upon which every reforming Protestant acts, and has acted since the pretended reformation. But, though every reformer extols his own system of belief above those of his reforming neighbours; there is a sort of sympathy, or fellow feeling of forbearance, between all Protestant sectaries, as if from a consciousness that all of them have an equal right to reform; for all affect with equal right to build their tabernacles of every description on the same scripture ground. Hence, though they differ, and must differ with one another on every, and even on the most essential points of christian doctrine, such as on the very divinity of Jesus Christ; yet they never direct their abusive arguments against such as hold the most antichristian, deistical and atheistical opinions; nor even against pagans, Jews, and Mahometans; because all these broken battalions are joined with them in opposing the one holy Catholic Church. Against her alone do they all unite. In this only instance, forgetful of their own fearful differences, they are constantly seen to close their divided columns; and, as under the command of some common and invisible chief, to pour the mingled torrent of their instinctive rage and hatred against her, the chief object of their dread and envy. *Pr. testants*, according to the definition of the late Bishop Burges of Salisbury, are all those who oppose the Church of Rome. Therefore to Jews, Turks, and Infidels, who all oppose that church, are a branch of her Protestant assailants. And why all this joint and enduring fury of Protestant sectaries against her alone? Because truth is one; and that truth, or God's revelation to man, she alone has been commissioned by the Saviour to maintain unaltered and entire to the end of the world. Because, therefore, she can never countenance, or wink at, as indifferent, the whimsical and erroneous doctrines of man. Because, as the first, she is the only church, to which all the Saviour's promises were made, which assured her that he himself and his holy spirit would abide with her at all times; and guide her pastors into all truth, even to the end of the world. Because, as Saint Paul exhorts, she "bears not the yoke with unbelievers;" for "what participation," says he, "has justice with injustice? or what fellowship has light with darkness?

or what concord has Christ with Belial? or what part has the faithful with the unbeliever?" (2 Cor. vi, 14, 15.) Because she ever stands thus unconnected with all sects of human invention; and is therefore the open and common mark or target against which all their poisoned but powerless darts are directed. "This people," said the prophet, "shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations." (Num. xxiii, 9.) And Moses, blessing the Israelites, distinguishes the people of God by the same characteristic. (Deut. xxxiii, 28.) This unsociable, uncompromising, & (in matters of faith only) intolerant disposition of the Catholic Church, is what enrages the interested inventors and abettors of all new sects; and therefore do they use their utmost efforts by every means to blacken and caricature her to their followers; well knowing that should the public view her in her true light, and not so disfigured by their nicknames, calumnies, and misrepresentations; they would infallibly be exposed to lose their comfortable livings with their customers. But, though it is the worldly interest of such to delude the public; what interest is it to the public to cherish the delusion?

We would thank those who write to us concerning their papers, to pay at least the postage of their letters.

LATEST ACT OF PROTESTANT TOLERATION AND JUSTICE.

Might we not fairly doubt of the age in which we live, when we find instances like the subjoined, of outrages upon the rights of conscience, not only perpetrated by the remnant of a rampant and bigoted class in Ireland, but backed by the highest legal authority, in its enforcement? Why does not indignant Protestantism cry out and protest against such heartless and dishonest decisions, made in the name of that religion which they uphold as one of mildness, of justice, and toleration, and the determined foe of persecution and friend of Reformation. 'E fructu cognoscitur arbor,' and we would therefore think this fruit very bad for preserving—and with its parent trunk never intended to ornament an Eden. But the other day we witnessed the charitable bequest of a Catholic lady torn from the objects for whose relief it was left, and placed at the disposal of the protestant Bishop of Dublin, as the Law did not recognize any other bishop—and now we have a renewal of the atrocity in a Catholic teacher not being allowed the protection of the law of the country, which gave him and his ancestors birth,—not because he has disintituled himself by any crime by which he had forfeited his claim, but because he dares to worship God in the mode in which the wisest, the best, and the most moral and greatest men the world has ever known, have done—and that punishment and wrong inflicted too, when the world is giving to Protestantism the merit of emancipating Irish Catholics! !

The subjoined, which we cut from the Dublin Weekly Register, will speak for itself:

"REMNANT OF THE PENAL LAWS."
At Bannagher petty sessions the magistrates deferred adjudicating on a summons, at the suit of Mr. O'Cavanach, principal of the academy there, for two pounds duo for tuition, against Mr. Dowling, attorney, the defence being that the bench had no jurisdiction in such cases, and that Mr. O'Cavanach, as a Roman Catholic, should have a license to teach! The opinion of the Attorney-General is eagerly looked for on this most important point to teachers."

The concluding sentence gave us a faint hope that the opinion of the Attorney-General might be given in that spirit of equity which such a case demanded, even though that Attorney-General was the Tory Francis Blackburn—and even though strict interpretation of an obsolete statute might seem to favor the wrong.—But "naturam expelles furca, tamen usque recurret,"—and so it is that the nature of dislike to Catholicity evinces itself in the most inequitable, even though strictly legal decision upon such a claim. We had not long to remain in suspense, for looking into the Dublin Weekly Freeman's Journal, which reached us by the same mail, we there met the following:

17th August, 1842.
I have read the papers sent to me, and I am sorry to say that, in my opinion, demands of this kind are not within the acts referred to, and that the magistrates have not the power to adjudicate in them.
F. BLACKBURN."

Poor Ireland! If continued persecutions—unceasing infliction of oppression and countless wrongs—and a cheerless prospect of aught but castigation and suffering—be tokens of the regard of an over ruling Providence, then are you the most favored spot on the face of the habitable earth! We trust, notwithstanding, that happier days are in store for her, and that we can indulge the hope that her jubilee is advancing. "Deus vobis deus hinc quoque finem."—*Catholic Herald.*

BEAUTIES OF PROTESTANTISM

Many rumors are afloat respecting new schisms, divisions and contradictions amongst the cohorts of the reformation. The march of mind is so sublime and every one is so pleased with the grace of his own movement, that it is likely enough that every marcher will soon step out to the tune of his own hymn and follow a new path to the kingdom of glory!—The Lord, according to present indications, has no right to interfere at all. This privilege of interpreting the law and the prophets, which so many have assumed since the reformation, is producing the bitter fruits of infidelity among every people in which it has been introduced.—There is no end to the extravagant theories into which the pure word of God is tortured by every man who, like the late Dr. Channing "is an expounder from the depths of his own spirit and not from authority." To stave the absurdity of this right to private interpretation of the Scriptures, let us inquire what a religion would be worth, from which those articles of faith would be excluded which the various sects reject.

1. The Unitarians maintain that Jesus Christ is not God.
2. The same sect, with others, reject the doctrine of a Trinity.
3. The Universalists maintain that there is no Hell.
4. The Quakers reject baptism altogether.
5. the Baptists deny infant baptism.
6. The Presbyterians and others reject apostolical succession.
7. The Shakers reject marriage.
8. The Mormons have a new Bible.
9. The Calvinists insist on predestination.
10. The Church of England asserts the Supremacy of the Crown.

We might continue the list to an infinite extent and now let us see what kind of creed this wondrous confusion, worse than that which scattered the workmen on the Tower of Babel, would form for the guidance of mankind. I believe that Jesus Christ is not divine, I also firmly believe that there is no Trinity of persons in God, the Scriptures and the Universal testimony of all previous ages to the contrary notwithstanding. It is also my firm belief that there is no future punishment after death, and I do maintain that baptism is a grievous error. It is likewise my solemn duty to believe and I do believe that apostolical succession is a corruption of Christianity and not revealed by God; I reject marriage as opposed to the divine law, I believe that some will be damned and others saved without any efforts on their part to avoid Hell and acquire Heaven, I believe that Joe Smith's Bible, is a heavenly revelation, I believe that Queen Victoria is the head of the Church on earth, and like a good protestant, I believe every other article of Faith which the fancies of men or women have devised, heretofore, are devising now or may devise hereafter to the end of time, provided always that the said men or women may assert that they have found the same in King James' Edition of the Holy Scriptures. Amen.—*Catholic Telegraph.*

The solemn reception of Miss Becket, the relative of the Honourable and Rev. Mr. Spencer, took place on Sunday, the 21st ult., in Birr. The Right Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Bishop of Killaloe, officiated specially on this interesting occasion, assisted by the respective pastors the Very Rev. John Spain, and the Rev. Messrs. Cleary and Keady, of Parsonstown; and a great number of other clergymen from the surrounding country also attended. This religious lady and convert has thus joined the invaluable institute of the Sisters of Mercy. The Honourable and Rev. Mr. Spencer preached on the occasion, to the delight of thousands of Catholics and Protestants. The collection was between £60 and £70. The unfortunate Crotty's are at a discount here. The double reformations and transformations of these unfortunate apostates have opened the eyes of their deluded followers. As the two of a house (uncle and nephew) have not agreed on the peculiar creed to be culled from Scriptures, interpreted by their private judgment, one wishing to have a fat living in the Establishment, and the other a ministry among the Presbyterians, and their zeal against "poor Popery" has ceased to produce any other effect than contempt.—*London Catholic.*