vertisements measured in non-vertisements for three six or Contract advertisements for three six or twelve months, special terms. All advertise-ments should be handed in not later than TO CORRESPONDENTS.
All matter intended for publication must
ave the name of the writer attached, and
nust reach the office not later than Tuesday

th week.
THOS. COFFEY,
Publisher and Proprietor.

THOS. COFFEY.

Publisher and Proprietor.

Subscribers who change their residence will please send us, by Postal-card, their Oid as well as New Address, and thus insure the prompt delivery of the paper.

We are in constant receipt of enquiries from subscribers as to 'how much they owe,' and requests 'to send bul. By consulting the date on your paper both will be answered. The label on its paid to.

When a subscriber tells a postmaster to write "refused" on a paper and send it back to the publisher, at the time owing more or less for subscribtion, it may be inferred that the person either knows very little about the way ordinary business is transacted, or that he is a worthless dead beat. The printed strip on the newspaper each week is the only way by which a publisher can tell who are subscribers and how much they owe. If this name is taken off it will be seen how very awkward it becomes for the proprietor of a newspaper to keep his business in proper sheps. Subscribers who desire to stop taking a paper should in all cases remit the amount of their indebtednes when they make this request.

LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP

LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP

WALSH.
London, Ont.. May 23, 1879.
DEAR MR. COFFEY,—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its one and principles; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and to the promotion of Catholic interests. I am confident that under your experienced management the RECORD will improve in usefulness and efficiency; and I therefore earnestly commend it to the patronage and encourage—

Mr. THOMAS COFFEY
Office of the "Catholic Record."

# Catholic Record

LONDON, FRIDAY, SEPT. 23, 1881.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE. A large number of delegatessome say four hundred-from the various branches of Methodism, are assembled in London to discuss a great variety of subjects, and likely pass some very strong resolutions against certain other systems not identical with their own. The meeting is attracting very little attention outside the Methodist body itself, for the very simple reason that it contains no element of intellectual strength, or ecclesiastical cohesion and authority, necessary to give weight and prominence to the deliberations of such an assemblage. If the gathering now in session in London could even within its own sphere formulate any decision likely to be received and acted upon by those tent with habitations which Mr. Redreligious bodies which it claims to path declares inferior to those oc represent, then the outside world cupied by the negro slaves in the might devote some attention to its proceedings. But the Conference is specially inhibited from formulatsion without decision is one of the together to discuss the momentous easiest ways of provoking doubt and dissension. The great weakness of Protestantism is in fact the absence of authority from its representative bodies. We have had of late years many large representative Protestant assemblages, and we defy the most ardent adherent of any Protestant sect to point to one enduring result consequent upon their deliberations. We have had Pan-Anglican and Pan-Presbyterian meetings. The most noted divines of these bodies attended and spoke or read papers at great length. These men simply expressed their own individual views. They knew perfectly well that many listening to them, while professing to hold with them the very same standard of doctrine, differed very materially from many of the opinions they expressed. Neither of these assemblages could dare formulate any decrees concerning doctrine or discipline. Anglicanism is not any stronger on account of its so-called ocumenical gathering. Nor could a dozen Pan-Presbyterian meetings, even if assembled within sight of the Vatican itself, add in the least to the activity and influence of Calvinism. The present Methodist conference is said to contain representatives of twenty-five threaten. The world at large is different Methodist bodies. If these

a secession of large numbers of the can do when struggling with a people corners on Saturday nights and Sun. Under her administration of the app delegates. The conference will, as a fighting for home and fatherland. matter of course, effect nothing of a lasting character. Its members have the benefits of social enjoyment, but will return to their homes no wiser than when they went to London as to what Methodism really does teach and ordain. The œcumenical conference will be forgotten by the outside world before it adjourns, for instead of being a display of strength it is undoubtedly another evidence of the weakness of a system based on delusion and excitement.

#### THE DUBLIN CONVENTION.

The Convention which assembled

be considered one of the most important gatherings of Irishmen that has ever taken place. One thousand delegates, representing every portion of the island, there met to discuss one of the gravest social and political problems of the age. The fact of a people numbering five millions and, a half being kept by iniquitous legislation, not only from the possession of the soil they till, but compelled to pay a tax called rent for this very soil, to men who do nothing to enrich, but everything to degrade and impoverish their country, is an anomaly which can no longer be tolerated. The Irish nation has long been kept in poverty and debasement by means of its infamous land system, and the land owners. to cover their own crimes, sought to lay the blame on the people themselves. The stranger, who looked not beneath the surface of things in Ireland, would naturally ask himself: how is it that a reople so physically well favored, with a soil of surpassing tertility, and a climate so salubrious, are content to live in such abject wretchedness. Were he to hearken to the declarations of the landlord or his agent, he would certainly denounce, as many have denounced, the people as lazy and thriftless. But, if he knew the history of Ireland, and became acquainted with the mode of land tenure prevailing in that country, his judgment were one of condemnation of the confiscation and robbery which gave Ireland's soil to one of the most worthless classes of men that have ever dishonored the world-a class that subsists on the impoverishment of an industrious and noble people. If the Irish people have to be consouth before the war-it is due to the system of land tenure which has so long held them in bondage worse ing any such decisions. It has than slavery. The convention which simply met for discussion. Discus- met on Thursday last, was called question as to the attitude the people should in a body assume towards the land bill recently passed by the British Parliament. Many of the very best of friends of Ireland are divided in opinion as to the probable results of that measure. Some expect the very best effects from its operation, others consider it cumbrous and unworkable, and really devised in the interest of the landlord class. A few months will tell whether the act can accomplish all that its promoters promised. But granting that it can accomplish very much of what its friends predict, it cannot be looked upon as a final settlement of the land question. We ourselves see one really good feature in the bill, and an important one it is, the removal of the practically absolute dominion of the landlord from the soil. But it does not go far enough in this direction, and the people must not cease struggling till their own rights in the soil are fully admitted and irrevocably established. We notice that the London Times, commenting on the assembling of the convention, sees fit to indulge in menaces as puerile as they are in-

> nocuous. The Times may bluster and

We have rot as yet before us the proceedings of the convention, but meeting.

## THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

The late French elections have placed the republicans in a very disagreeable position. They have now no monarchical minority of any account to contend with, and are already at work quarrelling amongst themselves. Gambetta, who came out of the contest with little success and no eclat, looks with distrust both on the President and the Premier, in Dublin, on the 15th inst., must M. Ferry. He has not now, however, the following or the prestige to enable him to dictate terms to either. He played the part of cabinet maker just long enough to disgust the people with his pretensions, and divide the republican party most hopelessly. M. Ferry does not of himself command a majority of the deputies, so that his government can be maintained only through the jealousy of certain of the contending factions into which the chamber is divided. Any time, these, factions unite they can bring on a ministerial crisis, of which there are two or three every year in France. We may, therefore, look for stirring times when the chambers reopen. The leader of the radical party, M. Clemenceau, is a man of undoubted ability and not friendly to Gambetta. Many republicans of moderate views look upon him with favor, so that he may be considered one of the "coming men" in France. It is difficult to say how far the chambers will go in the work of harassing the church already begun. We greatly fear, however, that what has already been done is but a prelude of acts of greater injustice to follow. That it may not be so France the world over.

## OBJECTIONABLE REPORTS.

Perhaps one of the most objectionable practices of the present day is that of reporting certain police court cases in the daily papers. A recent occurrence in this city furnishes an instance. It matters not how disgusting the details of some criminal cases, the reporter with his pencil and note book is ever ready to serve them up for breakfast table reading. It is surely time to consider whether this manner of conducting newspapers has not gone too far. We will be told, perhaps, that the proprietors know their business, and that, so long as they do not make majority. themselves amenable to the law. they are at liberty to publish whatsoever they please. This is undoubtthey are at liberty to publish whatedly the case; but respectable people, and more particularly fathers of families, will readily see the necessity of excluding from their homes these sheets wherein is detailed all the base acts of depraved human nature. A rigid system of boycotting objectionable prints would have the effect of forcing editors into the habit of observing a certain degree of respectability, by keeping out of their columns certain matters which it would be much better not to publish. It may be claimed that the public demand this. We are willing to admit that a small section of the pupulation delight in reading the description of literature referred to, but to satisfy the morbid appetite of this class it is manifestly improper to place such matter under the eyes of respectable people who do not desire it, and thousands of boys and girls who imbibe from it a moral poison which has a very injurious effect on them in after years.

We think it would be a matter of relief to decent people were the mcrning papers to keep their reporters away from the police court. We will again, perhaps, be told, the " public" demand reports of all these affairs. But, let us see who is this daily paper "public" which seems to be worthy of so much consideration. now in full possession of Ireland's This "public" will be, we think, twenty-five sects hold the same becase, and the judgment of the world found composed of a couple of dozen lief, ought it not be an easy matter is that Irish landlordism is an evil shameless old men, a number of fast for the conference to unite them that the enlightenment of the age young men, who live a reckless life under one system of ecclesiastical cannot permit to disgrace humanity. for a few years and drop unhonored government. But they hold not the TheTimes may boast of what England into a premature grave, and perhaps same belief, and any attempt made can, and might do. Afghanistan, a few hundred rough characters who

day afternoons. Fathers of families will doubtless now begin to ask themselves if their homes are to be expect much good and renewed un- polluted by the presence of these animity amongst the people from its nasty prints, simply because the editors of daily papers deem it a duty to cater to the "public." If this so-called public wish to be kept informed on matters coming before the police authorities, let them occupy seats at the court every morning. Let them, if you will, have a special place set apart for their accommodation. Let one of our photographers take their pictures in a group, and it will be a most amusing natter to witness what the newspapers have been dubbing the 'public." Much better, indeed, would t be, were we to go back some hundreds of years than be inflicted with a press whose business it seems to be to disseminate sensational accounts of all that is vile and horrible.

### CLERICAL INFLUENCE.

We frequently hear it said that the clergy of the Catholic Church only attempt to exercise influence over the people at elections for representatives to legislative bodies. With Catholics, it is, indeed, a duty vote conscientiously-and with their priests it is an obligation to point out to their people the rules which should guide them in making selections to the legislature. The authority, for whose exercise they are writer, after a long political experience, knows it for a fact, that the Catholic clergy takes less part in elections than the ministers of sectarian bodies. We are happy to have at hand a substantiation of our view taken from an eminent secular authority, who, speaking of Methodistic political influence, thus expresses himself:

"Americans entertain a decided jealousy of the intrusion of ecclesiastical influence into political affairs. What they have is the hearty wish of every friend of European politics makes them regard it as

something not less mischievous to na-tional welfare than are the military trontiers of Europe and the standing armies that line them. The Methodist church is probably the largest Protestant body in the New World.

Its various American branches report a communicant membership of 3,521,600, souls; 1,743,000 of these are united in one single body,—the Methodist Episcopal Church of the North,—while the Southern branch of the same order and faith contains 828,300 members. To ascertain the exact social strength of this or any Protestant denomination, it is necessary to multiply these figures by three. Onefifth of the whole population is Methodist, either by membership or by affiliation. This membership is very unequally distributed. In some parts of the country,
—in Southern New Jersey, for instance,
—the Methodists have the great bulk of the population. In others, especially where the New Englanders or the Scotch-New Jersey, the Calvinistic sects have the majority. Not less note-worthy than the numerical strength of Methodism is its direction of greater popular liberty. Mem-bership in the class-meetings is no longer compulsory. Lay-delegates have seats in the conferences. But, after all, the Methodist Church compares only with the Roman Catholic in the rigidity and the Roman Catholic in the rigidity and the thoroughness with which ecclesiastical authority is exercised by its clergy. And this organization, though devised only last century, is upheld by many as a sort of divine appointment,—as a "Providential discipline" for the Methodist body. Its affects are visible in the "close march ing order" which characterizes the bodies submitted to it. Methodi ts stick more closely to each other than do any other closely to each other tran do any other people. They hold themselves separate from society at large. They mark their separation by peculiarities of speech and phrase. Methodist recognizes Methodist as "brother," in contradistinction from other Christians. And each is expected to feel more interested in a brother's con-cerns than in those of other men. As the world puts it, "Methodists are clannish. It is not out of any unreadiness to re-cognize the good that Methodism has

done,—it is even for the sake of that good,
—that we protest against the role which
some Methodists seem to wish to force
on the Church. They want to make it a political body, and to use its omnipotent discipline in the interest of political mea-sures and candidates. So far as we have been able to learn, this tendency be with the nomination of Mr. Polk to Presidency in 1844. He was one of the many possible candidates who were posing for the office and waiting to see where the lightning would strike. At that time, the lightning would strike. At that time, the Methodist Episcopal Church was attracting much attention through the discussions over slavery which a year later divided it into the Northern and Southern branches. ference. He did so, and was made much of; and the politicians began to infer that Mr. Polk had the Methodist Church behind him. It helped to his nomination,

and began the career of Methodists, as such, in politics.

From that time to the present, the presence of the sectarian element in our political life has been a matter of notoriety.

The evil reached its height under Mr.
Grant's administration of the national

ing power, the Methodist Church got a Benjamin's portion. One Methodist clergyman got a roving commission to go around the world, with one eve on Ameri can consulates and the other on the Me-thodist missions to the heathen. Another had a foreign mission to Europe. These there were others without number. there were others without number. One unhappy occurrence threw a good deal of light on the inside manipulations. The term of Senator Harlan of Iowa being about to expire, a circular was forwarded from Wushington to every Methodist minister of the State, urging them to do their utmost to secure "Brother Harlan's" raplection. One was sent by mistake to re-election. One was sent by mistake to a Congregationalist minister, who sent it to the newspapers. As a consequence, Brother Harlan was left at home. During the Administration of Mr. During the Administration of this sec-

tarianism in politics, probally because he being a Methodist church-member, did not leave the ecclesiastical branch of the Administration to his wife. But, just at present, in Ohio the part taken by Methodists, as such, in politics, is attracting a good deal of attention. A political convention held in a Methodist camp-meeting ground, and managed by Methodist preaches has put in population. preachers, has put in nomination a Pro-hibition ticket whose avowed purpose is to divide and defeat the Republican party. These gentlemen, led by Rev. Dr. Leonard, invoke Methodist votes by the plea that the Church has sanctioned their proceedings. "The conference of Ohio," says Dr. Marleys of Urbana, who is opposed to the new movement, "a year or two ago gave notice to both the great parties that after 1881 they would not be bound by party nominations, unless something in the meantime was done for temperance." It seems, then, that the Ohio conferences are bodies co-ordinate that after 1881 they would with the State conventions of the Re publican and Democratic parties. assume that they possess a political power which the political leaders will do well to bear in mind, and that the ecclesiastical organized professedly, carries with it a political authority which must be counted on as an element of the political situation. Can any assumption be more offensive?

Any more anti-American? spiritual welfare of the American churches. we protest against this beginning of mis-chief. This evil is not one which can be confined to the Methodist church. It will spread like a plague to the rest, if it be not healed. It will drag down the whole religious life of the country to the level of the political convention, debase politics still further, while dishonoring religion. Each sect in turn will say, "Why should the Methodists control the politics of the country? We, too, can exert an influence, if we please." And in this way we shall reach a point at which the churches will have as good as lost all hold on the popular respect, be-cause they will have embarked on a career of self-seeking worldliness. The American churches have sufficient difficulty, as it is in keeping their heads above the mean motives. There is too much room for the offensive criticisms which we hear of their deference to money and to social position. But, when they take up their career as political bodies bidding for office and influence, they will have abandoned the struggle in shame.

We do not by any means subscribe to all the statements of our contemporary. We simply adduce his views, with the object of showing that the sectaries, while most active in accusing the Catholic priesthood hoped that the work of grace may be of "undue influence," are themselves accomplished, and that the infidel writer may be brought back to the where the New Englanders or the Scotch-Irish elements are stronger, as in Northern, the most unscrupulous and blame faith of his youth. able in seeking by appeals to fanaticism to influence public opinion at DEATH OF PRESIDENT GARFIELD. the polls.

## HOME RULE.

A great deal of virtuous indignation was during the last session of Hotel from Franklyn Cottage, and made the British Parliament raised con-the following statement:

the following statement:

"I sent my dispatch to Lowell at 10 p." of that body was represented as highly obstructive and untenable. ing this opinion, as is apparent from the opinion of an American author-

Mr. Forster, in a recent speech to his constituents, suggests that it is necessary to devote a session of Parliament to the work of revising the methods of Parliamentary procedure, so as to stop the waste of public time which has character-ized recent sessions. The evil to be remedied is not a new one, nor is even its preness novel. As far back as 1848, Mr. Disraeli declared it "a great national calamity" that "the system which prevails in this country is incompetent to pass those laws and carry those measures which are necessary for the public welfare." He declared this "the finis factorum of the great Dardanian House." The truth is, into the Northern and Southern branches.
A friend of his aspirations advised him to make his relations with the Methodist Church prominent at the Tennessee Conference. He did so, and was made may have a content for their discussion, especially under a system which allows every man, wise or foolish, to have his full say. Not only has Parliament become more and more the Government, assuming executive functions, but the growing complexity of English civilization has created many Governmental duties which were unknown two centuries back. The time occupied by railroad bills and bills for waterworks, and other public works, is of itself great. Mr. Gladstone aims at re-

ome further restrictions

The change most needed is the com-plete transfer of Irish business to a Parliament at Dublin. In the management of Irish affairs, the English Government has broken down worst of all. The great democratic constituencies of the English cities, it is said, are beginning to be im-pressed with the fact that the Imperial Parliament has neither the time nor the special intelligence required for Irish legislation, and to see that, if Ireland's representatives misbehave, it is because they are spoiled by their want of responsibility and the necessity of acting as obstructives. The cry of Home Rule for Ireland will probably find many echoes and much sympathy outside Ireland.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

A cotemporary says that "Redpath, the agitator, tells the Irish Land League that unless part of the money sent from America is used in buying bullets, the supplies will be stopped. Redpath and ruffian alli-terate." We think it unnecessary for our confrere to be so severe on Mr. Redpath, for the simple reason that we do not believe he ever said any-thing of the sort. Writing paragraphs on the strength of the cable dispatches is rather a dangerous practice. That cable man, transmitting Irish news, is the most notorious-well, we feel very much like calling him by his proper name, but must consent ourselves by styling him a "most unreliable gentle-

THE following touching incident in connection with the death of M. Littre, is found in the Liverpool Catholic Times. The unfortunate author of the "Vie de Jesus" has been much impressed by the deathbed conversion of Littre, who was baptized by the Abbe Huvelin of St. Augustin, and who constantly repeated during the last days of his ife the words, "J'ai fait fausse rout" "I have lost my way"-in accents of sorrow and regret. At the funeral mass M. Renan goaded the assembled atheists to fury by attending the ceremony, and by sprinkling the body of his friend with holy water according to the pious custom of French Catholics. Latterly M. Renan made a remarkable speech at the French academy at the annual distribution of prizes of money to meritorious people. One of the recipients was the saintly Abbe Caron, who gives a home to fifty aged people of both sexes in his parish of le Petit Montrouge. Another prize was bequeathed by a poor girl named Emmeline Nadaud who in dying lett the trifling sum which constituted her earthly possession to the acagiven to some other demy to be poor girl of their choice who, in the midst of sorrow and tribulation, was known to be fulfilling her religious duties. It was hard to conquer one's emotion as the noted infidel writer spoke in terms of feeling praise about the true Catholic spirit. It is to be

ELBERON, Sept. 19th.—The President ied at 10:35. From what can be ascertained, his death was from sheer exhaust-

the Home Rule party. The attitude President, and found his pulse at 106 beats to the minute, and all conditions were then promising a quiet night. The doctor asked the President if he was feeling un-The experience of the session, however, proved that the position taken by Mr. Parnell and his colleagues was quite justifiable. It is now very with the President. About 15 minutes evident that the British Parliament cannot do anything like justice to Ireland. We are not alone in holdentered the room he found the President substantially without pulse, and the action of the heart almost indistinguishable. He said at once the President was dying, and directed Mrs. Garfield to be called and also the doctors. The President remained in a dying condition until 10:35, when he was pronounced dead. He died of some trouble of the heart, supposed to be neurlgia, but that of course is uncer-

## THE SHAME OF THE AGE.

Drinking baffles us, confounds us, shames us, and mocks us at every point. It outwits alike the teacher, the man of business, the patriot and the legislator. Every other institution flounders in hopeless difficulties; the public house holds its triumphant course. The administrators of public and private charities are told that alms and oblations go, with rates, doles and pensions, to the all-absorbing bar of the public house. Not a year passes by in either town or city without some expected and hideous scandal, the outcome of habitual indulgence, often small and innocent in its origin. Some small and innocent in its origin. Some poor creature, long and deservedly high in the respect, perhaps reverence, of the neighborhood, making a sudden wreck of character. Under the accumulating influence of alcohol, aggravated, perhaps, by still more powerful, still more treacherous, agencies, the honest man turns knave, the respectable man suddenly because the property of the property of the poor of the property of the pr at the conference to bring about unity in government should lead to

code, and takes a plus
It then turns out, v
have suspected, that
tom of it, and that friend has long been could be done to check events, to hide, till t out. Do something huge mischief which other confounds us a annot be sure-crush

# HAMILTON

Ecclesiastical-St. M TheBazaar-Its for ornamental, use fish pond-Exten chise-Good Pro Newspaper Notes.

At High Mass in S on Sunday last, Rev. I men. His subject viewed from the ttruth, beauty, and fide ment was thoroughly arguments logical. raduated in modul ized by a degree of spir give indications of fut

The bazaar, long tall pected, commenced on last, under rather auspi interior of the tageous positions, and arranged with a view display. The whole p ance that afforded com all spectators. The la respective tables work at their stations explai value of the different among the visitors wi canvassing for the sa calls made upon priva many temporarily gr most limitless applic to give the fair ticker for extraordinary pati ance. In a like posit Having entered the rick's table is the first meets. It makes a play, especially in pamong the best in the portrait of His Lords lmost exact in its rep tistic in execution; a ancient castle on the

furnishing lengthy s

noisseur; a picture of the Scottish residence

many other interesting

gold watch, on exhibits the gift of the Rev.

In connection with thi

parishes have acted

throughout the bazaar

donations and

specify every article take up too much space be sufficient to refer to way. There is a pro silver ware, sofas, cus books, shawls, quilts, that taste, ornament possibly desire. St. Joseph's table place. The useful ar an equal position here fusely set forth. One features is a handsom niture, consisting of ioned and carved in other articles of furr chairs, cushions, ottor marble top tables, close stands, chairs, mirrors very prominent. A and unique articles are bost, a swinging wire valuable screen. Pic numerous, including t St. Patrick, His Lords

Vicar General Heens and others. It will b

table makes a very fin quantity and quality, of arrangement.
Third in position The prevailing featu A large new style coor mounted self-feeding clothes, a silk rep s ware, one set glass five pieces, are among representing this clasection is well supa large engraving r St. Lawrence, a well Vicar General Heen Fr. O'Leary, and a la of the features of the Among the fancy arti tea table, a large was Besides these there as cellanies: children's
bonnets, quilts, blin
table holds a high rai
is much admired by
many points of excel
Farthest from th

in the opinion of ma St. Ann's table. with an immense va mental, fancy and art arts department mak in the bazaar. The Popes Leo XIII and ing of the Bishop, po General, Frs. Ma Keough, and two oil ing marine scenery articles are also nu gold watch, silver un stands, vases, knives precious metals. An unique are : seve tables, two embroide a peculiarly wroug The useful make There ottomans, bcoks, &c

St. Ann's table is eq Besides the please amining the differen a walk around the sources of amuseme of the tables is a fish together different dreamed of by Isaa